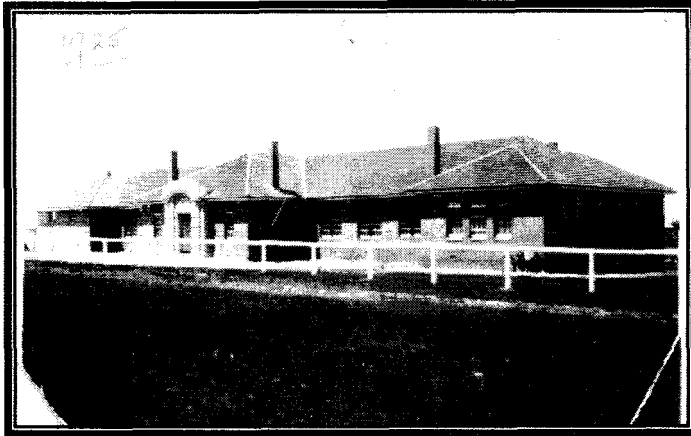
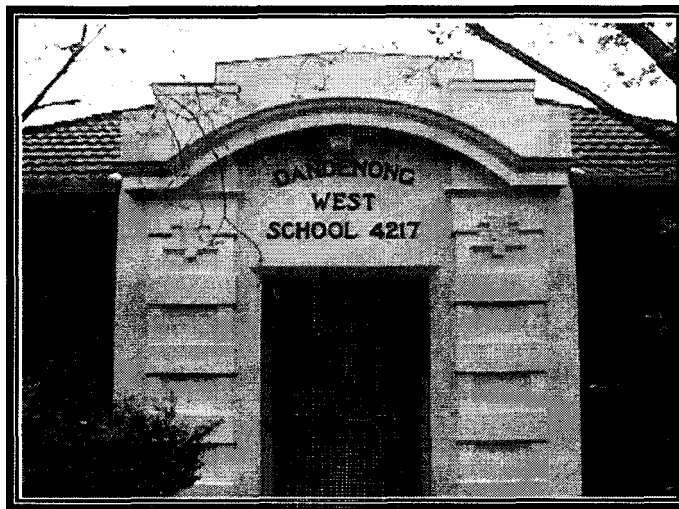


Dandenong West Primary School

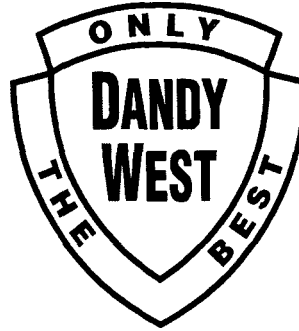


**celebrating 75 years
of Education.**



1925 - 2000

Dandenong West Primary School



**celebrating 75 years
of Education.**



1925 - 2000

PREFACE



It is with a feeling of great pride that I write the preface to the school's 75th Anniversary book.

Having read through the 50th and 60th Anniversary books, from which much of this information is gleaned, I can see the outstanding developments of the school over the past 75 years and the considerable contributions made both by parents and teachers to the growth of the "Dandy West" tradition.

Over the past decade, schools in Victoria have gained substantial local governance and School Councils have a greater role to play in school policy development.

We are very fortunate at Dandy West to have a history of very supportive parent bodies, whose goals have been to provide the best possible educational outcomes for all of the pupils at the school. It is through the endeavours and support of the school community that we are able to provide excellent educational programs in our well resourced school.

We are very proud of the achievements of past and present pupils of Dandy West will always aim to enhance our pupils' development as good citizens of Australia.

Congratulations Dandenong West !

Rod Phillips

BA BEd TPTC TTLC

HOW IT ALL BEGAN !

In the year 1923, two ladies, namely Mrs. Downey and Mrs. Hugh Murray (wife of the founder of Hugh Murray & Son), took the initiative in starting a movement for a new school in the West of Dandenong. At that time there was an organisation known as the Dandenong Improvement Association, with Mr. E.C. Butler as President, Mr. A Branston as Secretary and another well-known member was Mr. W.F. Roulston, prop. of "Dandenong Journal", all of whom gave their support in preparing a case to put to the then Minister of Public Instruction, Sir Alexander Peacock.

THE SITE PURCHASED

A portion of the present site, consisting of over 2 acres was purchased for € 910 (\$1,820.00) and eventually a contract was let to Jas. C. Brockey & Sons, of Black Rock, for the sum of € 8,900 (\$ 17,800.00) to erect an eight-classroom brick school to accommodate 420 pupils. It is on record that the school was completed 10 weeks ahead of time.



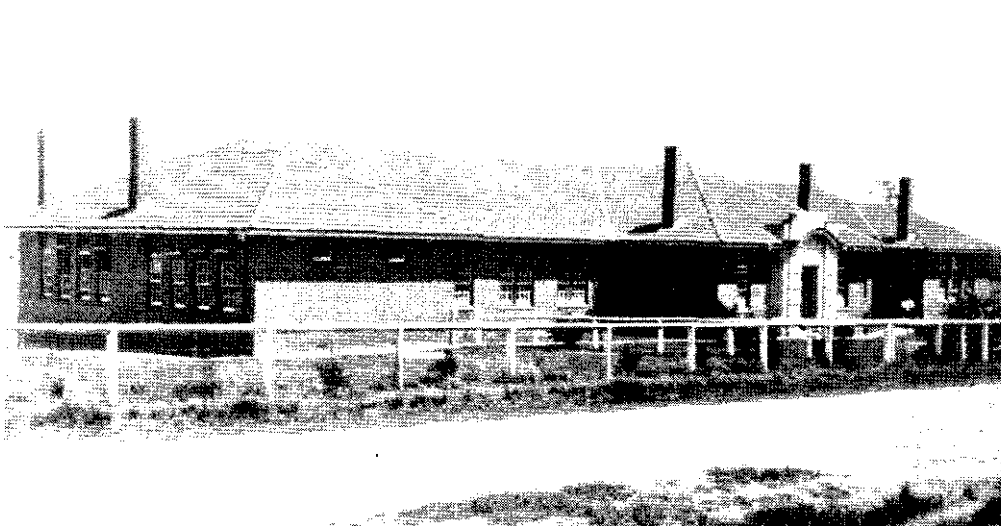
Dandenong West School ~ 1925

DANDENONG WEST SCHOOL OPENED IN 1925

The article in a September issue of the "Dandenong Journal" in 1925 tells of the official opening of the school on Wednesday, August 26th, 1925. It was a gala occasion - a public half holiday was declared within the Shire of Dandenong and the records show that it was the largest crowd seen in Dandenong (excepting Dandenong Show day). What a fun day for the youngsters - Punch and Judy show, Merry go round, Ocean Wave, children's sports and the big marquee where that band of 24 ladies were preparing a luncheon from 9 am for an expected 1,000 visitors.

The Victorian Government was represented by Sir Alexander Peacock, Minister of Public Instruction; Mr. F. Groves M.L.A. and Mr. Cotter M.L.A. The foundation stone was laid by Mr. Frank Groves, M.L.A. who was presented with the silver trowel which had been used to lay the stone.

Mr. A. Branton, secretary of Dandenong Improvement Association, unfurled the Union Jack, while a presentation of a gold key was made to Sir Alexander Peacock to open the *new* building. The infant room was the venue for afternoon tea for the official guests. The toast to the visitors was proposed by Cr. W.B. Tharle and supported by Rev. F.E. Lewin and Mr. A. Branton. As far as the records show this concluded the official function, but outside in the school ground children of all ages were enjoying the sports, entertainment, sweets, etc.



Dandenong West Primary

THE FIRST 229 PUPILS

On the day the school opened, a total of 229 students were enrolled; 180 transferred from Dandenong 5.5. 1403, 24 from Noble Park and 7 youngsters attending for the first time on that day. (Later in this book we will trace the growth of the school, both in classrooms and pupils).

