

Every day in every classroom every student is learning and achieving

Newsletter 21 Monday 12 December 2016

From the Principal



Where has the year gone? It is difficult to believe that this is the final newsletter for the 2016 school year. Although life in schools is always busy, this year it has seemed exceptionally so. Alongside our core business of academic learning, this year our students have participated in a range of additional curriculum activities. This includes camp, sporting carnivals, excursions, incursions, art show and music performances. This has been another positive year for Duncraig with a number of highlights.

Recently, the school has completed its Independent School Review with the report almost ready to share with the community. We have continued to, along with the support of our hardworking P&C, support students' learning and achievement.

Semester 2 Student Reports

These will be sent home with students on Wednesday afternoon, so please remember to check your child's school bag! If your child will be away, their report will be left in administration for collection until the start of school next year. If you require a duplicate report, please inform your classroom teacher or notify the office.

End of Year Farewells

The end of the school year invariably brings with it some farewells to both students and staff. Firstly, of course, we farewell our year six students. There are 39 children in total. They have been an exceptional group of students who have been outstanding leaders for our younger children. They are all well ready for the secondary schooling years and I wish them the very best of wishes for their future. We will also be saying goodbye to some of our other students from kindergarten to year five. Alongside our year six students, these students will be acknowledged at our presentation assembly on Wednesday morning. Best wishes to every one of these children as they start in their new schools in 2017.

Staff Updates

Mrs Watkinson (Room 7, year three), Mrs Becker (Kindergarten B) and Mrs Locke (Room 18, year one) will be taking leave in 2017. I thank them for the quality teaching they have provided this year and wish them a safe and rewarding break.

We welcome Mrs Adams who will be teaching in year four. Mrs Adams will be in room 4 with Mrs Wylde for one day a week and one day in room 5 with Mrs Cox.

School Security

The school holidays can be a time where vandalism can occur on school sites. We encourage families to use the school grounds over the holidays, as this can deter people from inappropriate activities, such as graffiti, theft and damage. If you see anything untoward, please do not hesitate to contact school security. School Watch is a 24 hour service, where the Education Department and WA police work in partnership. They can be reached by phoning 1800 177 777.

ADMINISTRATION

Principal
Lisa Tucker
Deputy Principals
Taylor Webb
Leah Clegg
Manager Corporate
Services
Jennifer Ryan

School Officers
Sue Hutchinson
Leanne Gray

DIARY DATES

**Wednesday 14
December**

◆ Presentation
Assembly
◆ Dancesport social
Yr 5/6

**Thursday 15
December**

*Last day of school for
students*

**Wednesday 1
February 2017**
*School commences
for students*

Public Speaking

Well done to all students who prepared a speech. Although I was absent from the assembly, I heard from Mrs Tucker and Miss Clegg, that the finalists were very well spoken and deserving of their position.

Graduation

A reminder that this will occur on Wednesday 14th December at 9.00am.

2017 Class Structure and Class Lists

Class lists for next year have now been finalised. The process of placing students into classes is a lengthy process involving class and specialist teachers, along with education assistants. At Duncraig Primary School, we have implemented the following process in placing your children into their 2017 class-

1. Class teachers, specialist teachers and education assistants worked collaboratively to place all students into proposed 2017 classes.
2. Amendments to initial class placements occurred based on the needs of students at educational risk. These included consideration of health, social, emotional and academic requirements.
3. Parent information and requests were considered

Although all parent information has been considered when finalising the class lists, the overall gender, academic and social balance of students of the class must also be taken into account when changes occur at this level. As a result, although we have been unable to meet all parent requests, please be assured that each child's academic and social requirements have been considered when being placed into their class for next year.

The 2017 class structures, including teachers is listed below for your information. Class lists, detailing your child's class placement will be published on the school website in the afternoon of Wednesday 14 December.

Class	Teacher
K	Tara Phillips (Mon, Wed, Fri)
K	Leonie Hetebry (Tue, Thu, Fri)
P	Vanessa Sutherland (Mon-Wed) Rachael Waters (Wed-Fri)
P/1	Sandy Firman
1	Helen Spiers
1	Nicola Parramore
2	Alison Plummer (Mon-Wed) Alex Collett (Thu, Fri)
2	Jenny Cole (Mon-Wed) Lindsay Calton (Wed-Fri)
2	Sara Di Martino
3	Tabitha Stewart
3	Steve Miller
4	Chris Cox (Mon – Thu) Elena Adams (Fri)
4	Jenny Wylde (Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri) Elena Adams (Wed)
5	Louise Oldroyd
5/6	Amy Jones (Mon – Wed, Fri) Alison Gordon (Thu)
5/6	Karen Garcia (Mon-Thu) Alison Gordon (Fri)

In conclusion, I wish you all an enjoyable festive season with your family and friends and a safe and relaxing holiday break.

