



NEWSLETTER

Murray Road, Dandenong North 3175 ☎ 9795 3744 📠 9795 9971
 ✉ rosewood.downs.ps@education.vic.gov.au 💻 rosewooddownsps.vic.edu.au



Welcome Back

Once again, a warm welcome back to school to all our families. I have really enjoyed seeing our students slot back into school routines with big smiles and a real sense of enthusiasm about what the school year ahead has in store. Despite the worry of the very recent community case of coronavirus, it's been a very positive start to the year and our students have settled in very quickly, especially our new preps who are embarking on a new and very exciting learning journey. A special welcome to these new prep families, and to students and families from other year levels who are new to the school community.

As per usual, we had quite a bit of work done around the school during the holidays. We built a new nature play area, called the 'Rosewood Ridge', and prepared for the installation of a brand new rope playground in coming months. Our Asian Garden courtyard has been cleared out, ready for the installation of new windows and an updated indigenous garden. The roof works in Unit D has begun, and despite the short term interruptions, it will result in a much improved school condition into the future. Hector, our school cleaner, also worked very hard as usual to ensure the inside of the school was spotlessly clean after the long summer break.

I'd also like to thank the parents who assisted with book collection and second hand uniform sales before school started and during this week. A special thank you to Allison Esmonde who set up and organised the dance studio prior to book collection day. The school appreciates the ongoing support of the many people who contribute to the successful operation of Rosewood Downs.

Welcome Picnic

To celebrate our return to school and to formally welcome our new families and students, we are holding our annual 'Welcome Picnic' on Thursday evening, 11th February, 5:00pm – 6:30pm. We cordially invite all families to this picnic which will provide the opportunity to meet our teachers and to mingle with other families in the school. It's been nearly 12 months since our last event where we're able to invite parents, so we're really hoping for a good turnout. Cross your fingers that the current community case of COVID-19 doesn't ruin it for us again!!

Bring your own picnic tea or buy a sausage or burger and drink at the sausage sizzle. You may wish to bring a picnic rug or chairs. The picnic will provide the lead-in to our KABOOM sports day on Friday, and there will be a number of games and activities that families can participate in. Parents are also invited to the KABOOM sports event on Friday morning.

Let's hope that we get some nice weather as we would love to see lots of families along for a well overdue celebration.

Road and Student Safety

With the return to school comes the return of fairly hectic traffic on Murray Road during drop-off and pick-up times. Unsafe and impatient driving leads to frustration and inconvenience for others and affects neighbouring residents on our street. Please show courtesy and patience during peak traffic times at school, especially in the afternoons, as dangerous and illegal driving and parking poses a very significant risk to the safety of our students. There have already been council traffic officers on the street in the morning and afternoon, observing traffic flow and issuing warnings. Another safety concern for the school is the use of the staff car park as a pedestrian thoroughfare in the morning and afternoons. I would request that parents and students don't use the carpark to enter and leave the school grounds. We have several other paths and gateways around the school providing safe access in and out of our grounds, but the staff car park experiences regular traffic use throughout the day and poses a serious safety risk to people walking through.

CSEF - Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund 2021

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities that benefit the child. The annual CSEF amount per student is \$125 for primary school students.

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until the end of term two each year. CSEF payments are made to schools from March onwards each year. Notices are available from the front office and more information can be found at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

Student Accident Insurance and Ambulance Cover

It is a requirement at the start of each year that we advise parents that children are not covered by any accident insurance or ambulance cover whilst at school unless these are taken out privately by parents. Unfortunately, injuries do occur from time to time at school, so if parents wish to insure against this, private cover can be taken out through private insurance companies, as can private Ambulance cover through Ambulance Victoria.



Happy Birthday!

We had a big birthday shout-out at our Wednesday assembly for all the kids who had birthdays during the school holidays. There was quite a crowd! Happy birthday to our late-December/January kids!



Yash, Emonefe, Anka, Joe, Gabe, Zoi, Josh, Niki, Kiara, Theodora, Jaylah, Ellie, Eldin, Liam, Miranda, Iyla, Vardan, Mila, Selena, Kelly, Basil, Ko, Maggie, Mikailo, Samuel, Crystal, Aleksa, Suli, Milan, Andrea, Duggie, Jake, Patrick, Jamila, Hadden, Grace, Yostina, Matthew, Courtney, Shayla, Brooke, Yune, Muhammed, Parth, Gurnoor, Thomas & Lachlan

Be You

BOUNCE BACK TO A HEALTHY 2021

It is with great enthusiasm we announce our first Be You Special Event for 2021...'BOUNCE BACK TO A HEALTHY 2021'. Be You is all about creating a mentally healthy community for everyone - children, families, staff and beyond. After 2020, where much of our year was spent at home in lockdown, our Term 1 focus will be on getting back to healthy habits. Two health-promoting events are scheduled, Kaboom Kid Sports and Market Fresh.

Details of these events have been posted on Compass. **We appreciate consent forms and payments made by Wednesday 10th February.** Thank you.

KABOOM KID SPORTS

Friday 12th February, 9:15am – 11:00am



MARKET FRESH SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Friday 2nd March



Be You Action Team



Art Room News

Our first week back in the Art room was great!