Elsie Adams	Mary Breen	Horace Charman	Jack Ford
Ellen Adams	Leslie Bramich	Charles Cooper	Henry Ford
Thelma Afford	William Bramich	Arthur Cooper	Irene Ford
Phyllis Afford	Rhoda Brooks	Jean Cooper	<i>Alexander</i> Fotheringham
Vera <i>Afford</i>	Gwenith Brooks	Vincent Connaughton	Ian Fotheringham
Joyce Ainley	Clarice Brown	Jean Croft	Louisa Francis
Jeffrey Ainley	John Brown	Thelma Cuddy	Muriel Francis
Nancy <i>Allen</i>	Thomas Buckingham	Violet Cuddy	Dorothy Franklin
Arthur Allen	Norah Buckingham	Frances Cuddy	Roma George
Norma Anderson	Ada Burt	Clement Cuddy	<i>Olive</i> Gerdson
Dorothy Andrea	Burl Francis	Horace Cuddy	Jack Gerdson
Margery Andrea	Vera Cadd	<i>Albert</i> Dainty	Beryl Goodall
Harry Baker	Reginald Cadd	Leslie Dargie	Ian Halliday
<i>Albert</i> Banton	Gwendoline Cadd	Elsie Dargie	Thomas Halliday
Edna Barrot	Alexander Campbell	Mavis Dargie	Roy Hanrahan
John Bellinger	Beatrice Campbell	Nellie Dark	Minnie Hansen
Ruth Bellinger	Alice Campbell	Hazel Dodds	Percy Hansen
Ruth Beddoc	Laura Campbell	Thomas Dodds	Reginald Hartley
Sarah Berry	Bertha Curran	Robert Dodds	Dorothy Hartley
Doris Beynon	Cyril Carran	Rosina Dods	Ian Harvey
Margaret Beynon	Myrtle Carter	Norah Dougherty	Jack Hillard
Edgar Beynon	Phyllis Carter	Robert Dougherty	Jean Hillard
Clive Boote	Jessie Cashmore	Peggy Earsman	Thelma Hocking
Olga Bowman	Jennifer Chapman	Elizabeth Fawcett	Ruby Hopkins
Donald Bowman	Charles Chapman	Beatrice Firth	Olive Jennings
Betty Bowman	Ernest Chapman	Alfred Firth	Lorna Jennings
Yoana Brain	Agnes Chapman	<i>Alfred</i> Flentjar	Lexford Key
Donald Brain	<i>Alma</i> Chapman	Joseph Flentjar	Clarence Key
Nancy Brain	Thelma Charman	Ethel Flentjar	Archibald Key

School Badge



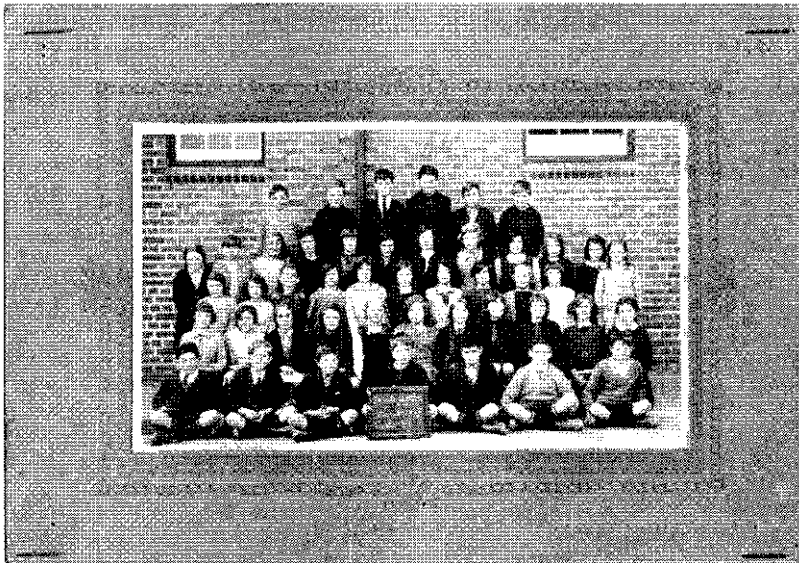
Darrell Kinna	Albert Miller	Lorraine Punch	Jean Stork
Joffre Kinna	Frederick Mills	Dorothy Pyke	Ruth Stork
Lindsay Leamon	Edith Mummery	Charles Pyke	Margery Stork
Jean Lewis	Douglas Mummery	Winfred Ragg	<i>Alan</i> Strahan
Ronald Llewelyn	Beryl Mummery	George Randall	Elizabeth Strahan
Sylvia Lucey	John Munro	Walter Riddell	James Sturgess
Leslie Lucey	Donald Murray	Eric Riddell	Valerie Sullivan
Jack Marshall	Jean Murray	John Rutherford	Maisie Tanner
Wilfred Marshall	Courtney Oldmeadow	Annie Riddock	Alfred Taylor
Freda Marsham	Louise Oldmeadow	George Riddock	Laurence Trask
Clyde Marsham	Phyllis Parsons	Sydney Riddock	Hazel Ternes
Dorothy Marsham	George Pemberton	Jean Riddock	Joyce Ternes
John Martin	<i>Cecilia</i> Perkins	<i>Alan</i> Roberts	John Ternes
Joseph Martin	Edna Perkins	Edith Roberts	George Thomson
Albert Martin	Ernest Perkins	Jean Rogers	Jack Thomson
Ivy Matchett	Violet Perkins	Alan Rogers	Nina Thomson
Lorna May	Olive Perkins	Vincent Rogers	Gweneth Thomson
Margaret McAdam	William Perkins	Thelma Saggars	Lylie Toyne
Alan McCahon	Bertram Perkins	Gordon Saunders	Howard Toyne
Dorothy McCahon	Doris Phillips	Ruth Saunders	Sylvia Tucker
Grace McCarthy	Harold Phillips	Lily Savell	Joyce Walker
Arthur McClements	Ronald Phillips	Beatrice Shinkfield	Ronald Wanke
Sydney McKenzie	May Phillips	Henry Sims	Daisy White
Raey McPherson	George Plumridge	Meredith Smith	Leslie Whitehead
Noela McPherson	Gordon Plumridge	Nelson Smith	Reginald Williams
Heather McPherson	Constance Powell	<i>Jessie</i> Smith	Herbert Williams
Doris Melgaard	Gladys Powell	Noel Smith	Dorothy Witherow
Edward Merrett	Keith Pretty	Ralph Smith	Ida Wools-Cobb
			Ruby Wools-Cobb

By the end of 1925 the following 42 students also enrolled at Dandenong West.

Ada Anderson
Michael Bashford
Joseph Bashford
Marguerite Becker
Ida Bjurstrom
George Bugge
Nancy Butler
Murray Butler
Beryl Butler
Colin Campbell
Harold Dougherty
Mabel Franklin
William Goodall
Robert Halliday

Jean Hartley
Stanley Ireland
Nance Jennings
Merle Luxford
Ronald Martin
Margaret McCallum
Joyce McPhee
Arthur Mitchell
Harold Orgill
David Plumridge
Madge Pohlner
Honor Pohlner
Dulcie Pohlner
Mona Puckey

Herbert Randall
Lucas Riddock
Nancye Riley
Leslie Russell
Rene Simpson
Russell Smith
Ernest Spinks
Lloyd Stuart
Edna Vanselow
Gladys Vanselow
Lorraine Wangman
Evelyn Wanke
Joyce Whitehead
Maisie Witherow



Grade 6 - 19??

JAMES HILLARD WAS THE FIRST "HEAD TEACHER"

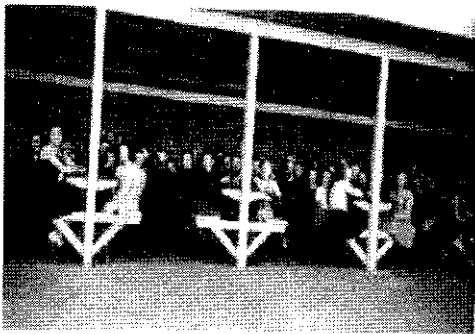
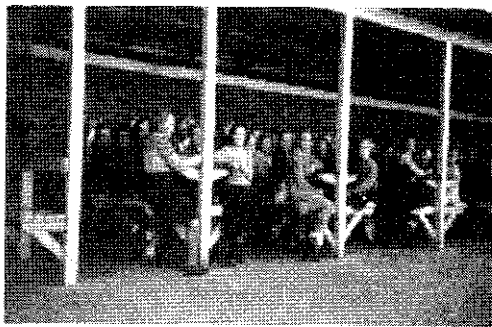
The first Head Teacher was Mr. James Hillard who was promoted from the position of Head Teacher of Noble Park. At the time of his appointment little did he realize the difficulties that were ahead. A school on many acres of land yet to be built around. Unmade roads, *Jones Road* from the Highway to the Railway Bridge, *Birdwood Avenue* and *Hemmings Street* from *Potter Street*. But undaunted by this with the West Progress Association he collected money, with which eventually, on £1 for £1 basis from the Government, gravel was procured and working bees held to form the first roads, *Birdwood Avenue* and *Jones Road*. Then came the depression and funds needed for school improvements were no longer available. Undaunted and with the loyal support of teachers, committee and Mother's Club, the school progressed slowly. It was during this period that school attendance rose to 390 students. At the time of Mr. Hillard being transferred from Dandenong West, the numbers had fallen to 300 students.

