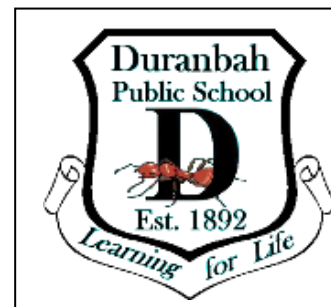


# Duranbah Public School

*A quality education in a caring environment*



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**Term 4 Week 8**

**Friday 30 November 2012**

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Swimming

Tuesday was the last day of swimming lessons for this year. Students who have attended all the lessons have shown improvement. Well done! Compulsory school swimming lessons have been a hot topic in the news recently.

***“ONE of the nation's leading swimming bodies is calling for compulsory learn-to-swim programs at school to halve the number of drowning deaths across the state by 2020.***

*According to new research from Royal Life Saving Australia, more than 370 young Australians between 15 and 24 have drowned in the past decade - a jump of 25 per cent.*

*Royal Life Saving Australia chief executive officer Rob Bradley said thousands of children weren't able to swim 50m*

*competently and stay afloat for two minutes, prompting the launch of a national campaign and online petition demanding mandatory swimming lessons in the primary school curriculum”*

***Daily Telegraph October 23 2012*** *“We have always considered it vital that children learn water survival skills. It doesn't matter where in Australia that you live, some form of water exists”.*

When I was at Yetman, it was dams and rivers and here it is pools, creek and sea. Students will not become champion swimmers in six weeks of weekly swimming lessons, but it should teach them water awareness and water safety. Our Year 6 students can all swim at least 50m and stay afloat for 2 minutes.

### Les Peterkin Art awards

Congratulations to Jack Francis, Jasmin Phillips and Jaiesh Haley-Rees who have had their artwork on display at the Tweed River Art Gallery for the exhibition. This is the largest children's art competition in the district and it is an honour to have art work from this competition displayed.

### Tweed Lantern Parade

Thank you to all parents and students who joined the lantern parade at Jack Evans Boat Harbour. Despite the threatening weather it was a beautiful night with hundreds of fantastic lanterns on display. Our students had a good time and were very well behaved.

Congratulations to Vicki on her participation in the River Festival Dragon Boat race on the same Saturday and her Bridge swim last Sunday.

Have a good fortnight

Sandy Ellis

Principal

### COMING EVENTS-TERM 4

☺ Monday 3 December - Y6 to Y7

Orientation Day Kingscliff HS

☺ Tuesday 4 December -Y6 to Y7

Orientation Day Wollumbin HS

☺ Friday 7 December-Christmas Celebration concert. 10-11am

☺ Thursday 13 December-Y6 Farewell Dinner

Tuesday 18 December - Duranbah PS Presentation Day 2.30-6.00pm

☺ Wednesday 19 December– Last day T4 for students.

☺ Wednesday 30 January 2013-Y3/4/5/6 return to school

☺ Thursday 31 January 2013– K/1/2/return to school



## TWEED RIVER FESTIVAL 2012

This years annual Tweed River Festival was enjoyed by many at Duranbah. The festival highlights a wide range of activities and events over a 2 week period from 12-25 November. Congratulation to all students in Y2 to Y6 who were involved in the lantern workshops and then attended the fabulous lantern parade. Hundreds of luminous lanterns lit up the river at dusk followed by a spectacular fireworks display. A big thank you to Ms Ellis and Ms Young for their support on the evening. Following is an extract from our School Education Director, Ms D Arkinstall "Department of Education and Communities (DEC) Paddles Long and Strong - The Coolangatta Mount Warning Dragon Boat team was fortunate to have seven teachers and Murwillumbah Office staff in the team that participated in the Kids In Need (KIN) Dragon Boat Regatta at Jack Evans Boat Harbour on Sunday, 18 November 2012.

