

Darraweit Guim Primary School

No: 0878



Information Book 2017

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MESSAGE TO PARENTS

On behalf of our school community I wish to take this opportunity to welcome you, your child and your family to our caring rural school. We welcome the opportunity to share with you the responsibility of developing your child to his/her potential. Developing a close relationship between the home and the school is an essential part of creating a happy, safe and rewarding educational experience.

Our school has a small but enthusiastic and dedicated group of staff who appreciate the opportunity to work closely with families. The school regularly creates opportunities to talk to parents and are only too willing to arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss any educational issues. Darraweit Guim provides a caring, friendly and safe environment. It is a progressive school that values learning and the importance of the home school relationship.

Andrew Blake
Acting Principal

THE SCHOOL COUNCIL 2016/17

Darraweit Guim Primary School, through its Strategic Plan development and implementation, operates on a community ownership/responsibility philosophy. We have an active and multi-skilled School Council which plays an important role in the school's operation and advancement.

2016/17 Councillors -

Parent Representatives

President:	Danielle Craig
Vice Pres:	Bronwen Kolotelo
Treasurer:	TBA
	Kellie Petersen
	Ellen Green
	Anthony Kennedy

Department of Education, Training & Early Childhood Development Representatives

Acting EO/Principal:	Andrew Blake
Secretary/Teacher:	Jane Nixon

BUILDINGS & RESOURCES

The school consists of a mixture of the old charming bluestone building and modern administrative and classroom complexes. The school has an excellent ration of students to computers and two interactive white boards. The school is well equipped with up to date resources to support the literacy and numeracy programs.

GROUNDS

Darraweit Guim Primary School is set in a picturesque valley and has a wonderful perspective. The grounds are large with a variety of play equipment available to the children. Adjacent to the school is a large modern tennis complex that the school has full access to. The country atmosphere is enhanced by our vegetable garden and hen house.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is an integral part of our Primary School. Parents and their families play an important role in the process and the funds raised are used to purchase additional equipment such as computers, books and sporting equipment we would otherwise find difficult to purchase.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ADDRESS

2 Darraweit Valley Road
Darraweit Guim Vic 3756

COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone: 03 5789 1234
Fax: 03 5789 1361
Email: darraweit.guim.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.darraweitguimps.vic.edu.au



Search for Darraweit Guim Primary School

ENROLLING YOUR CHILD

You will need to provide Proof of Age
An ACIR statement or Council issued Immunisation Certificate (see page 7)

You will also need to complete a confidential Student Information form which is available from the school on request or available for downloading off the school website.

SCHOOL HOURS

Session One 9.00am to 11.00am
Session Two 11.30am to 1.00pm
Session Three 2.00pm to 3.30pm

Note: 1.00-1.15pm is a supervised eating time.

TERM DATES FOR 2017

TERM DATES FOR 2018

Term 1	31 st January to 31 st March	29 th January to 29 th March	Term 1
	13 th April to 17 th April – Easter	30 th March to 2 nd April - Easter	
Term 2	18 th April, to 30 th June	16 th April to 29 th June	Term 2
Term 3	17 th July to 22 nd September	16 th July to 21 st September	Term 3
Term 4	9 th October to 22 nd December	8 th October to 21 st December	Term 4

Note: Foundation students (Preps) attend school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday during February.

* Each year government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school, so contact your school for details.

STAFFING

Acting Principal: Mr Andrew Blake
Teachers: Mrs. Jane Nixon, Mr Simon Boxall
Business Manager: Mrs. Jeanette Kalinski

ACCOUNTS

All monies sent to school should be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the family's name and reason for the payment and be placed in the blue payments and notices box next to the General Office door.

SCHOOL FEES

Reviewed annually
2017 Book Fee \$120 per student

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

CURRICULUM

Darraweit Guim Primary School provides an all-round education and children are exposed to a variety of experiences. The Curriculum covers all other 'Key Learning Areas' with a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy. Our small class sizes and low student to staff ratio allow us to offer individually learning plans for all students. Working individually with a teacher or in a small group is part of a normal work day for our students.

SPECIALIST AREAS

Our school offers excellent, specialist programs in –

- Performing Arts – includes music and a concert performance.
- Language – Indonesian
- Library – the school is visited by the Mobile Area Reading Centre (MARC) Van. Students are able to borrow books and participate in class lessons with the trained MARC Van teacher.

ENVIRONMENT

Darraweit Guim Primary School has a strong emphasis on caring for the environment through –

- Junior Landcare activities involving the local community.
- Caring for our vegetable garden and chooks.

LIFE EDUCATION

Each year the children participate in a health, safety and Drug Education program in the Life Education Van.

COMPUTERS

Computers and iPads are an integral part of the Curriculum at Darraweit Guim Primary School. Interactive whiteboards are used throughout the school.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Parents are provided with a written report in July and December and interviews are arranged for those wishing to discuss their child's progress.

Please feel free to speak to your child's teacher and if necessary arrange an interview if you have concerns at any time during the year.

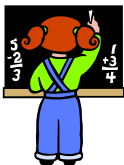


HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD IN THE FIRST YEAR AT SCHOOL

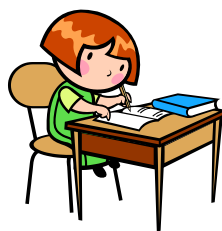
1. Aim to have your child at school by 8.55am. Running late, and entering school after the day's activities have begun, can be upsetting to a beginner and disruptive to the class.



