



Discovering Doreen

Week Ending April 19th, 2024

From Dave

Welcome back to Term 2. I trust our students had an enjoyable break over the Easter holidays and were able to spend some valuable time with family and friends.

A thank you goes out to all the parents who completed the staggered pickup time survey last term. The feedback was positive and from what I'm hearing out in the carpark is that it's working. Next week will see A-M surnames finish at 3:20. I do ask that parents with N-Z surnames do not arrive before 3:20 as this will defeat the purpose of the staggered pick-up times. A new survey will come out via compass next week which will indicate our where to next. For those who have made alternative arrangements regard their child/s pick-up time, these will continue to be honoured.

We have a few staffing updates for this term. We welcome Fiona Portman to the DPS family in place of Mrs Barnes who is on leave for the first 3 weeks of this term. Fiona and I have worked together for many years and has hit the ground running with our year 3 students. Mrs Smith is also out on leave for the majority of this term and we welcome Mr Callum Gestautas into the AUSLAN and Resilience project space. Callum joins us from Flowerdale PS, is familiar with both AUSLAN and The Resilience Project and again, has many years of teaching experience. Welcome to both.

Our Grade 5/6 students have started their 4-day swimming program at WaterMarc and what a hit it has been. Engagement levels are high, the activities on offer with the program are great and catered to our student's level. Our 5/6's will have another two swimming sessions next week, Wednesday and Friday. A thank you to Mrs Green and Mr Miller for ensuring a smooth start to the program.

Our Grade 6 students will be heading out to the Grade 6 Leadership Day on Wednesday 1st of May in Panton Hill. They'll hear from a guest speaker around leadership - take part in a variety of leadership activities and spend some time together with students from other small schools in our NESST group. Keep your eyes peeled for the notice coming home. Students will be travelling to and from the venue with staff and parent volunteers.

ANZAC Day is next Thursday week and it is a public holiday and there will be no school. Some of our senior students and staff will be going along to the ANZAC service in Laurimar. If you'd like to bring your child across, the service will begin around 5:55am. There will be some familiar faces for the students who would like to come along.

Over the holidays a lot of work took place in relation to our new admin building. The frame and roof is up, with the wrapping and closing off of the building taking place over the next fortnight. I am being told that the plan is to move into the new admin building by the 1st of July - which was the original date set. Part of our covered breeze way was also knocked down during the holiday, which allowed for all new plumbing and electrical work to be laid. It's starting to come along quite quickly now.

Some sad news below:

Dear Doreen Primary School Community,
We regret to inform you that Harry Mooney, a former student of Doreen Primary School, was involved in an accident last Saturday and is currently hospitalised in a serious condition.

The Mooney family have been an integral part of our school community, with all three of their children attending Doreen Primary over the years. We want to extend our support in any way possible.

To assist Harry and his family during this difficult time, a GoFundMe page has been set up. The Junior School Council (JSC) is eager to contribute and has organised an Out of Uniform Day for Friday, April 26th, with a suggested donation of \$2.00 per student. All money donated on the day will be passed onto the family. If you opt to not send your child out of uniform, they must attend school in uniform.

We send our heartfelt wishes for Harry's swift recovery and offer our love and support to his family. If you would like to support the family, a GoFundMe page has been setup. <https://gofund.me/c67acd85>

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Grades 5 & 6 Swimming	24, 26 Apr
Anzac Day	25 Apr
Grade 6 Leadership Day	1 May
Grades 4-6 Sport V Kinglake West (A)	3 May
School Council Meeting 6.00pm	7 May
Grades 4-6 Sport V Kinglake PS (H)	10 May
Grades 4-6 Sport V Ivanhoe Grammer (H)	17 May
District Cross Country Selected Students	22 May
Grades 4-6 Sport V Middle Kinglake (A)	24 May
Camp Grades 3-6 Payment via Compass	3-5 June
Grades 4-6 Sport V Upper Plenty PS (H)	7 June
King's Birthday	10 June
School Council Meeting 6.00pm	11 June
Last Day of Term 2	28 June

PLEASE NOTE:

All dates are subject to change. We will notify the school community of any changes as soon as we can.

DOREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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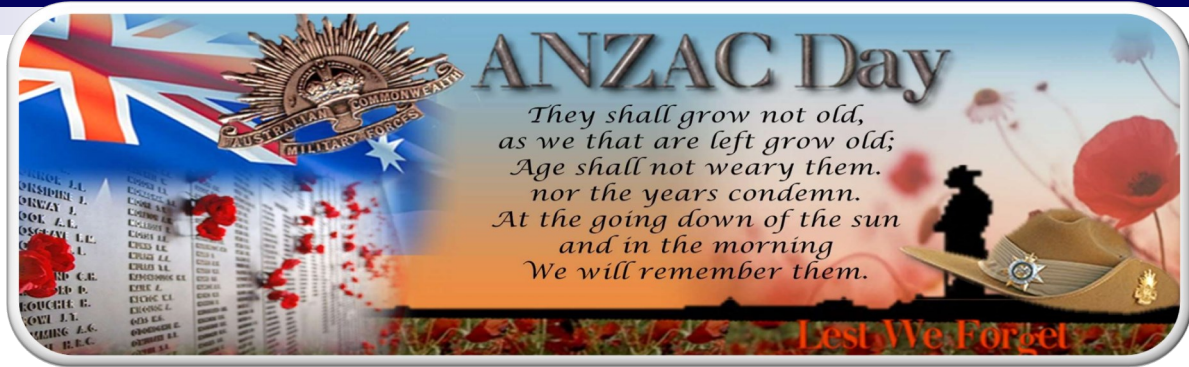
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ANZAC Day

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.*

Lest We Forget

On Thursday 25 April, school will be closed as communities commemorate ANZAC Day and take time to remember the lives lost in WWI and in all wars since then.

When the First World War began in 1914, the Doreen/Arthurs Creek area was even more 'country' than today; full of orchards and farms, with a small population of approximately 400 people. Locals greeted the news of the outbreak of war with the same enthusiasm as most other Australians. To raise funds for the war, Whittlesea Football Club held a fancy dress match which they played against a team from Wallan, followed by a dance. In Kinglake, residents held a concert to raise money for the Belgian Relief Fund and in Epping on Easter Monday 1915 a sports carnival was held to raise money for the same cause. Light-hearted social occasions such as these were typical of the early days of the war in country Australia. Four years later, the people of Doreen and its surrounding districts would look wistfully back at this, remembering a time before anyone had been killed; a time when there were still enough young men in the local area to field a footy team.



Few of the men from Doreen completed enlistment and training in time for the Gallipoli landings on 25 April 1915. One of these was Colin Hicks (see right). Colin was the first serviceman from Doreen to enlist and also the first to lose his life. Three weeks after the Gallipoli landing Colin received a painful gunshot wound to the abdomen. He died aboard a hospital ship and was buried at sea. 8 months later when the ANZACs evacuated, the very last Australian soldier to leave Gallipoli was another local man; a dairy farmer named Ivan Barnard, from Bundoora.



Approximately 1 person in 5 from Doreen and surrounding areas enlisted to serve in WWI. Some families sent two, three, even four of their sons to fight for Australia. On the Doreen Honor Roll which hangs in our school office, the names of Stanley and Allan Verso (left) can be seen. Both worked as orchardists on the family property 'Versdale' in Boyds Road before enlisting in 1916. Both survived the war and returned home. Their descendants are part of our community today.

The Laing brothers, Alec and Duncan, are also on the Doreen Honor Roll. They attended school at Tancks Corner in Yarrambat. Alec (photo on right) sustained shrapnel wounds to the legs in 1916 and died. Duncan returned, though after being wounded in the leg and right hand, resulting in his right ring finger and little finger being amputated. ANZAC Day is certainly about remembering those who died. But we should also appreciate those who came back changed by what they endured.



We have children at our school who come from the families listed on our Honor Roll. These families have lived and worked in Doreen/Arthurs Creek since before Australia was a country. These are the families who advocated for, donated the land for and first built our school. Next week we remember all the lives lost due to war, the communities who suffered and those left behind who helped build our society into what it is today.



On the school holidays, Phoebe from Grade 2 visited the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.
"We saw all the poppies next to the names of people who died. I learned that there have been lots of wars. It's a bit sad to think about. ANZAC Day I think is about gratitude... Being grateful for living with no war and not having our dad or brother or anyone go away to war."



COMPASS
School Manager

For all school information,
notices, payments, be sure
to login to Compass



**TERM 2
SWIMMING GRADE
5/6**

**APRIL 24 & 26
DON'T FORGET TO BRING
BATHERS AND TOWEL**



HOUSE GROUPS

Week ending 19th April

2ND

1ST

3RD

4TH

TERM DATES

2024:

TERM 2

15 April–28 June

TERM 3

15 July–20 September

TERM 4

7 October–20 December

Direct Deposit details
for all your school
Payments

Acc Name:

Doreen Primary School

BSB: 063 000

Acc No: 14136683

Ref: Surname and item