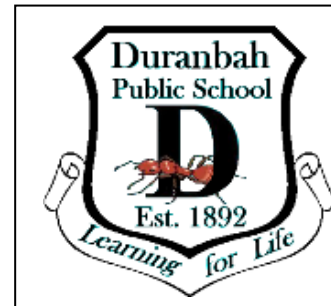


Duranbah Public School

A quality education in a caring environment



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Term 4 Week 10

Friday 30 November 2012

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

To paraphrase John Lennon

.....and so this is Christmas, or the end of the school year, and what have we done?

As with every year many things have been achieved.

We have participated in a wide range of sporting activities including swimming, netball, NRL, ARL, ballgames, athletics, cricket and Zumba. Dianne has been instrumental in this.

Students on the whole performed well in the NAPLAN tests. We introduced the Understanding Words program to support reading difficulties and the results are very positive. Students have been loving learning in Vicki's room, using a differentiated curriculum style that is celebrated by Southern Cross University. Students particularly in the Infants grade are loving reading, reflected by their love of borrowing from the library.

We have upgraded many old struggling computers and consequently were able to be linked to a central server to allow upgrades and maintenance to be performed externally, thus reducing 'down time'. It has made using technology in the classroom far more effective and students have produced some very good work. They are also able to access excellent interactive sites.

We have participated in many cultural activities including video conferences, student leadership days, visits to plays and the Art Gallery and performances at other schools including a visit to Carool to celebrate NAIDOC. Our many and varied excursions away from school are due to the fantastic Friday lunch volunteers and the donations from this fundraiser by the P & C.

Our Multi Cultural Day is always special and was attended by 45 TAFE students from six different countries.

We were successful in receiving a Solar Schools Grant and we now have solar panels working away for us, hopefully reducing our electricity bill.

I would like to wish the Year 6 students a wonderful transition to high school and everyone a happy and safe holiday period.

Best Wishes
Sandy Ellis
Principal

COMING EVENTS-TERM 4

- ☺ **Tuesday 18 December - Duranbah PS Presentation Day 5.00-7.30pm**
- ☺ **Wednesday 19 December- Last day T4 for students.**
- ☺ **Wednesday 30 January 2013-Y3/4/5/6 re-turn to school**
- ☺ **Thursday 31 January 2013- K/1/2/return to school**

There's A Sea In My Classroom:

Fish are under my desk nibbling, nibbling my toes. Octopuses are wiggling, wiggling. Computers are flashing, flashing. Me, jumping, jumping. Oh no there's a sea in my classroom!!!!!! Waves are splashing, splashing. The fans stop turning, turning. Kids are swimming, swimming. Me on my desk. Oh no there's a sea in my classroom!!!!!! There is a switch. I swim over to the switch. I turn the switch. Yeah no more sea in my classroom!!!!!!

THE END-

Indiana, Brownbill,



Creative writing by Indiana after Ms Smith 'found a sea' in the K/1/2 classroom

The Giving Tree

Many thanks to the caring and generous families who have made donations to this year's Giving Tree. Our recipient of the Giving Tree this year is the very worthwhile local charity 'You Have a Friend' run by John Lee. This organisation provides a much needed service to families and individuals in our area who are finding life very tough. A focal service of this charity is providing emotional and physical support to people who are suffering homelessness. I know from working with John Lee two years ago how important this charity is in the lives of many people including the elderly and young children. The school will be continuing to receive items for the Giving Tree until Wednesday next week. Your most welcome donations can be placed in the basket under the Christmas tree in the front office at any time.

Kind Regards
Dianne Young

FRIENDS OF THE POUND

Sonia Trichter a representative of Friends of the Pound visited the school last week to judge the "Clancy" colouring competition. Our students had participated in this fund raising event to help pay the costs of eye surgery for Clancy. Clancy visited us earlier this term with his two handlers and the students were very enthusiastic in helping him. We had numerous entries in the competition and Sonia found it very hard to judge and pick winners. Stuart and Zac won the senior section with Dipisha and Eliza taking out the junior prize. All winning students were presented with a certificate and a movie ticket. The school raised \$94.80 which was a terrific effort by everyone, as some students also donated their pocket money.



SPORT IN 2013

Already bookings are being made and exciting sporting events planned. To date a swimming day with Stokers and South Murwillumbah has been planned for 5 February 2013. Students will be chosen from this event to represent the school at the Small Schools Swimming event at Murwillumbah on the 13 February. Plans are also underway to introduce ten pin bowling sessions at the school using portable equipment. Additionally we have had contact from a facilitator of wheelchair sports and hope to introduce the students to this exciting and challenging sport. To complement the school's swimming sessions which are usually undertaken twice a year, we have decided to take advantage of Surf Life Saving Educational material delivered by the Surf Life Savings Point Danger Branch.



STUDENT LEADERS

We would like to farewell our current student leaders who will leave Duranbah to begin their new educational journey at high school. The students have achieved much during their term as school leaders. Personally we have seen each student develop skills in public speaking, confidence, initiative and perseverance. Their last duties for the year will be at today's assembly and Tuesday night's presentation. We are certain to hear many wonderful things about their achievements in high school next year. We wish them the best for 2013.

However on a happy note we would like to introduce the Student Representative Council for 2013. The students are Molly Phillips and Cody Brownbill (School Captains), Lovie Currie and Jack Francis (Vice/Sport Captains). The student leaders need to continually demonstrate responsibility, common sense and a sense of justice. I am sure our new leaders will take their positions seriously by demonstrating all these qualities as 2013 unfolds. The students were chosen as a result of student voting and recommendations from all teaching and non-teaching staff at the school. We look forward to sharing more about our new leaders and their successes in future newsletters. Student leader badges will be presented at the presentation night on Tuesday.



K/1/2 NEWS

Congratulations to all K-2 students who have worked very hard to achieve their best and be the very best they can throughout the year. I wish everyone a fantastic, fun and happy holiday. I would also like to introduce our Kindergarten for 2013. At present we have 3 girls and 2 boys who have been joining our class on Fridays and having a wonderful time.

LIBRARY - Could all students and parents check bedrooms, under beds etc for library books and return by **17 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS - MILO GET IN2 CRICKET

Bilambil Sports Ground, Bilambil Friday 25/01/2013 5.30pm – 6.30pm
\$65.00 per child (Each child will receive a Milo in2 Cricket kit) Ages: 5 – 12 years Boys & Girls
Come along to Sign on Day: 18/01/2013 Bilambil Sports Ground at 5.30pm

Get in2 Cricket programme will be every Friday night for 6 weeks.

MILO Get in2 Cricket is an introductory programme for 5-12 year old boys and girls. It is designed for beginners and incorporates high participation with skill development. It provides an opportunity to have fun, to learn the fundamental batting, bowling and fielding skills of the game, and to experience and enjoy this most popular summer sport. This is done through a series of planned sessions in which the children participate in a variety of activities and modified games. **To Register your child simply email their name/s & contact details to cdonker@bigpond.net.au**

For more information contact Dave Parkes on mobile 0402 114 522