Taylor Webb **Acting Principal**



Public Speaking results

Junior

Winner: Alexis -Monopoly

Runner Up: Jamie -Triceratops

Intermediate

Winner: Sydney -Nightmare

Runner Up: Zizou -Mt Everest

Senior

Winner: Janine -Embarrassing moments

Runner Up: Mitchell -Ants

Nature Play at Dun Craig PS

Earlier this year Dun Craig PS was chosen by the office of Early Childhood (Department of Education) to showcase our Nature Playground.

A short clip was designed featuring the students in action, including discussions about how the playground was constructed as a school community.

See the school website to view the Nature Play clip.



Kindy Christmas Concert

Last Friday the Kindy kids performed some very entertaining songs at their end of year concert. We are very proud of all the achievements the students have made over the year and are excited to have them coming full time to Pre primary in 2017. A very big thank you to all the teachers and education assistants for their commitment to our students and parents at Dun Craig Kindergarten.

Leah Clegg **Deputy Principal**

Hour of Code

The Hour of Code is a global movement by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries through a one-hour introduction to computer science and computer programming. Students across the school participated in the hour of code during the week. Room 11 students are shown here doing their hour.



Learning Area Grades

If you would like a learning area grade report to accompany your child's report, please pick one up from the office on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday.

Safety House Cards

If you have ordered a Safety House card for your child please collect the card from the office.

Diary Dates for 2017

Uniform Shop 2017

The uniform shop will be open for only one day prior to school starting in Feb 2017. The Uniform Shop will open Friday 27th January from 9am-1pm. Online orders will be ready for collection that same day. The shop will also be open on Friday 3 Feb 2017 from 8.15-8.45am and then fortnightly. Check the term planner for opening dates.

School begins for students on Wednesday 1 February 2017.

KIDS MATTER

Empowering kids to manage change and transition

As the 2016 school year comes to a close, children face many changes for the year to come, for some it is starting school, others it may be changing teachers and of course students facing moving schools or graduating to high school face many changes. This KidsMatter article offers suggestions as to how parents and carers may assist children at this time.

Change is often overwhelming for children. Maintaining structure and regular routines helps with this, so children understand that not everything is changing. One way to help children cope with these feelings is to give them the opportunity to be actively involved in the change process. Open dialogue with children about upcoming change, what's to be expected and how this will impact them is important in assisting children to feel involved. Communicating what is going to happen and when removes some of the fear and worry about the unknown, and can give children the opportunity to be more engaged and feel a sense of empowerment and control in the change. This can also help children to feel safe and loved, and able to express the intense emotions they may be feeling at a point of transition.

Change is often accompanied with feelings of grief and loss, which can be upsetting for children. Young children may lack the language to express this grief, so parents and carers play an important role in supporting their child with healthy emotional expression and regulation. Noticing changes in a child's behaviour and taking time to check-in are important. For young children supportive adults can label the child's emotions and offer suggestions for strategies to manage.

Supporting children to feel empowered to manage change and have a sense of optimism about the future provides opportunities for developing resilience. Building resilience comes through the development of social and emotional skills, including coping skills. In order for children to build resilience they need to be exposed to life's inevitable ups and downs in the context of resilience they need to be exposed to life's inevitable ups and downs in the context of supportive adults, to allow children to learn practical skills for managing change. Resilience, developed through exposure to many little challenges, can be drawn on when larger challenges arise, like change and transition, and help a child feel more in control.



CANTEEN NEWS

Thanks to Clare and all the volunteers who have helped in the canteen this year. Our children enjoy being able to order fresh and healthy food for lunch. The canteen will be closed after today and will reopen on Wednesday 1 February.

RUNNING CLUB NEWS



Thank you to all of the parents who came along to running club this year. The kids love having mum or dad to jog or walk with and it is always helpful to have an extra pair of hands to help record laps each week. We hope you have enjoyed your year with RUN DRC and look forward to seeing everyone back on the first Tuesday of school in Term 1, week 2, 2017!

FINAL RUNNING CLUB FOR 2016 IS ON TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER. Please meet on the **school oval** at 8am for some water fun. Wear boardies, rashie and a hat. Bring your own water guns (no water balloons please) - don't forget a change of clothes (school uniform) for afterwards!

Congratulations to the following students on reaching milestone distances over the past month:

100 Club (100+ km)

Jamie B
Patryk S
Matheo B
Thomas L
Kade M

Emerald (75km)

Finbar M
Ruby M-M
Lucas B
Anthony R
Sinead Q
Lucy E

Platinum (50km)

Cohen P
Wojzek T
Joshua B
Jack D
Cody W
Jayden B
Ben B
Mackenzie B
Jack M

Gold (42km Marathon)

Josie C
Bonnie L
Scarlett M

Evie E
Courtney B

Silver (21km Half Marathon)

Owen H
Nicholas P
Leuca P
Valentina P
Olivia H
Tessa S
Lucy S
Jake S
Conor W
Issy J
Tayla M
Zizou H
Isla C
Cindy F

Bronze (10km)

George S
Xander P
Zizou H
Cindy F
Savannah H
Catalina H
Angeles D
Harper D
Zoe E
Caitlin M
Addison B