Many of those who were privileged to be students under his care and guidance are ever thankful for his friendship and moral training to help us to become good citizens.

ORIGINAL STAFF

From the appropriate staffing book at Teachers' Branch and from the personal records of the teachers listed below, we have established that the following were on the original staff of the Dandenong West Primary School No. 4217:

James Hillard	Head Teacher	Sept. 20 th , 1925 - July 24 ^m , 1934
Ellen E. Williams	Assistant	Sept. 20 th , 1925 - Feb. 15 th , 1926
Lucy L. Head	Assistant	Sept. 20 th , 1925 - Dec. 24 th , 1927
Ann S.J. McCord	Junior Teacher	Sept. 20 ^m , 1925 - Feb. 19 th , 1927
Teresa Morgan	Junior Teacher	Sept. 20 th , 1925 - May 1 st , 1926
Leopold J.V.L.Steen	Junior Teacher	Sept. 20 th , 1925 - July 4 th , 1926
Florence E. Wallace	Junior Teacher	Sept. 20 ^m , 1925 - May 23 rd , 1931



Shelter shed erected in courtyard at a cost of £220



£73 was donated from the Mother's Club,



the remaining paid for, with subsidies.

AS THE 1950'S APPROACHED

After Mr. Hillard transferred on July 24th, 1937, there were eight Head Teachers appointed within the next 15 years. In 1949, 2 portable classrooms were added then in 1963 a further 2 classrooms were added.

Towards the end of 1954, Mr. Ron Macdonald was appointed Head Master. He took up his appointment at the commencement of the school year in 1955. Before that he had been at the Bendigo Teachers' College. At the time of his appointment I doubt if Mr. Macdonald could have envisaged the challenge that he was to face over the next few years. He came to a school with 569 pupils, 12 classrooms (grade V and VI from Dandenong North were attending Dandenong West). In 1956 one additional classroom was opened and in spite of a transfer of 71 children to the new Harrisfield School, numbers kept growing. In 1957, attendance soared to 609, with some infant grades being accommodated at St Luke's Hall. Two more classrooms were added in 1958. By this time the attendance reached 673 in 15 classrooms. September 1958 saw the transfer of 73 pupils to Yarraman Park, which gave temporary relief. At this stage 20 pupils were accommodated in a corridor. The school attendance was still growing and by February 1966, 2 more classrooms were opened - the enrolment being 637. The school attendance kept growing and reached a peak of 771 in 1968 and at the beginning of the school year of 1969, there was a total of 23 classrooms. Grade 7 and 8 continued as post primary classes for pupils who did not proceed to the High Schools until 1953.





Grade 1 ~ 1934



Grade 2 ~ 1935

OPPORTUNITY GRADE STARTED

It was during the early part of Mr. Macdonald's span that an opportunity grade was commenced at Dandenong West. Many of the pupils of that grade went on to Secondary School, or were able to be apprenticed to trades. In 1965 the opportunity grade was transferred to Yarraman Park. In 1961 the school was raised to the classification of a special class with Mr. Macdonald receiving promotion to remain in charge of the school.

TRAINING SCHOOL STATUS GRANTED

Dandenong West was proclaimed a training school for students of Frankston Teacher's College in 1962 and in the same year received the highest classification for a Primary School in the Victorian Education Department, as a special class training school.



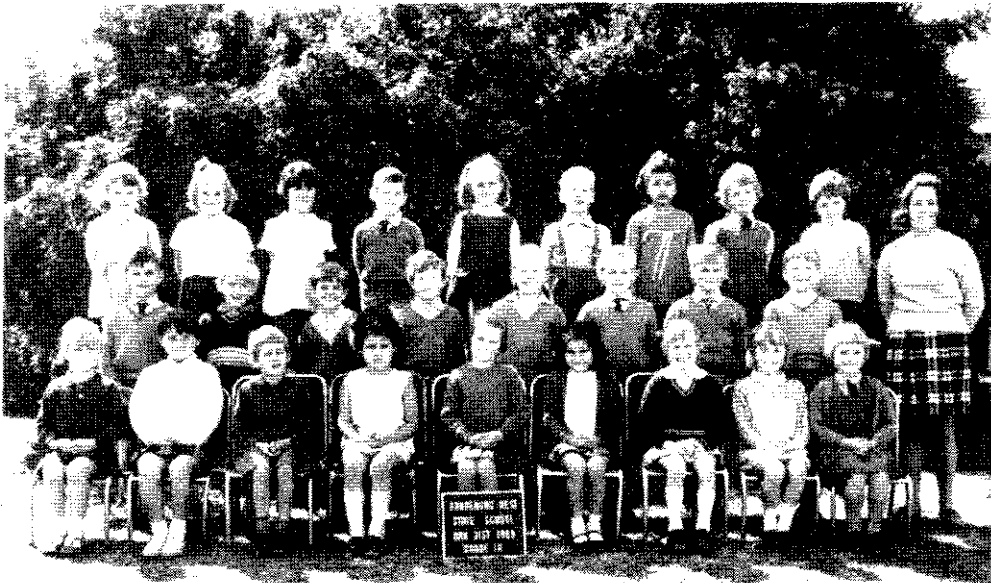
Grade Prep T 1968

MR. RON MACDONALD RETIRES AFTER 14 YEARS

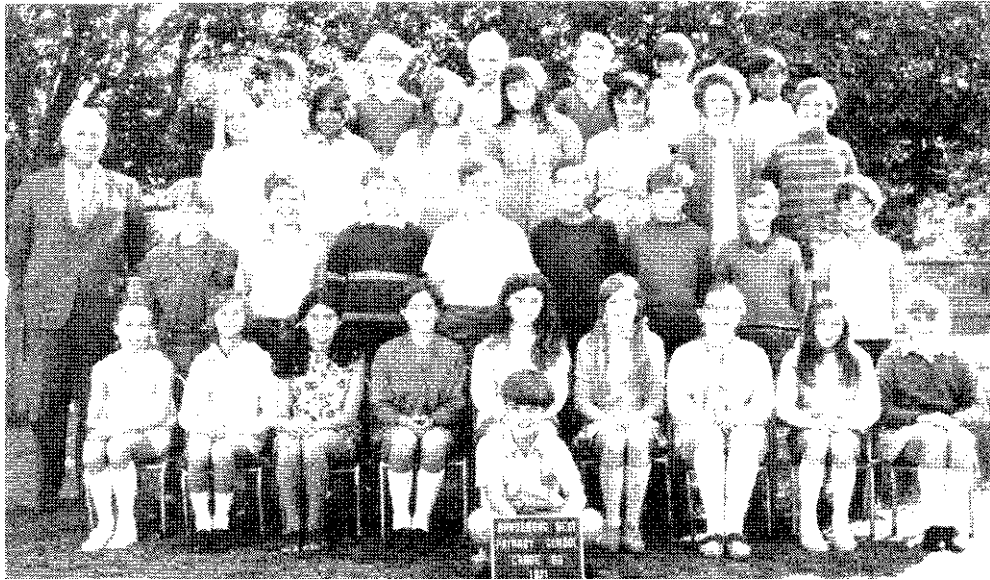
Mr. Macdonald had been in poor health for some time and in March 1969 he retired for this reason.

In 1970 Mr. T. C. Chellew took up the appointment as Head Master, a position he held until 1973. It was during this period that more pupils were transferred to the new school, Chandler Park. As will be seen by the figures in 1970, the enrolment was the 724, but in 1973 it dropped to 626.