To kick things off, we started drawing self-portraits with our favourite colours. The results were fabulous with lots of colour and creativity! Next week we will begin to work on our Valentine's project.



Brooke 1PT



Rilind 2S



Dimitrije 2S



Max 3T



Elsa Prep C



Nenad 4W

Tiffany Saleh

Sport News

Congratulations to our new Sports Team for this year.

Sport Captains

Zac & Katarina

Barwon

Theodora & Ash

Goulburn

Ali & Filip

Rubicon

Leo & Brianna

Yarra

Rylan & Mikailo

These students will be responsible for running morning assemblies, handing out the sports awards, organising the sports equipment for borrowing, setting up PMP, Platoon and Unit sport time and assisting the teachers at all of our sporting events.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of sport with lots of opportunities for the students to be involved in House activities and fun events.

Lindsay Campbell

JSC

Well done to the students selected as our Junior School Captains for 2021.

President

Kai

Vice President

Aref

Secretary

Sobhan

Treasurer

Samuel

Each year the Junior School Council (JSC) is responsible for:

- Supporting various charities and organizations by raising money and awareness at our school.
- Helping organize and run fun activities like the Hat Parade.
- Promoting fun events like the School Disco.
- Writing short pieces for the newsletter and making announcements at assembly.
- Representing the students and each class from Grade 3 to Grade 6.
- Attending regular meetings with the JSC to discuss and organize upcoming events.
- Reporting to each class with any news and information from the JSC meetings.

Over the next few weeks we will be holding class elections for the student representatives for each class in Grades 3, 4 and 5. If you are interested in being part of the JSC this year you will need to consider the following:

- You need to nominate yourself or a classmate.
- Nominees then write a short statement about how they can represent their class well.
- Present this to the class to be voted on.
- Each student gets a vote to be counted by the classroom teacher.

Thank you,

Anita Chan & Lindsay Campbell

Unit A

The students in Unit A have made an excellent start to the year and we are delighted with how quickly they have settled into class routines.

The Prep children have been wonderful and we are very appreciative of the way that parents have supported their smooth transition into the classroom setting. Our Grade 1 students (who are now very grown up) are proving to be great role models for our Preps and are eager to show them how things work in Unit A.

We welcome Grade 1PT, as they have become a temporary addition to our unit as we await the replacement of the roof in Unit D.

We are aware of how important it is for the children to re-connect and establish new friendships, so we are providing lots of opportunities for play based learning and social interaction. This is evident in some of the photos attached.

We are enjoying getting to know your children and we are excited about working with them this year.

Unit A Team

Mrs Mary Chan (Prep C), Mrs Linda Harrison (Prep H), Mrs Maddy Hartmann & Mrs Carly Pinwill (1HP)



Unit D

Welcome to 2021! We may not be operating as a unit just now but we are well settled in our new and temporary classrooms around the school. Our students have adapted amazingly well to their new 'digs' and have started back at school amazingly well. We welcome our new students: Joshua and Ashton into 1PT. We hope the boys find our school welcoming.

Please keep connected to Compass so that you hear all the latest news and about coming events.

Best Wishes,

Unit D Team

Ms Terrie Palmer-Tanner (1PT), Ms Natalie Semercioglu (2S), Mrs Chante Smith & Mrs Ashlee Rumney (2RS)



Unit C

Welcome back everyone. We hope that you all have an enjoyable and refreshing holiday. Last Thursday 92 happy and eager students entered Unit C to begin the 2021 school year. We welcome the Grade 3s who are new to the Unit as well as our returning Grade 4s. We would also like to welcome our new students to the school, Max and Millie in Grade 3 and Apoorvi who is in Grade 4.

The children are settling in well. Our SEL focus is on Co-operation and the students have participated in various activities to develop this skill. As you can see from our photos they are doing quite well.

Could you please ensure that your child brings a box of tissues, their art smock and a pencil case to school as soon as possible?

Thank you,

Unit C Team

Ms Kristy Telford (3T), Mrs Karen Woodhouse (3W), Ms Gail Woodhouse & Mrs Caitlyn Watkins (4W)



Unit B

Welcome Back! We are thrilled to be back in the classroom for the 2021 school year. Unit B has been getting to know each other through classmate interviews. Here are what some students had to say:

“Today we did a classmate interview. I interviewed Eldin and I learned that his favourite food is a hamburger! It’s also mine! It was very interesting and fun” – Leo

“I interviewed Filip and I learnt that he is most proud of winning a basketball tournament 2 years ago” – Ash

“Today I learnt that Sobhan likes soccer and P.E but dislikes soup. It was interesting” – Sarah

“Today we did student interviews. I interviewed Leo and I learnt that he would like to go to the Daintree Rainforest” – Eldin



Grade 5 and 6 students have already started to use our unit library to find interesting books to read. Here is 5T enjoying one of their reading sessions:



It has been a great start to the year and we are looking forward to a fantastic term!

Unit B Team,

Ms Mia Todisco (5T), Jo Ford (5/6F) & Ashleigh Price-Bell (6PB)