



NEWSLETTER

Murray Road, Dandenong North 3175

☎ 9795 3744

📠 9795 9971

✉ rosewood.downs.ps@education.vic.gov.au

🌐 rosewooddownsps.vic.edu.au



Week Nine

The countdown is officially on with only 10 days of school left for 2020! We're packing in lots of action for our last few weeks of school and have lots of activities for the students over coming weeks.

We got some very good news this week, with notifications that our school will be the recipient of a minor capital works grant and a prize from the Victorian School Garden Awards. We applied for a grant earlier this year seeking funds to install a new playground behind the adventure playground. I got a call from our Local Member, Gabrielle Williams' office to notify me we were successful and will receive over \$50,000 to install a new playground in the vacant playground area at the rear of the school. This is a fantastic result and will be another upgrade that all our students will benefit from. In addition to this, we also entered our upgraded school gardens into the 2020 Victorian School Garden Awards and we took home the 'Anco School Turf Award' which means we are the recipients of 300m² of Kikuyu Turf. You can never have enough green grass in a school! We plan to have this grass laid in the gravel area between Unit C and the oval which could do with some greening up. Hopefully, both the grass and playground will be installed during Term 1 next year.

One of the highlights of next week will be the **Up Program** which will be taking place on the mornings of Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th of December. The **Up Program** provides the opportunity for students to meet their 2020 class teacher and participate in some fun, getting-to-know-you activities with their new classmates. This program is really important to help students become familiar with the changes that will take place as they move up a year level and meet new teachers and classmates. Grade and teacher placements will be sent home with students after the first session on Tuesday. We ask you to support your child's transition to the next year level by being positive about the move to a new teacher, classroom space or unit. We are very lucky that our students work in open-plan classroom spaces, which means they have support from a range of staff and can develop connections with more than one teacher. Students also have the ability to mix with all of the children within the whole unit.

Another big event on the cards for next week is **Grade 6 Graduation**. Once again, like many events this year, graduation has been modified to ensure it is COVID-safe, but we have a fun and memorable evening planned for our senior students to give them a fitting send-off from Rosewood Downs. There will be a special dinner, graduation ceremony and disco. It's always a very memorable night for our Grade 6 students and comes at the end of seven years of schooling at Rosewood Downs PS for most of the students. It provides a great opportunity to reflect on their time at primary school as they prepare to embark on their journey to secondary school.

'Students of the Week' and birthdays!!

This week our 'Student of the Week' awards go to - for showing the value of **HONESTY AND TRUSTWORTHINESS**;

Unit A	Unit B	Unit C	Unit D
Kavishan M	Khristel M	Olivia F	Brennan M



Our birthdays this week are;

Elissa B from **Grade 4**, **Luke H** from **Grade 2**, **Rilind K** and **Rubina A** from **Grade 1**, **Ryan E** from **Grade 5**

Unit A news

It's been another busy week in Unit A. The excitement is mounting as we approach the Up Program next week where the students will find out who their new teachers will be.

The Prep students are still enthusiastically talking about their Prep Breakfast last week and we would like to thank all the families and staff members who made this event possible. The children were very well behaved and made their teachers very proud.

This week, the Prep grades have begun a unit of work based on Fantasy characters and this has really sparked the students' interest! They were thoroughly engaged in 'creating' witches brew and describing their favourite fantasy characters. They were involved in imaginative role-play and we are looking forward to our Casual Fantasy Dress day on Friday to conclude this magical week!

The Grade One students have also been busy bees this past week. They had a big focus on 'Following Direction' in maths and they all turned into imaginary pirates drafting their very own treasure maps with a route to a very special treasure. They certainly had a lot of fun completing this activity.

There was also an emphasis on friendships as part of our Social and Emotional Learning program and one of the activities was to make up a 'friendship recipe'. The students came up with wonderful qualities of a good friend.

As we near the end of the year, both students and staff are now starting to slow down, enjoy spending time together and making lasting memories.

Have a great week, Unit A Team.

Unit D news

These past few weeks have been very exciting in Unit D, with our students feeling happy, settled and very busy, enjoying the many activities planned. The grade 1 students are honing in on their shopping skills in our class shop, while the grade 2's have continued to explore their integrated studies unit 'All mixed up'. They have made dinosaur fossils using plaster of Paris and experimented with mixtures to make the perfect bath bomb!

With a few weeks till Christmas, we have also got some visitors from the North Pole...2 cheeky elves! They have been watching over the students and are reporting back to Santa to make sure they are working hard, and doing the right thing during their last few weeks in unit D!

Have a wonderful weekend

The unit D team



Unit C news

There has certainly been a focus on all things environmental in Unit C this week! The students have enjoyed exploring natural landmarks in Australia, with stories shared about visits to some of these places. In particular, the students have been researching the Great Barrier Reef and found some fascinating facts about this natural wonder.

This week saw the launch of a new series of environmental studies activities. Some students continued to tend to the Unit C garden, by carefully applying stakes to our tomato plants to help support their growth. Others completed a sensory scavenger hunt and enjoyed becoming more in tune with their natural surroundings. The final two groups got creative by making some beautiful chalk drawings and artworks using recycled materials.

We look forward to sharing more of the student's recyclable artworks with you next week. We still encourage students to bring in recyclable materials such as plastic bottles, containers, boxes etc. to help make their creations.

Finally, the students have been asked to return the Unit C library books by today. We kindly ask you to ensure your child has returned their book.

Unit C team



Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to those 12 students who completed the Premier's Reading Challenge this year. It was wonderful to see, even though they didn't have access to our school library for the entire challenge period due to remote learning, that they were able to source books from home and online. Well done for your great effort.

As we all know, reading is such a great skill- the more you read the better you become!

Terrie Palmer-Tanner
Challenge Co-ordinator



Green Team news

This week, we continued our focus on one small change that our Green Team members have made this year to live more sustainably. Sometimes, we might not think that our actions make a difference but collectively, we can certainly help protect and preserve our planet.

Paarth from Grade 5 wanted to share the following: 'This year, instead of using plastic bags, I chose to use reusable bags when I go shopping with my family. This change makes less plastic bags go to the sea and saves our marine life at the same time.'

Patrick from Grade 6 tried something else this year: 'Instead of using disposable plastic bottles, I now use a metal drink bottle that can be refilled and used every day. Using single use plastic bottles are bad for our environment!'



What small change could you make today that could help our planet?

On behalf of the GREEN TEAM, thank you.

Sports news

Here is a quick snapshot of the different activities that students have been doing during Term 4.

The Prep to Grade 2 students have been working on their gymnastic skills in their PE and Platoon sessions. We have been able to run our PMP sessions for the Preps with the help of our Grade 6 leaders each week.

We were able to use the Sporting Schools Fund to get a new kit of lawn bowls equipment for juniors. The Grade 3 and 4 students have been learning the modified rules and variations of lawn bowls for indoor and outdoor surfaces.

The Grade 5 and 6 students have entered the magical world of Harry Potter and given Quidditch a go (well the muggle version anyway). It is a mixed game of handball, dodgeball and tiggy all rolled into one action packed sport all while running around on brooms (hockey sticks). For a better understanding check out Quidditch on YouTube, it's lots of fun!

This week we had our annual Indoor Soccer Tournament for the students in Grade 3-6. Everyone competed well and it was a great way for us to have some friendly competition this year. Today the Grade 5 and 6 students trialled an ESports Soccer tournament. It was run by Jack Gillibrand from Dandenong Soccer 5s. The students were split into groups and played 8-minute games of FIFA.



Enjoy your weekend,

Julian