

DALLAS BROOKS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS BULLETIN

PRINCIPAL: Valerie Karaitiana

School Council President: Pat Townsend

Assistant Principals: Mrs. Anne-Maree Grozdanoski & Mr. Justin Lania

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Vision: "For our students to be literate, numerate, creative, safe and happy"

Term 1 Number 2

Thursday 23rd February, 2017

School Diary

Interschool Sports

Friday 24th February, 2017

Labour Day Holiday

NO SCHOOL

Monday 13th March, 2017

HOMEWORK CLUB

Starting: 28th February, 2017

Cost: \$5.00 per day

Tue: 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Wed: 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Thur: 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Principal's Column

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS INFORMATION NOTICE 2017

Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school. A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members. The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider; standing for election as a member of the school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. School Council nomination forms are available from the school office. Once completed, please return the nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the week following close of nominations. Remember If you are interested and need more information, please don't hesitate to contact the Principal.

Schedule 4 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Dallas Brooks Community Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school website or office and **must be lodged by 4.00 pm Thursday 2nd March, 2017**. A ballot (if required,) will close at 4.00 pm on Friday 17th March, 2017. Following the close of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted in the foyer. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership Category:	Terms of Office	Number of Positions
Parent Category	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017. to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019.	5 x 2 year positions
DET Employee	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017. to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019.	2 x 2 year positions
Community Members	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017. to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019.	2 x 2 year positions

Valerie Karaitiana - Principal

Kindergarten

The children have now settled into kindergarten and have been working hard on learning the routine, making friendships and developing their independence. We have started exploring colour and shape with children, doing a range of play based and art experiences to support their learning around these topics. We would like to remind families to pack a hat and a spare change of clothes in your child's bag every day.

(Red Group/Blue Group/Green Group/ Kinder) – Kindergarten Staff

Prep

The grade prep students have settled into school extremely well. The students are busy learning about the alphabet for reading and writing. In numeracy they are counting from 0-10. Some students are even making and recording numbers from 0-20. The take home books have been sent week. It is extremely important that all students read with an adult or older sibling EVERY night. All books are to be returned to school daily.

Sheena Collins-Marks - Prep Team

Grade 1

The grade 1s have been working hard on learning about people from the past during our inquiry and writing sessions. As a part of our inquiry topic, students are going to be creating learning boxes. If you have any spare shoe boxes at home, please send them with your child to school. Just a friendly reminder that the homework is due back every Monday.

Chisako Hamza – Grade 1 Team

Grade 2

This fortnight, the grade two students have been working extremely hard on learning about how their families and backgrounds connect with who they are. We have been studying different cultures from around the world and students have been enthusiastically sharing their wealth of knowledge about their own countries. As part of their inquiry studies, students are going to be creating learning boxes. If families have any spare shoe boxes at home, could they please send them with their child to school. That would be greatly appreciated! Students are reminded that hats must be worn every day at school in order for them to play outside. Thank you.

Boban Stanisic – Grade 2 Team

Grade 3

Grade 3s are settling well into their classes and have made a good start with their learning for 2017. In reading we are looking at facts and opinions, as well as improving reading stamina. Each child is also expected to read for at least 20 minutes every day at home. In maths we are examining place value and renaming, as well as beginning to experiment with length. Our current writing focus is persuasive texts, and the inquiry unit we are looking at for Term 1 is My Home Town, focusing on our community and the different roles within it. Homework is given out each Monday and is due back on Friday. Please remember that during Term 1 hats must be worn outside during play times. Thank you to the parents who came for the information session on Thursday, it was wonderful to see so many happy faces.

Richard Eagle – Grade 3 Team

Grade 4

Thank you parents for attending our Parent Information Night on Thursday and it was a great success. If you have missed the session and would like to ask questions, please feel free to contact the teachers. Grade 4 students are very excited to start using their laptops in their reading, math, and inquiry lessons. Many students are currently on Finding Out stage where they conduct research on their inquiry wonders and finding out answers. Parents are reminded to make laptop payment if you have not done so. Thank you for your support!

Yun Chen – Grade 4 Team

Grade 5/6

The Grade 5/6 students have settled into the year and are now working hard in their classrooms. Many students delivered their school leaders speech to the cohort this week and we will announce the School Captains and other leaders in the coming weeks. We begin Interschool Sports this week and all teams have been training hard at break times. Just a reminder that netbook payments are due and they are an essential learning tool.

Leah Bassett - Grade 5/6 Team

Community HUB

Our Community Hub is running FREE English classes. The classes are also being offered to anyone newly arrived in Australia who is unable to access other government funded programs. The classes run from 9.15am to 12.15pm Monday and Tuesday. New participants welcome. The Hub operates three Playgroups, 10.00am-11.30am Monday and Tuesday and 12.30pm-2.00pm Tuesday. We also operate a Toy & Book Library on Monday and Tuesday from 11.30am to 12.00 noon and Tuesday from 2.00pm to 2.30pm. There are still a few places available. Supported Small Talk Playgroup is held on Mondays at 1.00pm to 3.00pm. New participants welcome. Breakfast Cub is held on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8.15am to 8.45am.

Cake Decorating/Cake Making classes are held on Thursdays from 9.30am to 11.30am and Craft Club is held on Wednesday from 9.15am to 11.00am. New participants welcome. We will be running Certificate 3 in Education Support in Term 2. If you are interested in participating in this course, please contact Hub Coordinator. Hume Hubs International Women's Dinner is being held at Melrose Melbourne Reception & Convention Centre, Melrose Drive, Tullamarine on the 9 March, 2017 from 7.00pm -11.00pm. It is strictly women only, alcohol and child free. Tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased at the Hub.

Gail Hart – HUB

Last Day of Term 1 ~ Friday 31st March at 2:30pm

First Day of Term 2 ~Tuesday 18th April, 2017

Prep to Grade 6 students are not required to attend school during school holidays.