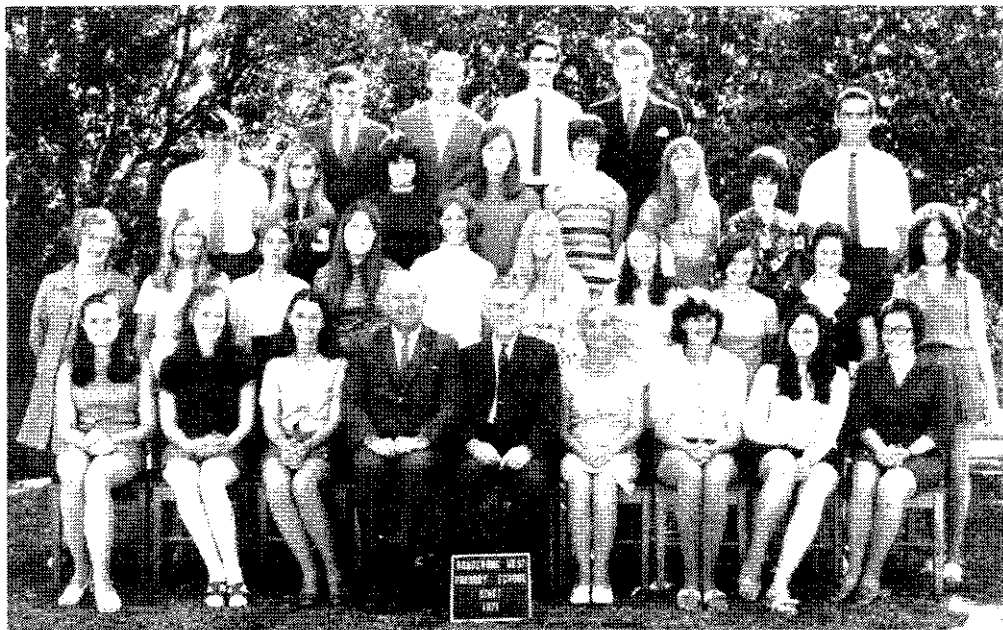
In 1974 Mr. W.F. Maher took up his position as Head Master with an enrolment of 584 students.



Grade 1K - 1969



Grade 6A - 1971



Staff ~ 1971

DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

Year	Head Teacher/ Principal	No. of Classrooms	Students Attending	
1925 - 1937	James Hillard	8	1925 1926	229 300 350
			1927 1928	361 370 390
			1929 1930	380 300
			1932 1937	
			During these attendance fluctuate	years they did not greatly.
1937 - 1939	5 Little		1947 1948	300 375
1939 - 1940	R Miles	8	1949 1950	400 455
1941 - 1943	G. Doubleday	8	1951 1952	570 734
1943 - 1945	A Forsyth	8	1953	569 552
1945 - 1946	A. Jack	8	1954	609 771
1947 - 1949	L. Smith	8	1954	731 724
			1955-1957 1968	626 574
			1969 1970	578
1949 - 1950	L. Thomson	10	1971 1972	
			1973	
1951 - 1954	J Keddie	12		
1954 - 1969	Ron Macdonald	22		
1970 - 1973	T. Chellew			

DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

Year	Head Teacher/ Principal	No. of Classrooms	Students Attending	
1974	W. Maher		1974	584
			1975	550
1975 - 1977	David Culph		1976	530
			1977	500
1978 - 1979	Trevor Oakley		1978	470
			1979	414
			1980	404
1980 - 1983	Margaret Short	15	1981	406
			1982	433
			1983	416
			1984	403
			1985	421
			1986	414
1984 - 1990	Dennis Tonks	15	1987	428
			1988	383
			1989	377
			1990	378
1991	Graeme Maggs	14	1991	386
			1992	369
			1993	386
			1994	336
			1995	318
1992 - 2000	Rod Phillips	12	1996	325
			1997	317
			1998	281
			1999	276
		11	2000	272



Grade 2A ~ 1972



Grade 3B ~ 1972



Grade 5B ~ 1972



Grade 6A ~1972



Staff ~ 1972

550 PUPILS AFTER 50 YEARS

This brings us to the 50th Anniversary year and the appointment of Mr. D. Culph. There are 550 pupils enrolled. As very often happens with a school of this age there is a large amount of repair and maintenance required. Recently we had read in the local papers, the "Dandenong Journal" and "The News" of the very bad state of repair of the main school and fences around the oval, but according to present reports this work is to be done within the next few weeks.

LIBRARY

The official opening of the library was on Saturday November 22nd, 1975. On reading back through minutes of the School Committee, this has been mooted since the early days of the school. In recent years the Library was computerized with funds raised by the Parents Club. Refurbishment was carried out in 2000, in a school buildings upgrade.

FINE SPORTING RECORD

In the first 50 years students were encouraged to take up a sporting interest, other than their academic subjects. Dandenong West was always to the forefront in athletics, football, netball, basketball, cricket, swimming and later softball. (Dandenong West was the starting point for the formation of the Dandenong Softball Association).



Football Premiers ~ 1968



Netball Premiers ~ 1968



Soccer Team ~ 1984



Volleyball Team ~ 1984



Football Team ~ 1984

NOT ONLY THE 3 R'S

The school over the years has become more than a place of "the 3 R's". We have seen the following groups formed in that red brick building:

Dandenong West Station League
Dandenong West Progress Association Dandenong West
Football Club Dandenong West Cricket Club Dandenong
West Athletic Club

Dandenong West has been fortunate in the assistance given by the various State Parliamentarians of the day:

Mr. Frank Groves Mr. Frank Fields
Mr. Ray Wiltshire

Mr. Len *Reid*
Mr. Alan Lind.

To all these gentlemen, on behalf of Staff, Parents and pupils, we say a big "thank you".

CHOIR ACHIEVEMENTS

On reading through the old records, we find Dandenong West won the first contest for Primary Schools choirs at the Dandenong Festival in 1957. 1952 was the commencement of the school magazine "West Wind" and it continued with an unbroken publication for many years. In 1996, Dandenong West entered a choir group under the direction of Mrs. Janine Keon, and today we have a Music Teacher employed for 2 days each week.

"LEST WE FORGET"

We remember with reverence today those of our fellow ex-students who paid the supreme sacrifice in service to their country.

SCHOOL MOTTO HAS BUILT A TRADITION

"ONLY THE BEST" has been applied to all facets of school life. The school through the staff, has developed a tradition for all to live up to.

The staff, from the day the school opened, up to the present day, has endeavoured to teach not only the classroom subjects, but initiative, competition, honesty, integrity and loyalty. The results are shown over the passing years by the many varied and often important positions ex-students have achieved. We see many of our ex-students too, assisting in Community Service Organisations.



Dress-up Day

FIRST SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dandenong West has been fortunate in having many parents who were always willing to assist with school activities, such as Mother's Club, School Committee, working bees, etc.. We note firstly from the School Committee minute books the first committee was elected and commenced on 17th February, 1926.

Mr. A Toyne (Chairman)

Mr. E. C. Butler (Secretary)

Mr. E. Cashmore, Mr. W. B. Tharle, Mrs. MrPherson, Mrs. Jennings, Mrs. Wangman.

A few extracts from the minutes worth noting:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb, 1926 | Neighbouring people be allowed to get domestic water from school. |
| Mar, 1926 | Tenders received for erection of Shelter Sheds. Mr. W. Brown's tender for £141/15/- accepted. |
| July, 1926 | Council to put down footpath, Birdwood Ave from Potter St to school. |
| Nov, 1926 | Application for electricity for school. |
| July, 1927 | Dandenong West Station league be granted use of room for monthly meeting. Fee 2/- per meeting. |
| June, 1931 | West Dandenong Athletic Club granted use, of room for meeting. |
| Feb, 1932 | Committee applied for loan of €2 for 3 months from Picnic Committee on individual guarantee. |
| Aug, 1932 | Was the commencement of the envelope system of monthly voluntary contributions which continued right up to 1973. Nowadays it is a yearly donation. |

LEADING ROLE FOR MOTHER'S CLUB

The Mothers' Club, right from the opening day, has played a leading part in the advancement of the school. On opening day they were that band of 24 ladies who prepared food and drinks for that multitude of people. Right through the passing years, they have provided playground equipment, books for the library, teaching aids, projectors, sporting equipment, etc. What a magnificent record the ladies have over all these years! Now for a few extracts from the Club's minutes:

1932 45 financial members 1/- per year 1933 30 financial members 1/- per year 1934 27 financial members 1/- per year

April 1931 Children to be entertained at Boomerang Theatre Empire Day.

July 1932 Euchre parties to be held in Memorial Hall.

Dec, 1932 Funds were low so the Club could only donate £1 towards prizes.

But as always the Mothers' Club, whilst a most energetic body, had to work under direction of School Committee as far as monies raised were concerned.

It should be stated clearly that Dandenong West, even in the lean years of the depression, was fortunate to have had a hard working Mothers' Club. Providing the monies that were necessary and a School Committee ever alert to use up all Departmental subsidies. This has been the story all through the years and is still the same today. So, too, the support from the parents - this was demonstrated in 1974 when a walkathon was organised, raising some \$ 1,800.