2. Try to leave quickly once your child is in the classroom. Your own happy confident farewell will help him/her to settle. Please also be sure that your child knows about return arrangements. These help him/her to feel safe.
3. Please make sure your child is picked up from school on time. Initially this will be at the classroom door at 3.30pm. School days for Preps during February will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Prep children will not attend on Wednesdays.
4. Name everything that your child brings to school – clothing, lunch boxes, bags, plastic bottles, storybooks, toys, balls etc. While children are welcome to bring things to school to show others or to use at playtime the school cannot accept responsibility for children's treasures. Expensive toys, books etc. are brought to school at the child's own risk.
5. Train your child to eat their school lunch independently by making sure he/she can open and close containers and unwrap food packets. Please provide a lunch box and drink bottle that fit easily into his/her school bag. Talk about the difference between 'playtime' and 'lunchtime'. Show children what food you have packed each morning and say when you expect it to be eaten. Don't be surprised in your child's normal healthy appetite deteriorates a little during the first few weeks of school. This is not unusual with beginners and usually returns to normal if little or no fuss is made.
6. Ensure your child can go to the toilet by themselves and und/do up any buttons or zips.
7. Encourage the qualities of responsibility and persistence in your child. Children need to be responsible for their own belongings at school and to share in the cleaning up after activities. Praise persistence in your child. Children who never finish the things they start can have problems at school, where new tasks are often based on the completion of earlier ones.
8. Show an interest in work brought home, and display it in a special place.
9. Recognise and praise your child's efforts. Aim at helping him or her surpass their own previous achievements rather than competing with others.
10. Provide language experiences for your child through discussion, nursery rhymes, songs and stories. It is important to read books to him/her.



11. Understand the importance of play. Provide materials which stimulate creative play. Encourage your child to play with other children.
12. Teach your child to cope independently with taking clothes on and off, particularly coats, art smocks, shoes, socks and clothing with button or a zip. Begin teaching them to do up shoe laces, and turn clothing through to the right side.
13. Some children become very tired, and perhaps a little irritable, particularly during the first few weeks of adjusting to a new routine. They will need extra understanding from parents at this time.
14. Parents have to be prepared for school too! – prepared for the fact that they may miss their children greatly. They may also have to be prepared for their children to announce another source of wisdom in their life! When children have developed a secure relationship with their teacher, and have made friends, minor problems seem to solve themselves. If a problem persists, don't hesitate to talk to the teacher.



GENERAL INFORMATION

ABSENCES

It is vital for children to be at school to build on their learning. At Darraweit Guim Primary School we feel 'it is not okay to be away'. If your child is ill and unable to attend school please notify the school. A written or verbal explanation (as a minimum) is required for each absence.

Parents are also able to advise the school of an absence via the Contact Us page of the school website.

CAR PARK

For the safety of the community it is requested that all children be set down and collected from the car park provided. Extreme care when reversing is expected. Maximum speed is 10 kph.

LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

Students who have their lunches at school eat under supervision of teachers. No child is permitted to play during this time. We would suggest that parents encourage their children to bring uneaten lunch home again so that quantities and preferences can be ascertained.

MEDICATION

If your child requires medication during school, it should be handed to the class teacher before school. Please complete the medication form in your child's classroom with the details of your child's name, type and dosage of medication and the time it is to be given.

If your child has a medical condition (ie. Asthma or allergies) we ask you to inform us and fill out an 'Individual Medical Plan'. This will help us to respond appropriately to your child's needs.

PARENT ASSISTANCE

We would like to encourage all families to take an active role in the education of their children. There will be opportunities to help in a wide range of areas, so if you have any special skills or interests please let us know.

Some areas you may like to become involved in include reading, maths, typing, sports, computers, art and craftwork.

As we are a small school, transporting students on buses is expensive. We often call on parents to help and this significantly reduces the costs of excursions. Note: You must have comprehensive insurance on the vehicle to help.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The newsletter comes out regularly, usually on a Wednesday. This is our close contact with parents and if any parent has an item they would like to put in the newsletter they can do so by speaking to our Business Manager Jeanette Kalinski.

The current newsletter is available on the school website and can be emailed to you on request.

STUDENT WELFARE

At Darraweit Guim Primary School we believe all children have the right to a safe and happy environment. An environment where all members of the community respect each other. We are a small community based school which values the individual child and promotes the development of persistence, confidence, co-operation and learning. Bullying will not be tolerated at our school.

BOOK CLUB



We are currently involved in the Scholastic Australia Book Club scheme which offers a wide variety of books at discounted prices.

The school receives free books for our Library based on the quantity of books purchased throughout the year. Information about Book Club will normally be advised via the school newsletter.

STUDENT BANKING

Bendigo Bank Student Banking Program. For further information please contact the school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM



Orders are placed at least twice a year or when required.

If you have any queries or wish to purchase uniforms please contact the school. Uniform information is also available on the school website.

Hats are compulsory during terms 1 & 4.
A Darraweit Guim PS hat is presented to all new enrolment.

Thongs are not suitable school wear.

While school uniform is not compulsory it is strongly encouraged, especially for excursions and school photos.

The school has a Dress Code which is talked about in the newsletter on a regular basis.



IMMUNISATION

A history statement from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) is required before enrolment can be completed or an Immunisation Certificate from the relevant local Council Health Department.

The booklets kept by parents are not acceptable.

The ACIR statement must state at the bottom of the page “This child has received all vaccines required by 5 years of age”.

If a history statement/certificate has not been supplied to the school for a student and there is an outbreak of any kind then those students and un-immunised students may be excluded from school for the period indicated by the regulations.

EXCLUSION TABLE

This table indicates the minimum period of exclusion from schools required for infectious diseases cases and is available from the enrolment page of our website.

TETANUS

Full tetanus immunity is established by completing the normal childhood schedule, including the four-year old or pre-school immunisation. No further booster is required until year 10, when it is offered through secondary schools.