



NEWSLETTER

NUMBER

DEVON MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL

11/02/2025

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Bec Wrotny – Principal Report

DATES

Welcome to 2025!

A huge welcome back to our returning families, we extend that welcome to all the new families who are joining us this year- we hope you feel the warmth and caring community spirit Devon Meadows is so proudly known for. A very special welcome to all of our new Foundation students who have been busy completing their testing and have joined us now for their first full days, minus Wednesdays for a couple more weeks.

All staff have been working hard to ensure each student has a successful start to 2025 as they meet their new teachers and classmates for the year ahead. As I have visited classrooms there has been a sense of calm and happiness with the students which is fantastic to see.

Staffing

We have some new and returning staff members joining us this year.

Maddy Johnson – Foundation B classroom teacher

Molly Ash - 1/2A classroom teacher

Katie Jennings - ES

Jess McLean returns for 2 days a week in the 3/4 team

School Communications

School communications occur primarily through Compass. If you are unsure on how to access Compass or have any troubles in doing so, please see the team at the front office who can assist you. Whole school Newsletters will be sent out via Compass and posted on the school website 2-3 times per term. Newsletters will provide information on upcoming events and important dates as well as recaps of events and celebrations. Parents and carers can access term calendars on the school website and Compass – we are currently in the process of updating all information on the website and this should be completed in the coming weeks. Calendars are regularly updated to show school events, parent-teacher introductions, parent-teacher interviews, school curriculum days, changes to school days and whole school activities. This is the best way to ensure that you are aware of what is occurring within the school. We will endeavour to push out a Compass reminder but this is not always viable.

Curriculum Day

We have a Curriculum Day on Tuesday 11th March. On this day staff will be participating in a professional development day. Students do not attend school on this day.

TheirCare will be in operation and can be contacted for bookings.

Term 1 2025

Woorabinda 5/6 Camp	Feb 10th-12th
Foundation Student Free Day	Feb 12th
Book Club Due	Feb 17th
Parent Teacher Conferences	Feb 18th
Foundation Student Free Day	Feb 19th
Harmony Day	Feb 21st
Grade 3-6 Athletics Day	Feb 26th
Fitness Club	Feb 27th
School Assembly	Feb 28th
Parent Association 9:15	Mar 3rd
Fitness Club	Mar 6th
Labour Day	Mar 10th
Curriculum Day	Mar 11th
NAPLAN	Mar 12th-24th
Fitness Club	Mar 13th
Fitness Club	Mar 20th

Bec Wrotny – Principal Report

Student Absences

As discussed in our last Newsletter for 2024 we have been referred to work with two Department employees who will help us to make positive changes to our school's data to increase students' wellbeing and engagement in school. This work is yet to commence but it has been fantastic to see students attending school from Day 1 with enthusiasm and joy.

We are excited about our upcoming work in this space and look forward to building upon the already strong relationships we have built between home and school.

If your child/ren are struggling with attendance and getting back into routine for the start of the year, please reach out to the Classroom Teacher so we can support you to make the transition a positive one.

Parent/Teacher Interviews – 'Getting to know you' meeting

The 'Getting to Know You' sessions will be held Tuesday 18th February. These sessions provided teachers and families an opportunity to meet, share information and begin an effective and valued home/ school partnership. Information shared by parents with teachers will assist us to plan for and work as effectively as possible with you and your child throughout the year. This is a very long day for our teachers and we thank them for their continued support of all students and families. Further information regarding bookings will come out through Compass shortly.

Child Safe Policies Feedback

As part of DET's Child Safe Standards, school policies are annually communicated to the community and feedback sought as to their content. The relevant policies we are seeking feedback on are listed below and can be found on the [Devon Meadows Primary School website](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Respectful-Behaviours-within-the-School-Community-Policy.aspx). Feedback can be provided by emailing the school at devon.meadows.ps@education.vic.gov.au

- o Bullying Prevention
- o Child Safety and Wellbeing
- o Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures
- o Child Safety Code of Conduct
- o Complaints
- o Student Wellbeing and Engagement
- o Visitors
- o Volunteers

Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy

(<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Respectful-Behaviours-within-the-School-Community-Policy.aspx>)

The Respectful Behaviour within the School Community policy describes the positive behaviour expected from parents, carers, and other adults in Victorian school communities. The policy sets clear standards of behaviour to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for students, staff, and adults. This policy is in a very easy to read format; we hope all families will take a few minutes to engage with the positive behaviours described in this policy.

School Council Elections

Once again it is time to hold elections for the School Council. The Council is responsible for setting the policies that the school will follow, monitoring the expenditure of money and maintaining the facilities. Our Council meets at 5:45pm on a Tuesday, twice a term.

Thank you to our members from 2024 who are finishing their two year term – Jayde, Meagan, Cara, Amy, Richie, Paul and Carrie. We appreciate all of the time and efforts you have put in over the last two years.

Composition

There are two separate electorates:

1. the electorate of parent members (5 vacancies)

2. the electorate of Department of Education & Training (DET) employee members (2 vacancies).

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School Council Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

Nominations are called for parent representatives on the school council. Nomination forms (self-nomination or nomination of a parent member) are available from the school office. **Nominations will open Friday 14th February close 9:00am on Friday 21st February 2025.**

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Timeline

- Nominations for Parent and DET member vacancies are open on Friday 14th February 2025.
- Nomination forms are available from the Office.
- Nominations close on Friday 21st February 2025 at 9:00am.
- Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted – Friday 28th March 2025.
- Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (if needed) – On or before Friday 7th March 2025.
- Close of Ballot (if needed) – Friday 14th March 2025.

Please contact me at school if you would like further information about School Council.

As always, if you have any questions, feedback or concerns throughout the year please do not hesitate to get in contact with either your child's teacher, Paul, or myself.

Happy 2025!

Bec Wrotny

Principal

Garden Club



Fitness Club Term 1

Thank You

Fitness Club is in back in term 1. Fitness club is fun way for student in grades 1—6 to start the day being active with friends. Fitness Club will run for 4 weeks (27/2, 6/03, 13/03 and 20/03) and We will be focusing on running to coincide with cross country. A nutritious breakfast of Cheese Toastie, breakfast bar/ Yoghurt and Fruit will be provided at the end of each session at a cost of \$2.50 per session.

A massive Thank-you to



For the donation of sand for our sandpit.

Parents Association

On Monday morning, we had a highly engaged group of parents come together to form the 2025 Parents Association.

The following positions were elected: President (Meagan Fox), Vice President (Nikita Hodges-Alexander), Secretary (Christie Skilbeck), and Treasurer (Kim Armstrong).

Building on the great work of the 2024 PA team, we are now looking to recruit new members for the 2025 Parents Association.

Would you like to join the Parents Association?

We meet twice each term to discuss and plan events for the school. One meeting will be at 9:15am, and the other will be after work hours, typically around 6pm.

These events include the Colour Run, Mother's & Father's Day stalls, Bunnings BBQ, and other fundraising activities.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Meagan Fox or any member of the PA team.

If you're unable to join the PA but still keen to help, there are plenty of ways to support the school. Throughout the year, we will seek volunteers and donations for various opportunities. If this is something you're interested in, stay tuned for further updates via Compass.

Meagan Fox contact details:

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