This group of parents now forms the Parents Club, which over the last 10 years has dwindled to a small few, but efficient number of devoted parents. Money is still raised and donated to the school for important upgrading of equipment and resources. The Grade 6 Luncheon is a significant part of the Parents Club calendar, providing a Graduation lunch for students and teachers.

Stalls to mark Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day have been a part of Dandenong West for quite a long time now and this is greatly appreciated by the students, especially those who might otherwise, not be able to buy a gift for a parent.

MAJOR EVENTS 1975 — 1985

1975

- Opening of the *new* school Library to coincide with the 50th Anniversary celebrations.
- Formation of a "Back to Dandenong West" Committee. 50th Anniversary celebrations were including an Open Day at the school.
- Dinner dance at Menzies Avenue Hall in North Dandenong.

1976

- Our first "Carols by Candlelight" held on the school oval.
- End of year concerts now held at the Dandenong High School Hall.

1977

- School Fete held in October.
- Nature garden established adjacent to the main entrance of the school.
- Upgraded and restructured in 1985 by the State School's Nursery.
- Large scale buildings' renovations program commenced late in 1977.
- First major Multicultural Week, with a full Library display.

1978

- Renovation program continued to include:
 - re-siting of the toilet block,
 - brick veneering of the wooden classrooms,
 - renewing of the ceilings,
 - laying of linoleum on the floors,
 - renewal of chalkboards in the main building
 - renovation of the library
 - linking of this facility to the main building with the covered way.
 - Establishment of an Adventure Playground with assistance from the Dandenong Council for a Community Playground.

8-7-86

Children make most of upgrade



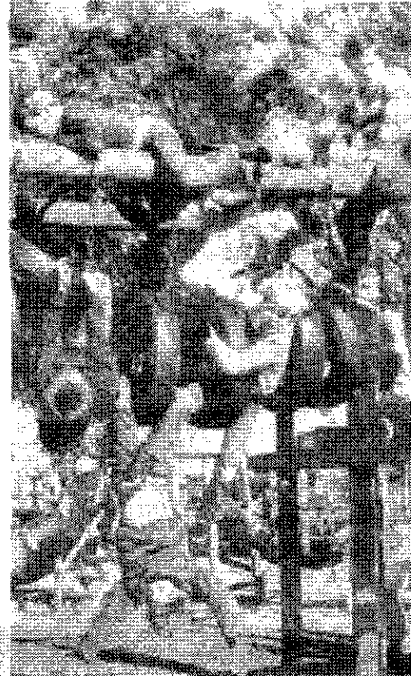
PRINCIPAL Dennis Tonks with his Dandenong West Primary Students in their upgraded adventure playground.

AFTER many years use at Dandenong West Primary School, the popular adventure playground equipment has been upgraded.

Apart from painting in bright new colors, the whole set up has been regraded with safety standards in mind. Red-gum timber has been used and mulch laid underneath. The students are enthusiastically making the best use of their good fortune with playground facilities.



DANDENONG West Primary students get into the act of using their new playground equipment.



CHILDREN from Dandenong West Primary School use their balance to cross venture playground equipment.

PET!

WE WON'T BE BEATEN. ON QUALITY.

RAAF reunion

A COMMITTEE at Wagga is organising a reunion of ex RAAF apprentices to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the RAAF apprentice school.

This coincides with the Australian Bicentennial year and it is planned that the reunion will be a major event.

Inquiries should be made to Box 239, Kooragang, Wagga, Wagga, or to Jack Opie on (086) 214 381.



MAJOR EVENTS 1975 - 1985

1980

- Introduction of the Supplementary Grants Program
- Inclusion of the school in the Facilities Grants Program.



Staff ~ 1981

1982 - 1983

- Through the Supplementary Grants Program, the establishment of a "Kalparri" Committee ("Kalparri" - an aboriginal word meaning, "help carry a heavy load") to assist with social and welfare problems. Our first welfare worker was Mr Stephen Dorian. The present welfare worker is Mrs. Anne Tandy and our program aide since 1983 has been Mrs. Jan Sherlock.

MAJOR EVENTS 1975 - 1985

1982 - 1983

- Construction of Drop-in Centre for parents.
- Photography dark room established
- Renovation of the Bristol building to include kitchen, storage and toilet facilities.
- Cyclone wire fencing erected around school boundaries
- Benga Avenue gardens are established.
- Roofing of assembly area project completed under Facilities Grants Program and \$1 for \$1 Grants Program.



Grade 2M ~ 1982

MAJOR EVENTS 1975 - 1985

1984

- Computer Room established



Grade 4O ~ 1984



Grade 6L ~ 1984

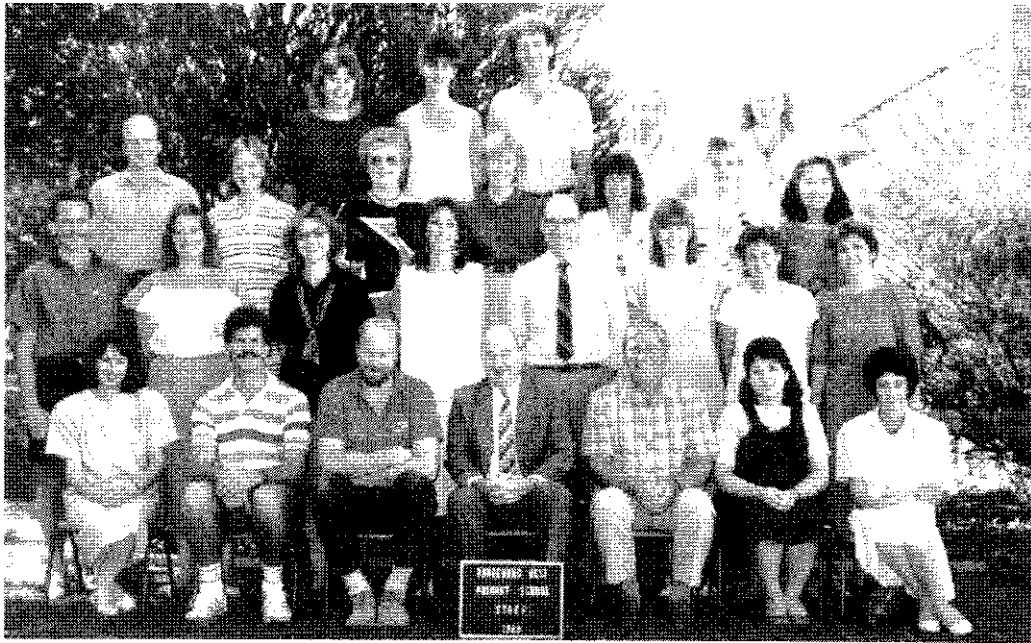
MAJOR EVENTS 1975 - 1985

1985

- Extensive landscape gardening project carried out by the State Schools' Nursery under the Facilities Grants Program.
- School Improvement Plan initiated.
- Security fencing erected around courtyard and assembly areas.
- Extensive funding provided through the Facilities Grants Program for a total upgrade of the Adventure Playground.
- Significant local contributions made towards new playground equipment.
- Additional relocatable classrooms provided and covered walkway constructed.
- Sixtieth Anniversary celebrations held.



Grade 1K ~ 1986



Staff ~ 1988



Staff ~ 1992



Grade 3 D ~ 1990



Grade 5/6 O ~ 1991





DANDY WEST PLEDGE AND TRADITION

During the early years

I love God and my country
I'll honour the flag.
I'll serve the queen,
And cheerfully obey my parents,
Teachers and the law.

Boys only saluted the flag, then break the flag to hang.

DANDY WEST PLEDGE AND TRADITION

Present day

I'm proud to be Australian, I strive to do my
best. To care for the environment, And my
friends at Dandy West.

To work hard without fear of failure, In a country where
all are free. I'm proud of my school community, And I
want them to be proud of me.

All students salute the flag, The pledge is recited by all,
Students sing the National Anthem at every Monday morning assembly.

SAFETY HOUSE PROGRAM

The Safety House program at Dandenong West Primary was introduced by the efforts of a group of concerned parents, led by Sheree Chasemore in 1985. The Dandenong Council at the time were holding public meetings to help the program establish in Dandenong. Along with attending these meetings Sheree attended seminars at Box Hill which at the time was the Head Office location of Safety House of Victoria. A meeting in this area was held in the Bristol and concerned parents who attended included: Mrs. Sue Halliwell (still involved), Mrs. Maxine Hastie, Mrs. Jan Colquhoun, Mr. Bryan Nicholls, Mrs. Marg McDowell and possibly a few others. Establishing the first committee for the Safety House Program in Dandenong West. The signing up of other householders in the area took place in the years that followed, many householders have now been with the program for over 10 years.

