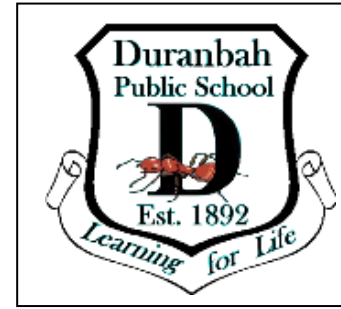


Duranbah Public School

A quality education in a caring environment



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Term 4 Week 2 **Friday 21 October 2011**

Principal's Report

Thanks to Vicki and Ross who looked after the school during my leave. I now have a house that is freshly painted and carpeted with some rather gorgeous lights! A trip to Darwin, numerous trips to Machinery Drive, the gym and Bundall and some serious depletion of my bank account took care of the five weeks. It seemed to go so quickly.

Welcome to Sophie, Olivia and Jaiesh who have started at Duranbah this term. I hope that you enjoy our school as much as we do. Included in this newsletter is an invitation to P & C Meeting. We hope as many people can make it as possible. It is your chance to have your input into school planning.

We had a good response from the surveys. I really appreciate your time spent on doing this. I hope that our school planning will be more open and consultative. I will show results at the P&C meeting. There are some massive changes coming up for schools in New South Wales. Consultation is taking place at the moment. There is a meeting at Fingal Head Multi-Purpose Unit on Tuesday 1 November from 4-6 pm. I would be prepared to provide child care for our students if parents wish to attend. These may be some of the biggest changes since 1994.

Thanks to Alison Mason (Sophie and Olivia's mother) and Rhiannon Rees (Jaiesh's mother). We have been advised that Kid's Club is offering 10 weeks of free after-school care. They pick-up from school and have a centre in Kingscliff. Information packs are being sent home with the newsletter.

Welcome to Tim Wetherall and Fintan Lynch. They have been doing their first practicum with Vicki as their mentor. They are doing a great job and I'm sure that they will become wonderful teachers in the future.

How proud are we of Di Young, who spent her holidays in a village in New Guinea consolidating friendships made during her Kokoda Trek. I hope that everyone has a good time at camp next week. If anyone can help with transport back from camp, it would be appreciated. Have a good fortnight.
Sandy

COMING EVENTS

- ☺ Monday 24 to Wednesday 26 October - Primary Camp Koinonia
- ☺ Tuesday 25 October Macadamia Castle Excursion
- ☺ Thursday 27 October - Day 1 of Swimming Program Kingscliff Pool
- ☺ Friday 28 October TWITS Excursion, Murwillumbah Civic Centre
- ☺ Friday 4 November Murwillumbah Show School Day.
- ☺ Tuesday 8 November - P & C Meeting 2pm, Primary Class Room
- ☺ Tuesday 13 December - PRESENTATION & END OF YEAR CONCERT NIGHT

TERM 4 P & C MEETING
TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2pm in the Primary Room.
Agenda : End of year presentation, New students, Future of Canteen, Fundraising, Planning for 2012. Please come along and have a say in the direction of your child's school.
EVERYONE WELCOME

CANTEEN NEWS. We will be operating a limited canteen menu on Thursdays, thanks to Kentleigh until all items are sold out. Students will be able to purchase a 'treat' for \$1.00



Welcome to Mr Lynch and Mr Wetherall our visiting teachers from Southern Cross University. Thank you to both teachers for their valued contribution to teaching and learning in our school.



NEW GUINEA Welcome back to Term 4. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable vacation. I have just returned from the villages of Savaia and Foke in the Northern, Oro, Province of Papua New Guinea. The people of Savaia and Foke, numbering approximately 100. 30 still live in traditionally built homes, the only modification being the odd use of corrugated iron and mill processed wood for floor boards in some homes. Bathing and kitchen duties are carried out in a fast flowing creek beside the village. Food, prepared by the women, is cooked on open fires or in traditional mumu style. Electricity is limited to the infrequent use of fuel powered generators. However due to the prohibitive cost of fuel their use is strictly regulated. During our stay we engaged in village life included tradition crafts such as billum making and mat weaving. We were fortunate to be involved in a wedding ceremony. For this, a pig was hunted and killed by the groom, cooked by the village women and then presented to the bride's family as part of a bride price.

Health is of major concern. The hospital located some 5/6 km away is inadequately resourced. The hospital has no phone and limited generator power. There was no doctor on site when we visited. Patients travel by foot, often considerable distances and women are often wheel barrowed to hospital to deliver babies. Malaria infection and protein deficiency are prevalent. Having said this, the warmth and happiness of the people that we met was overwhelming. One of the highlights of the trip was backpacking 60kg of resources to the Savaia Elementary School. The resources were a result of donations from Officemax and other items we had purchased or had donated. The teacher, Jean, was very appreciative. The school has one blackboard and very few teaching resources. The school caters for approximately 22 students from K-2. Students are taught in their own language for the first few years with English introduced towards the end of Year 2. Education for elementary is free with fees introduced in Year 3. Many parents find the cost of school attendance prohibitive. Few children complete Grades 10-12. We were asked to display the resources in front of the entire village and explain their use. Books that we had taken were very popular with adults and children alike. One young teenager, Owen, sat for hours looking at a text and was delighted when we read the book to him.

