



What a wonderful start we had to the new school year. I would like to thank all our parents and staff who made the first morning so smooth. During the week before our first day we had 32 new students (not including Kindy students) enrol at the school. This has taken our total number of students to almost 530. The increase in students, even with our new building, now means that most are at their limit or very close to. This does bring with it challenges with staffing and the make-up of classes.

We are in the fortunate position that this unexpected increase in enrolments has not lead to a re-structuring of classes or the construction of composite, or "split-grade" classes. In the case of composite classes it is important that all parents right throughout the school are aware that contrary to some beliefs there is no disadvantage to a student being in a composite class. In fact there are some distinct advantages to composite classes. Key to all of this is the quality of the teacher and the learning program that makes the greatest difference outside of what the student brings with them to school. When I look at the 4 classes (out of a total of 21) that are composite, all of those teachers are of the highest quality. I have placed on our web-site an article from the Sydney Morning Herald that addresses this exact issue. It is important that in 2017 everyone understands that composite classes are a fact of school life and there is no stigma or disadvantage to a student being in one.

At the beginning of any school year there will be some bumps along the way. These range across a number of issues from making new friends, changing classrooms, being in a new part of the school or having a different teacher. As usual parents have been a great help in allaying any doubts the children may have had. However please make sure that if there are genuine concerns that linger for more than a week or two that you make an appointment with your child's classroom teacher. Sorting it as early as possible is the best way.

New families

We would all like to welcome our new families to Deanmore PS. Beside our 60 Kindergarten students who are starting this week, we also had over 30 new students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 start at the school. These students have come from other parts of Perth, from around the state of Western Australia and from overseas (England, Thailand, Belgium, the Middle East and some other places). It is understandable that some processes will

be different here at Deanmore. If you are a new family and you have any questions please make sure that you contact your child's teacher or our front office staff who will be happy to help where possible.

New staff

We have also had some new staff join us this year. Mrs Melinda Carr is our new Science specialist. Mrs Carr has a wealth of experience as a Scientist in the private industry as well as teaching Science in many different schools. She is based in our Science Room (the old Art room).

Ms Ashlee Brydon has joined us from Westminster JPS and is with our Room 4, Year 5 class.

Mr Clive Cavallaro has joined us from Woodlands PS and will be teaching our Year 4/5 class in the new demountable (Room 21).

If you see any of our new staff please take the time to say hello and welcome them to our school community.

OSHClub

OSHClub has begun the before and afterschool care in our undercover area. It is already proving popular. If you are interested in using this service please speak to Dani. If you are already using this service please be mindful that we lock all our main gates between 3:45pm and 4pm. Access to pick up your child/ren will be through the main entrance on Rainer St which will be open. This access is in place to ensure the safety of children in their care. Parents are also requested that they do not walk through the middle of the undercover area while OSHClub is in operation. This is important for them to meet their duty of care. They have put markers (yellow) to identify where parents and students can walk. This will allow parents to access Room 20 (via the access near the Science Room) as well as the canteen and uniform shop. If you are unclear please ask one of the workers.

Student medical forms

A medical form will be sent home for every student this week that parents are required to fill in. This form is for our records to ensure their health and well-being, in particular during excursions. During the year when students go on an excursion parents will not be sent a new medical form to fill in. We just need you to update any changes if they have occurred throughout the year by contact the front office.

Parking

We understand that parking is an issue. This is as much for staff as it is for parents. We have more staff than we have staff parking spaces. Parents **do not** park in the staff parking areas, even for just a few minutes or a meeting. The staff are required to be at school and in their classes by 8:30am and must have access for this to occur.

4 basic school rules

On Wednesday we had a quick student assembly for our Year 1 – 6 classes. During this assembly I talked to students about 4 basic rules that are important to follow. These are:

- **Move appropriately throughout the school** (e.g. walk under verandas, walk bikes/skateboards on school grounds, walk in classes, etc. etc.)
- **Speak appropriately** (e.g. say hello, use your manners, wait your turn etc. etc.)
- **Be in appropriate areas** (students have been told where they can and can't be depending on their year group)

- **Wear a hat when outside** (so important in the Australian sun but definitely not needed when inside)

Teachers continue to work with their classes on specific classroom rules but they all fit within these 4 basic rules.

School Assembly

Our first school assembly is next Friday (February 10th) and will start as close to 8:50am as possible. Room 2, Year 6 will host this assembly.

On behalf of the staff I look forward to a very productive and successful school year. Our teachers will be challenging our students to strive to achieve their very best at all times. I have complete faith that our students will rise to this challenge and have a great school year.

George Craig
Principal

OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program



Program Update

Hello from Deanmore OSHClub!

We are excited to have started at Deanmore and have had a fantastic start to the year. For families that have not yet met us, we welcome you to come down the Undercover Area to say hello any time. Our opening hours are 7am – 9am before school, and 2.30pm – 6pm after school.

We provide a nutritious breakfast in the morning and afternoon tea after school, as well as a range of activities, planned to cater to the children's current interests.

As we are a new program we have the ability to really get in touch with the school community and build a fantastic program in partnership with you. We always welcome suggestions for improvement from students, parents and the school community.

An important note for all attending families...

We request all families to enter the school through the pedestrian gate at the Kindy, as others will be locked before and after school hours.

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0417 075 347

Coordinator: Danni Beaton

Assistants: Kinjal Patel and Sarabjeet Kaur

OSHClub Head Office: 08 9261 3200

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.



P&C News

The **P&C Annual General Meeting** is on Monday the **13th of February @ 7.30pm**, in the staff room.

All positions are vacant.

Please bring \$1 to join the P&C.
We look forward to seeing you there.

Class reps for 2017

To all class reps of 2016 please consider helping out again this year, to help make 2017 another great year for the P&C and our kids. Or anyone else who would like to step into the role and help out their child's class and the P&C.

Contact Barbs Harvey on 0411 306 213 or barbs.harvey@gmail.com if you would like to represent your child's class.

School banking

New Banking rewards for 2017 are here! Come along Thursday mornings before school, if you don't have an account Jennifer from the Commonwealth will be doing an account opening session on Thursday March 2nd. Or follow

the link <http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking>

Contact kayechapman@yahoo.co.uk for more info.



The **secondhand uniform shop** is open every Friday morning before school from 8.30am.

Please, look into your **diarys...**

The Canteen needs a **volunteer** each **Thursday and Friday.**

Add your name to the roster in the undercover area next to the canteen window.

The Canteen is open each Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

One volunteer on each Thursday and Friday is required to help the canteen run smoothly on those busier days.

Please add your name to the roster by the canteen window in the undercover area, or contact Yvette (0409 618 759 or pjmcbain@bigpond.com) with your preferred dates.

Alternatively, drop in after drop off and see if the ladies need an extra hand. An hour or two helping out when no one else is available is better than nothing.