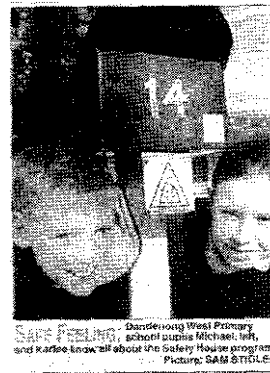
Safety House was established to protect our children walking to and from school each day. The program is part of the school's curriculum, therefore the students know that it is safety to run to a safety house if they feel unsure, injured, lost or harassed by older children.

The Householders who volunteer for the program are now subjected to a Police check which is Nation wide, therefore eliminating the possibility of inappropriate people, becoming householders and endangering our children in any way.

Families who have volunteered their time to this program for approximately 10 years and more are:

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Jarvis	Mr. & Mrs. John Colquhoun
Mr. & Mrs. Ian Halliwell	Mrs. Marg Collinson
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Ware	Mr. & Mrs. Neville Kane
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Thorne	Mr. & Mrs. John Morello
Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Azzopardi	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Obernhumer
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Bird	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Thorne
Mrs. Hilda Peachey	Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Hoskin
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Nichols	Mrs. Marie Vrondou
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Cox	Mr. & Mrs. David Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. John Kocsis	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Freeman
Ms. Maggie Metcalf	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Vrondou
Mr & Mrs. Rob Kimm	Mrs. Audrey Chasemore

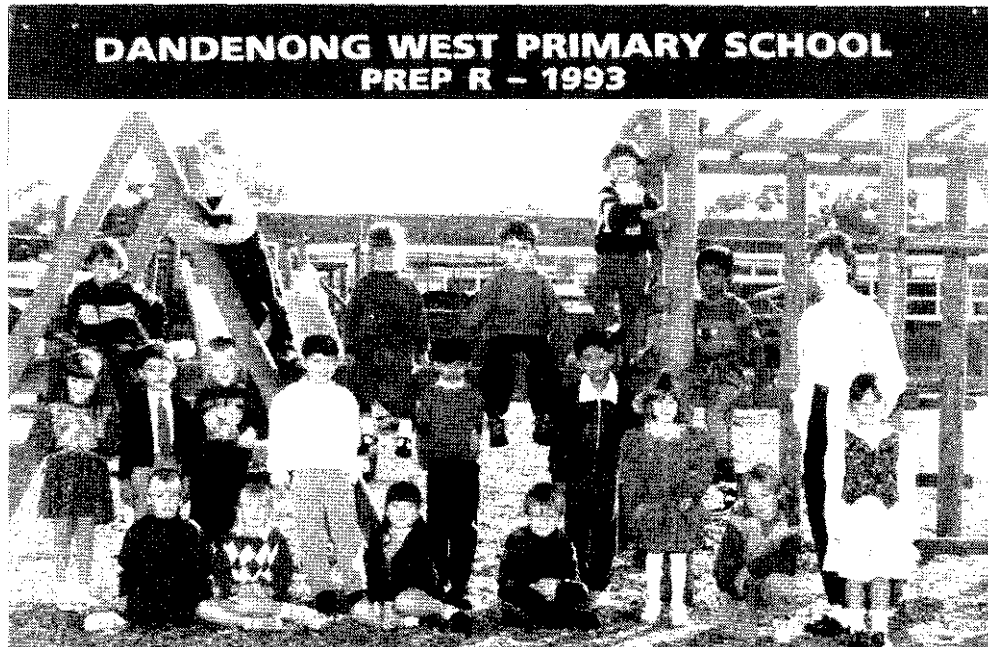
Teacher representatives have been Mr. Andrew Bennett and Mrs. To Verwoert.



Dandenong West Primary school pupils Michael, left, and Karlee know all about the Safety House program. Picture: SAH SUTLEIC

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The After-school care program began in 1987 from the Bristol building. The Before school care program began in 1991, both remained until June 1997, when the number of child requiring care, decreased to a point where it was not feasible for the Council to continue the program.



Back Row: Alfred Smits, Stewart Edwards, Emma Freeman, Dimitrios Dallas, William Khogun, Lamith Paranapalliyage
Standing: Montigue Marson, Zoran Andreid, Coddie Pike, Damir Rascovi, Vincent Dantier, Fretton Ing-Lane, Bianca Muresian, Amani Tamaira Mrs S. Ritter
On Gound: Veronica Kelly, Jessica Franklin, Karlee Campbell, Peter Hicks, Jamie Webster.
Absent: Paul Fermanis, Sinthujah Jeyanthan
PRINCIPAL: MR. ROD PHILLIPS,
TEACHER: MRS. S. RITTER

**DANDENONG WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRADE 1SK - 1993**



CLASSIC STUDIOS VICTORIA 429 1334
 Back Row: Andrija Majnaric, Deepak Sankara, Rulika Jayasuriya, Aaron Kemp, Tuan Nguyen, Graham Hicks
 Standing: Mrs. Sophie Kokkas, Monika Tamas, Vanessa Brown, Melissa Kenny, Luise Hagginbotham, Lisa-Maria Blijusca, Katy Van, Mami Shoghi,
 Neil Wandin, Bonnie Traynor, Rachael Maxwell, Mrs. Val Boraston.
 On Ground: John Kleece, Bettee Cormick, Joshua Fermanis, George Kipritis, Jason Dixon, Shajee Uka, Elaine Barbas.
 PRINCIPAL: MR. ROD PHILLIPS TEACHER: MRS SOPHIE KOKKAS (Class Teacher), MRS VAL BORASTON

**DANDENONG WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
GRADE 5/6V - 1994**



CLASSIC STUDIOS VICTORIA 429 1334
 Row 4: Matthew Field, Zhong Wang, Louise Parker-Bittain, Tracy Anderson, Jordan Chase, Wesley Kinn, Anthony Brown,
 Aaron McDonald, Robin Hooze, Dianne Pitt.
 Row 3: Laura Wu, Michelle Mitchell, Siu Kong, Xu Zhang.
 Row 2: Leo Phee, Soeun Thon, Natalie Thorne, Neil Corvitt, Maydur Khan, Chanty Tan, Luke Hoabin, Michael De Lora,
 Stephanie White, Doreen Kropfhorst.
 Row 1: Rudy Mitutolo-Fico, Kerrya Gilbert, Fitz Beall, Ianhan Thompson.
 PRINCIPAL: MR. ROD PHILLIPS TEACHER: MR. MARK WINDOSET

THESE AERIAL PHOTOS WERE TAKEN IN OCTOBER 1995



Aerial photo of Dandenong West



Aerial Photo of Dandenong West Primary School

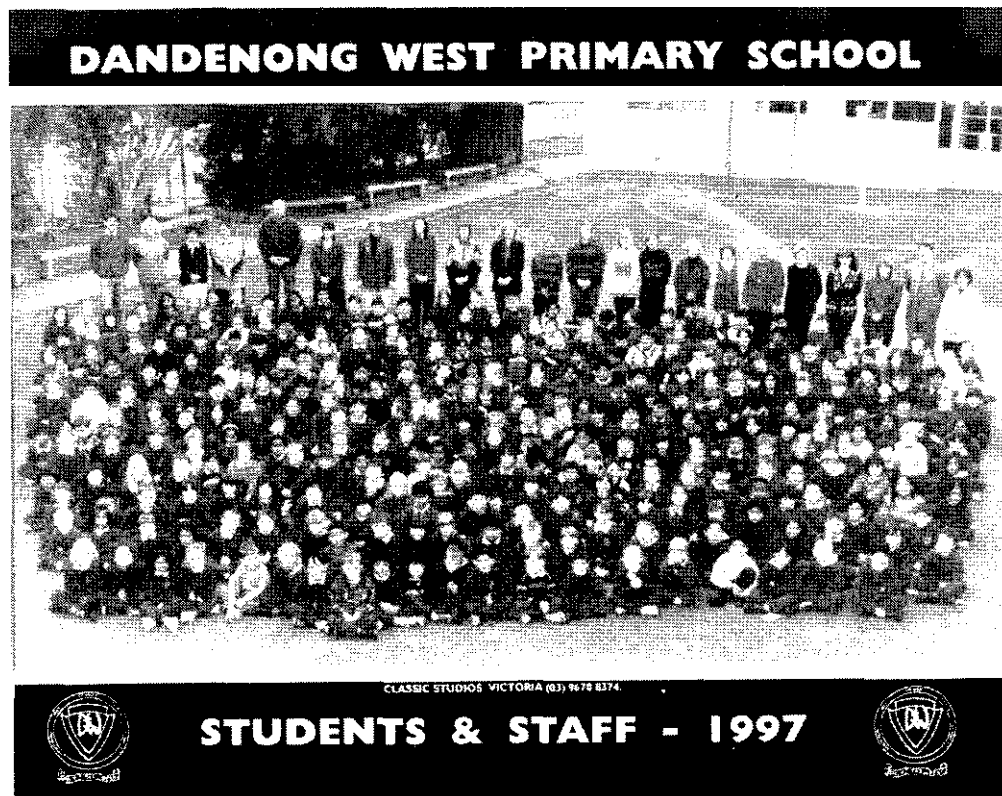
SCHOOL UPGRADES

1996

- Major upgrade of buildings took place, including painting of the inside and outside. \$ 208,000