While there we met with the Executive Director of the Kokoda Track Foundation. She is presently in the Province overseeing the building of a school and community building in two villages along the Track. She has made a commitment to include Savaia Elementary School on their support list. This will mean extra funds for resources through a stationery supply store in Port Moresby. This will bring the school's total funding for resources up to around \$1300 Australian dollars per year, this is inadequate due to the high costs of materials.

My friend and I are currently engaged in acquiring resources and funds to further assist Savaia School. It is our intention to return next year for a few weeks to assist in the classroom and deliver more much needed resources. Many thanks to Doreen Perry for her kind donation. Ms Young

END OF YEAR PRESENTATION
Tuesday 13 December 6pm
 Preparation for the school's end of year presentation evening is increasing. The main production will be "Wonderland Adventures".
 No magic, mystery or unusual happenings, just a fun presentation including lots of colour, music and dance with some 'fab' characters. All students will be involved in the presentation and scenery etc. K-2 have already made some beautiful butterflies and Jake (Y6) is 'bristling' with ideas for stage props for our Y3 to 6 to make.
 Final characters will be allocated on the Years 3-6 students' return from camp in Week 4.
 Songs taught to date are: It's A Small World, All in the Golden Afternoon (lots of pretty things will colour this song), How Do You Do and Shake Hands (a fun song with dance), I'm Late (another very lively fun song).
 I am impressed with all the students enthusiasm and hope we can make it as successful as the Stewart House concert.



Ms Young explaining & showing the village donated school resources.



Coles & Woolworths Voucher
 The Campaign has now finished. Please send all remaining vouchers into the school. We have had a huge response and have a couple of weeks to return the vouchers. We would like to thank Barb our post lady and her co-workers who have sent in vouchers nearly every day.
A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

LIBRARY NEWS/STOCKTAKE
 Could all parents and students please check home for outstanding Library books. We will be sending out overdue reminders. The Library will be closing this year at the end of November for stocktake. This job is much easier if we are not chasing missing books.



HEAD LICE ALERT
 With the warmer weather our issue of HEAD LICE has once again flared up. Could you please check your children's hair. I know this is a time consuming procedure, but very necessary as no-one likes to have head lice.

Cooloon Children's Centre Inc

Community Kid's Fest 2011

- Jumping Slide
- Helium Balloons
- Beppo the Clown
- Mad Sports Song & Dance
- Percussion Instruments
- Pony Rides
- Farm Animals
- Kids Inclusion Workshop
- Art & Craft
- Wildcat Wildlife Education Show

A Celebration of Children and Families
 Free Activities for all the Family
Saturday 29th October 2011
 10am-2pm (Dawnish Saving Times)
 Cnr Park and Recreation Streets Tweed Heads
 Raffles and Bar B Q Lunch
 And much, much more.....

COMMUNITY NEWS
KINGSCLIFF ARTS TERM 4 AFTER SCHOOL ART CLASSES ENROLLING NOW
Drawing Skills (9-12yrs) Mondays 4.15-5.30pm - Your child will learn how to make their drawings look realistic. Covers key drawing skills
Arts & Crafts (5-12yrs) Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm - Messy fun for kids that love mixing creativity and imagination with art practices. Covers printmaking, clay, puppets, collage, beading and much more.
Anime/Manga Drawing (10-17yrs) Thursdays 4.45-6.15pm - Your child will learn the incredible art of creating Japanese Manga characters and stories from Master Illustration artist David Lovegrove.
Call Gillian for bookings on 0411 317 606
www.kingscliffarts.com.au

THE PATHWAYS FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE YOUNG STARS CAMP FOR BOYS AGED 6-10 AND THEIR DADS (OR A MALE MENTOR)
 Young Stars is a special weekend of fun and adventure for boys aged 6-10 and their Dads (or a male mentor). Take this opportunity to join other men and enjoy being with your boy in a magnificent bush setting.
Benefits from the program include: builds self-esteem in boys; supports and encourages Fathers to be more active and involved parents; builds on existing family relationships; honors mothers and the feminine; introduces boys to a positive male environment. For more info visit: www.pathwaysfoundation.org.au

Tap into Council's Water Saving Rebate

Receive up to \$70

to purchase and install water saving devices in your home

Until 30 June 2012, Council will give you a rebate of up to \$70 when you purchase and install:

- Showerheads with a WELS rating of at least 3 stars
- Tap Aerators with a WELS rating of at least 3 stars
- Replacement Spouts or Mixers with a WELS rating of at least 4 stars **

Water savings ... it all adds up for you and the environment!

For more information and an application form visit Council's website at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au, contact Council on (02) 6670 2400 or visit us in person at Council's offices in Murwillumbah or Tweed Heads.
 ** See the website for conditions

TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL