DATES TO REMEMBER

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<th>Thursday</th>
<th>31st</th>
<th>Ready 4 Prep – First Session</th>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>22 August</td>
<td>Curriculum Day - Pupil Free Day</td>
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Sale of old student tables and chairs – Monday 28th July 2.30 – 4.00pm Hall
Bargains, Bargains, Bargains!!
If you are looking for a student desk or chair, we will be selling off a number of old tables and chairs which are in good order.

- Desks - $5.00 each
- Chairs $1.00 each

We cannot hold these items so please come prepared to take them home at the time of purchase,

Congratulations
Nikolina Nikolas
– The winner of our Attendance Bike Raffle.

Parent Opinion Survey – Will be sent home Monday 28th July
Dear Parents,
Each year the Department of Education ask schools to survey their families using the “Parent Survey”. Families are selected at random. We generally send out approximately 90 surveys which is the number required by the DEECD. Some families may have been asked last year as well as this year, and others may not have been asked in the past few years. As it is a “Random” sample, schools have no control over the names the computer provides. The survey is also available in a range of languages. If you receive a survey in English, but would prefer in another language, please speak to the office and we can arrange a translated version for you.

The Parent Opinion Survey is one way for parents to provide us with valuable data and feedback about our school. This enables us to better understand how the parent community feels about our school. It takes about 15 – 20 minutes to complete, and your input and contributions to our wonderful community is appreciated.

The Parent Opinion Survey will be sent home on Monday 28th July. Once you have completed the survey, please place it inside the envelope provided and return it to school by Friday 1st August.
**2013 Parent Survey.**
The 2013 Parent Survey was extremely pleasing and showed that we were above the state average in nearly every area. Student Learning, Learning focus, approachability, behaviour management, general satisfaction, connectedness to peers and school connectedness were all extremely high. Out of the 18 areas, we were above the state average in 17 areas.
The Parent Opinion Survey is one way for parents to provide us with valuable data and feedback about our school. This enables us to better understand how the parent community feels about our school. It takes about 15 – 20 minutes to complete, and your input and contributions to our wonderful community is appreciated. If you would like to discuss the survey with me, please give me a call and I would be more than happy to sit down and have a chat.

**Cold Weather**
Just a reminder to parents about the cold and wet weather we are currently experiencing. If your child has a coat, hat or scarf, please remind them to wear them to school. This year has been particularly cold and wet and we want our students to stay warm whilst they are out playing during recess and lunch times. This week we have had 3 children sent to the sick bay as they were extremely cold. They had been sent to school in shorts and t-shirt and we had to provide these children with a jacket from our second hand uniform.

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**Education Maintenance Allowance 2nd Instalment**
Parents with continuing eligibility, who were paid the first instalment of 2014 through this school will **not** be required to complete a new application for the second instalment.

Parents who transferred children to Lyndale Greens Primary School after **28th February 2014** and prior to or on **1st August 2014**, must reapply at this school for the second instalment. If you have become eligible for a card since **28th February 2014** you may also apply for **2nd Instalment**.

Please bring your current Healthcare Card or Pension Card to the office as soon as possible.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 3 (**14th July 2014**).
Applications close on **1st August** and no late applications can be accepted.

Please contact the School Office for an application form or for further information.

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**Dandenong Creek Wetlands Excursion**
On Tuesday July 15th Grade 4 students went on an all day excursion to the nearby Dandenong Creek. Here is a recount written by a student in 4A about the day:

On Tuesday the 15th of July we went on an excursion to the Dandenong Creek. We went to the Dandenong
Creek to learn more about how animals survive in a wetland habitat. The first activity was called ‘Birds Life’ – we had to use binoculars to spot different kinds of birds. Two volunteers helped us spot and name the birds we saw. At the first wetland pond I saw a Purple Swamphen. It had skinny long legs, a pointy red beak and a mixture of blue and purple feathers on its chest. I stared at it for ages!

The second activity we went to was at the bird viewing hut and we sat inside to listen to a guest speaker. The lady from Melbourne Water explained how dragonflies are born and how they change as they grow up. We had a plastic tub full of a water sample from the nearby wetland. Inside the tub were lots of insects and with a spoon we had to scoop them out individually and place them inside an ice cube tray. Looking at the poster we determined the healthiness of the water based on the insects we found. The chart showed that the water was not very clean as the insects inside were in the category of highly tolerant meaning they can survive in very dirty conditions.

After we had our recess and played on the playground we walked back around the wetland to begin the third activity. This was when we went to test the Turbidity of the water, which was again testing how dirty the water was. Everyone worked with a partner and had a water sample and a long tube that had black squiggly lines at the base. If you couldn’t see the lines when you tipped the wetland water in that meant the water was dirty. There was a chart we had to look at to check the dirt levels.

The fourth and final activity for the day was Photography of Habitats at the Wetland. It was a challenge to capture pictures with a digital camera of animals that were under, beside, in the water and on. Our group spotted spitfire caterpillars all squished together on a tree branch and we thought it looked a bit like a spider web. The real challenge was to see if we could find a frog. We could hear them all around us but it was impossible to actually see one!

I had a terrific time at the excursion and would like to use binoculars again. I really enjoyed the photography activity because it made me stop and think more about daily life at a wetland, not just the animals there but also understanding about the cleanliness of the water. My shoes were covered in mud by the end of the day but it was worth it because I had fun! Written by Elaine 4A.

Grade 4 students went to the Dandenong Creek Wetlands to continue their educational journey to understand the catchment in which we all live and work. The excursion was funded by a Water Ambassador grant awarded to Judith Sise for her work as a citizen scientists monitoring Dandenong Creek’s health with the local environment.
The grade 4 students have been studying different aspects of the catchment in both term 1 and 2. The excursion to Dandenong Creek Wetlands combined many of these studies and real hands-on experiences. BirdLife Australia volunteers took students on a bird survey and found 38 different species. Melbourne Water officers showed students which macro-invertebrates found in water show healthy water and how to test the turbidity (muddiness) of water and had students take photographs of the different habitats with the wetlands. The weather was crisp but fine! Amina wrote:

"On Tuesday the grade 4s and the school science captains went to Dandenong Creek. We took our plastic bags with our snack and lunch. We were in different groups- 4A, 4B, 4C and 4D. I was in 4C. My group started looking at how dirty water is. We had to get a cup and a long tube and we put in the water slowly until we could just see some wriggly lines on the bottom of the tube. The higher the number on the side scale of the tube meant the water was healthy. My partner and I got 48. This is not so clean. Then we went with the BirdLife volunteer. We had binoculars and when I looked in I saw a bird called a Eurasians Coot with a white beak. We had lunch and snack at the playground. Next we went to the bird hide and a lady told us about the many types of creatures like insects and worms that live in dirty and clean water.”

It was a great excursion and the volunteers and Melbourne Water Officers commented on excited the students were about learning.

**Science Captains Danushi, Maxxi, Vasthu and Judith Sise**

**Science Teacher**

**Ready - 4 – Prep (Foundation)**

Our highly successful Kinder to Prep Transition Program will start in Term 3-Thursday 31st July-2013.

**Where:** Lyndale Greens

Primary School

1-19 Oakwood Avenue

Dandenong North

Ph: 9795 2271

**When:** Every Thursday afternoon during Terms 3 & 4

Starts Thursday 31st July

**Time:** 2.15 -3.15pm

**Cost:** Free for all 4 - 5 year old/pre-school & kinder children

**Advertising**

![Advertising Image](image-url)