1999

- General maintenance included new carpet in all classrooms, etc. \$ 150,000
- A new Arts and Technology centre was built, comprising of 4 classrooms, now to be known as the Verwoert Wing. \$ 200,000



LUNCHES FOR KIDS

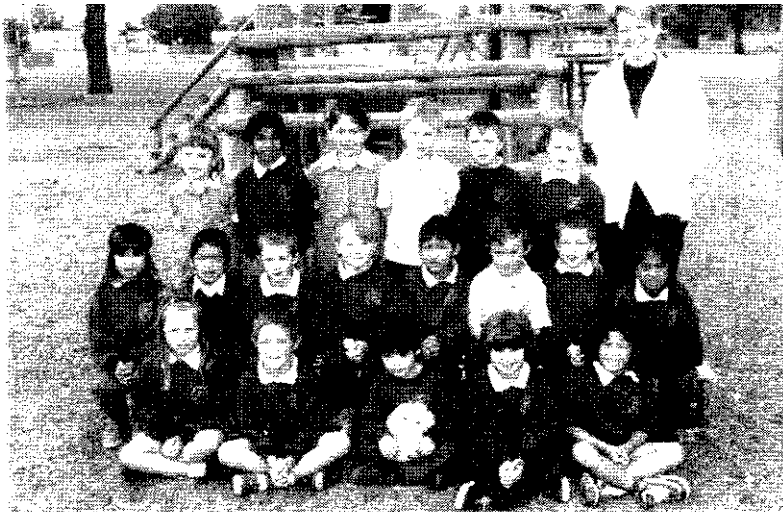
This program was started by Ken Perry in 1992. Mr. Perry owned the Dandenong Station Brake & Clutch Repairs in Railway Parade, Dandenong and now owns Fine Choice Auto Sales, East Brighton.

This program was introduced to a Kilparri cluster of school in Dandenong, to help families who couldn't afford to give their children lunch everyday an opportunity to have a B.B.Q. lunch.

For a sausage in bread, orange juice and an apple each child brought 20c, along the years it has increased to 30c and now 50c which is still good value for money. To respect family beliefs the school provides a choice of Beef or Pork sausages for the children.

All the children who wish to participate bring their money and the Parents of the school on a roster basis cook a B.B.Q. lunch. Some of the food is donated to the program and companies of the area provide sponsorship. A trailer with a fold out top, 2 large bbq plates and provisions are delivered to the school every Wednesday by Graeme Szczecinski who is the co-ordinator for Lunches for Kids. The students look forward to every Wednesday, it certainly is a nice change from eating sandwiches every other day.

Dandenong West Primary School - 2000



FIRST ROW: EBONY, GEORGE, JAMES, NORRIS, TOM, KYLEEN, SCHLITACHE, MARIA, KRIS,
SECOND ROW: VANESSA, ZHIFANG, DIAN, MAGON, JULI, PO, VICTORIA, SEBASTIAN, LEWA, MICOWSKI, TRENTH, LOUINA, MURPHY, CAN, ERIGUN, NGUYEN, ANCOL,
ANNA, MANOHARAN,
THIRD ROW: MARIELA, NICOLESCU, MISHA, VATHALAPAJ, VANESKA, GHOSH, HINAS, RYAN, GILBERT, STEFAN, BOZIC, NATEL, IN, JAVLERI,
ABSENT: VAINE, POKINO,
TEACHER: MISS J. BASKIE

PRINCIPAL: ROD PHILLIPS

Grade 1J ~ 2000

DANDENONG WEST PRIMARY IS MULTI-CULTURAL

The following list is an example of the nationalities and language background of families who are enrolled at Dandy West Primary in the year 2000.

Afghani	Mandarin
Albanian	Persian
Arabic	Polish
Bosnian	Polynesian
Croatian	Portugese
English	Romanian
Other European	Russian
Filipino	Samoan
French	Serbian
German	Sinhalese
Greek	Spanish
Hakka	Tamil
Hindi	Timorese
Hungarian	Tongan
Other Indian	Turkish
Italian	Urdu
Khmer	Vietnamese



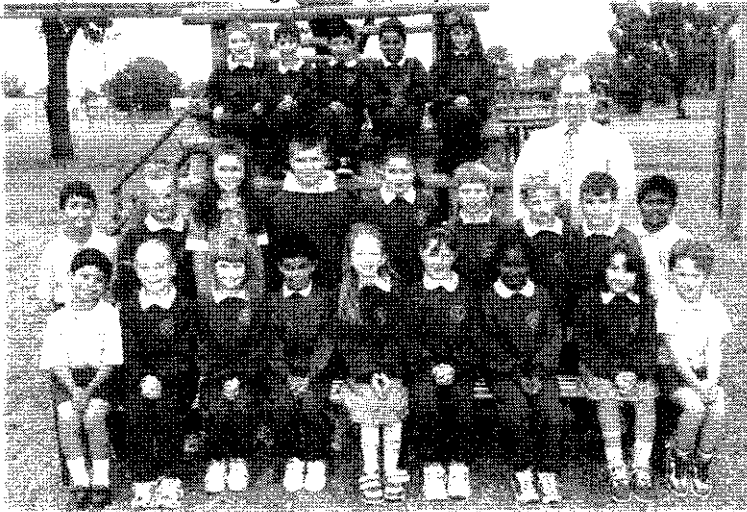
Dandenong West Primary School - 2000



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DANDEONG WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
1000
DANDEONG WEST
VIC 3175
TEL: 9592 1111
WWW.DANDEONGWEST.PVIC.SCHOOLSP.VIC.GOV.AU

Grade 2H ~ 2000

Dandenong West Primary School - 2000

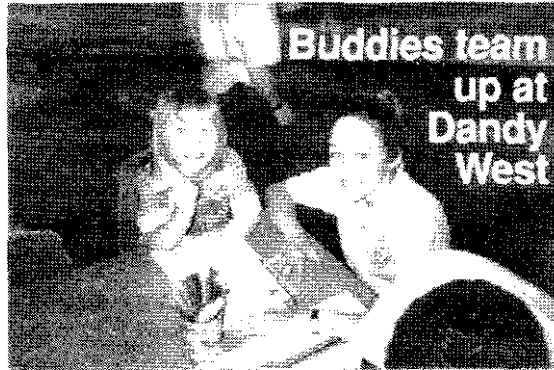


DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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1000
DANDEONG WEST
VIC 3175
TEL: 9592 1111
WWW.DANDEONGWEST.PVIC.SCHOOLSP.VIC.GOV.AU

Grade 2S ~ 2000

BUDDY PROGRAM

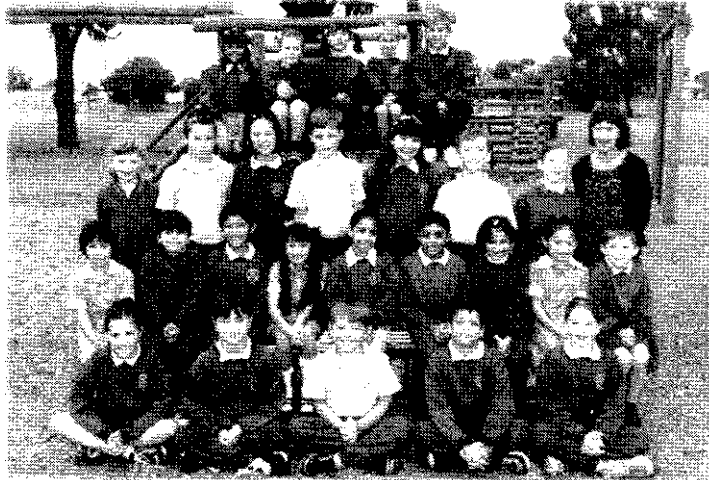
This program was introduced to help new Preps settle into school life, by having a Grade 5 or 6 student to help with tutoring and in the playground. This helps all Preps gain confidence in their first year at school.