*This fabulous event is in its 30th year and it is expected that this year around \$30,000 will be raised. All money raised stays in our community to support chronically and seriously ill children and those with a disability. Families use the funding for expensive equipment and treatment."*

The festival finished on Sunday 25 November with the Murwillumbah Tweed River Swim Classic. There are 3 swims 400 m, 1.2 km and 2.5 km. Money raised from this event goes to Fingal Rovers Surf lifesavers and the Murwillumbah Scouts Club. Our, Ms Myler completed the 400m and the 1.2 km, she came last in both races however she was heard bellowing from the finish line "I made it to the bridge and back YEAH!"

## LIONS CLUB PEACE COMPETITION

Each year Lions Club around the world sponsor an art competition for students 11-13 years of age as part of the Lions Clubs International Peace Competition. The art competition is an opportunity for students to express their ideas and vision of peace. This year the students were asked to create a piece of artwork on the theme of 'Imagine Peace'.

The judging panel found it extremely difficult to choose a winning entry from the wonderful entries created by the Grade 2-6 students. Sarah Bevern was determined the 11-13 years age winner. She received a certificate and cheque for \$25 from the local Lions Club.

In conjunction with this event, our school provides a \$25 prize to students from Grade 2-6 who are under 11 years of age. This year we had joint winners! Congratulations to Cody and Indiana Brownbill who have shared the winning prize. These three winning entries are on display in the front office until the end of the year.

## ANTARCTICA

What a wonderful and exciting unit our current studies on Antarctica has proven to be. The Primary Class have been involved in a wide range of activities on this subject including art sessions, Power Point presentations and even dressing up in authentic uniforms worn by people at Australia's research station in Antarctica.

The uniforms were obtained by Ms Ellis from the Antarctic Division in Hobart after much research and logistical organisation. The items will be returned at the end of next week so please feel free to visit the office and view what our expeditioners in Antarctica wear to protect themselves in one of the coldest and windiest locations on Earth. We look forward to presenting examples of 'Postcards from Antarctica' in the next newsletter.

**LIBRARY** - Last borrowing for 2012 will be this week. Could all students and parents check bedrooms, under beds etc for library books and return by **7 December** to allow the library clean up to progress as smoothly as possible. It would be great to have our library fully stocked and tidy for the start of 2013.

**HEAD LICE** Thanks to all parents who participated in the Head Lice eradication program last weekend. A reminder that the process needs to be **followed up this weekend** to ensure that all eggs have been killed. If you had difficulty with the treatment kit sent home use conditioner, leave in overnight and comb thoroughly to remove any eggs from the child/rens head. **The Head Lice Kits sent home last week are available from the Admin office.**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**FRIENDS OF THE POUND (TWEED) INC,** "Have your photo taken with Santa and your dog" this will be on Sat 1 and Sun 9 December from 10.00am til 2.00pm. The venue is at our rehoming booth at 100% Pets, Greenway Drive, South Tweed Heads. Cost \$15 for a 5" x 7" photo in a card holder. <http://www.weekendnotes.com/friends-of-the-pound-pet-picture-with-santa/>

**JNJC - GOLF JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT GALA DAY** - Fun and Fundamentals! Graded classes suitable for beginners through to low handicappers. **Thursday 10 January 2013** from 9am to 2.30pm, **Mullumbimby Golf Club**. Cost: \$25.00. PGA coaches including Nikki Picken and Chris Graham. For further information contact Gerard Wilkinson 0419 708 676. Numbers are strictly limited.

**CUDGEN JRL EXISTING PLAYERS SIGN-ON** - Pre-sign on day for all existing 2012 players wanting to play in 2013. **Thursday 6 December** at the club canteen **4.30 - 6.30pm**. Parents please note that registration forms do need to be signed by both parent and player.

**BICYCLE HELMETS** - There are 3 helmets available which have been donated by one of our parents. If your child



L to R: Anne Bowden, Lyn Richardson (Murwillumbah DEC Office), Janelle Kirk (Fingal Head PS), Vicki Myler (Duranbah PS), Dougal Cumming Thom (Murwillumbah HS), Mark Mackenzie (Banora Point HS) and Cheryl Forrester (Dungay PS) paddle for a good cause.