THE NEW: We at primary school introduced a 'buddy program' this term where children in grades five and six are paired up with children from Infants who still need some help with their school work. The older kids also help out in the playground. If they need help, they can come to the older kids. The older kids also help out in the playground through a great age mentoring program to help the preps gain confidence and confidence in the classroom. Here is prep five with her new buddy Allison.

Buddy Program Article ~ "The Examiner", March 24th, 1998

Dandenong West Primary School - 2000



THE NEW: We at primary school introduced a 'buddy program' this term where children in grades five and six are paired up with children from Infants who still need some help with their school work. The older kids also help out in the playground. If they need help, they can come to the older kids. The older kids also help out in the playground through a great age mentoring program to help the preps gain confidence and confidence in the classroom. Here is prep five with her new buddy Allison.

Grade 3/ 4 H ~ 2000



Class lesson at Dandy West



Senior Constable Miranda Guymer, a school resource officer based at the Dandenong police station, visited Dandenong West Primary School to get Grades 5, 6 and 7 up to speed on the police force and dangers that the youngsters should be aware of. Constable Guymer is pictured with, from left, Leona, Ivan and Florian.

Police in Schools program
 Article ~ "The Journal", 1999

HANK VERWOERT RETIRES AFTER 27 ½ YEARS AT DANDENONG WEST

Mr. Verwoert graduated from Frankston Teacher's College in 1966. After teaching at Collingwood Tech., Nareena Primary (principal) and Parktone Primary, he arrived at Dandenong West in 1973.

Dandenong West said farewell to Hank after Term 2 this year and he will be missed by students, staff and parents. He occupied Room 14 (portable near Jones Rd) for many, many years and taught Grade 5 and 6 for most of his years and then discovered that Grade 3 and 4 was also a fantastic age group to teach. Mr. Verwoert served 19 years on the School Council and has developed a close rapport with parents and pupils of the Dandenong Community. Hank completed 33 years with the Education Department and was presented with a Certificate to mark this occasion.

It was visibly obvious on June 16th, 2000, at an evening function to celebrate his retirement, how much appreciated he was as a teacher and colleague by all students, parents and staff. With a total of 155 people attending, the Parents Club had no hesitation in calling in the caterers for the evening.

As a parting gift from the students of Dandy West, Hank was presented with a gigantic A3 sized book, containing 200 hand drawn pictures of him in retirement. Ideas ranging from 4WD holidays, to cooking tea for Mrs. Verwoert, many students imagine Hank to be a giant and depicted him as such, in their drawing (well he is, when you're a Prep, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, Grade 6, or a Parent). All these pictures will be wonderful to reflect on in the years to come.



The Examiner", June 20th, 2000



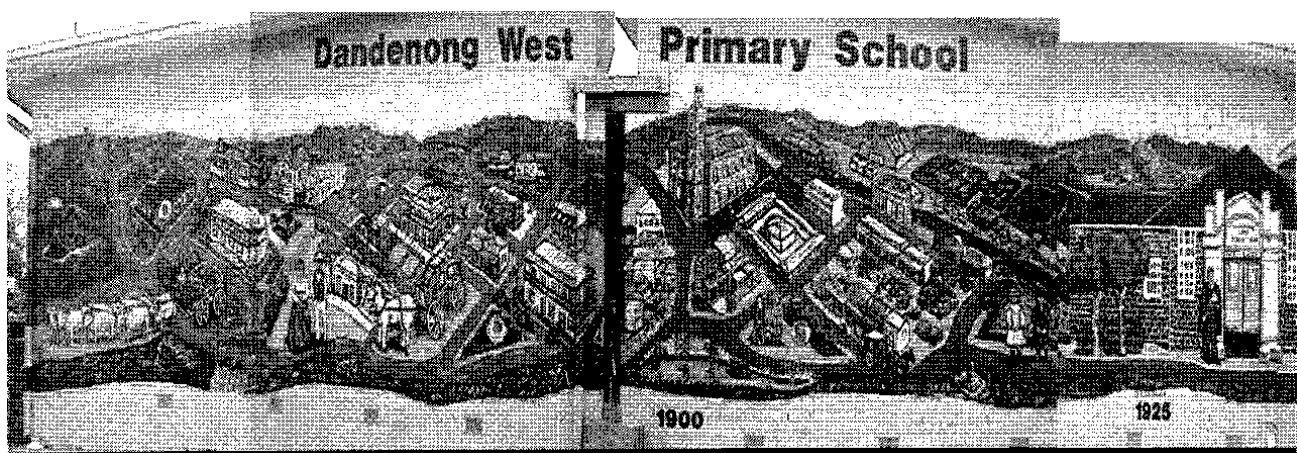
National Dress Day
Article ~ "The Journal", April 5th, 1999

FEDERATION MURAL

Federal Minister Mr. Alan Griffin opened the Mural depicting 100 years of Dandenong's history, on Friday October 13th, 2000.

Artists, Sharon West and Melinda Capp spent approximately 6 months painting the 30m wall.

The Mural is to celebrate the Centenary of the Federation of Australia
1901 - 2001



Dandenong West Primary School - 2000



[Faint, illegible text, likely a school motto or description of the crest]

Grade 5/6 G ~ 2000

Dandenong West Primary School - 2000



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (VIC) - Dandenong West Primary School - 2000

Staff ~ 2000

CURRENT STAFF WITH OVER 5 YEARS SERVICE AT DANDENONG WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

NAME	YEARS of SERVICE
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NAME	YEARS of SERVICE
Hank Verwoert (retired in 2000)	27 ½
Jo Verwoert	24
Audrey Lennon (Retired in 1992)	21
Hugh O'Reilly	20
Rod Phillips (Vice Principal & Principal)	13
Doris Demarco	13
Rayleen Riley	12
Wendy Hardman	12
Jenny Basile	11
Sue Clarke	11
Shirley Ritter	10
Flora Hasankolli	10
Donna Zammit	9
Anne House	8
Val Boraston	8
Pam Peterson	8
Kendra Anderson	7
Tatiana Chirvase	6 4
Sue Gooding (Assistant Principal)	6

THE ORGANISING COMMITTEES

2000

The history contained in this book was brought forward from the 50th and 60th Anniversary books. It has been edited and added to by Mrs. Deborah Kelly on behalf of the 75th Anniversary 2000 committee:

Mrs. Deborah Kelly

Mr. Rod Phillips	Ms. Sue Gooding
Mrs. Evelyn Vrondou	Mrs. Evelyn Ridgway
Mr. Garry Ridgway	Mrs. Deb Ellis.

With special thanks to

Mrs. Christine Ware and Mr. Joe Pyke for some of the ideas to make our 2000 Reunion a great event.

1985

Extract: In conclusion: on behalf of all those ex pupils who have attended the celebration functions, we thank the organising committee for the many hours of their time they have given freely, to make certain that the 50th and 60th Anniversary celebrations would be a great success. To Councillor Mr. Ian Fotheringham who was the instigator, and called the first meeting. Thanks Ian for remembering; and to every member of the committee; there could have been no celebrations without you and your generous support.

Anniversary Committee

President Ian Fotheringham

Vice-President Don Murray

Secretary Margaret Tharle

Treasurer Jim Waterman

General Committee:

Charlie Cooper	Joe Pyke	Mrs. Morris (Norma Campbell)
Hugh Cooper	Rodney Palmer	Mrs. Goff in (Joan Gardiner)
Gordon Saunders	Dave Pillar	Mrs. Reed (Joyce Alexander)
Dave Morris	Ron Edwards	Mrs. Jarvis (Dorothy McPhee)
Harry Lardner	Mrs. McKinnon (Dorothy Cooper)	Mrs. Tucker (Irene Alexander)
Harold Vines	Mrs. Graham (June Cashmore)	Mrs. O'Neill (Marg Collier)
Darryl Sutherland	Mrs. Moxham (Beth Whiteman)	Mrs. Sutherland

Disclaimer: The information contained in this book was compiled from the best available information, apologies for errors or omissions. Thank you to Staff and past parents.



