Principal's Message

Ms Nicole Molloy

There is a productive buzz and wonderful focus on learning all around our school as our students have settled into their new classes and begun work on their Term 1 learning programs. Special thanks go to all of our staff for the hard work they have put into the planning of the programs and the care they have taken in ensuring every child settles well into their 2015 class. I was especially impressed when I visited the stage 1 and 2 mathematics groups yesterday. The children were working hard on number concepts and problem solving. Their work ethic and collaborative skills were outstanding.

Thank you to the parents who have paid their term 1 textbook and resource fees as well as sports and performing arts fees. All classes will be using their books from next week and now have access to the online programs Mathletics, Reading Eggs and Spellodrome. We have sent home reminder notes to families who have not yet made these payments and urge you to finalise these invoices as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to come into the office to arrange a payment plan if this is something that would help you. Please remember that outstanding sports fees from 2014 need to be paid before your child is able to participate in a fee paying sport this year.

I encourage as many parents as possible to attend next week’s P&C meeting which will be held on Tuesday 24 February at 7.00pm in the teacher resource room. This will be the first general meeting for the year. At this meeting we will have a special presentation from the principal and staff at South Sydney High School. If you are interested in high school options for your child and have some questions please come along to this presentation. I will also be presenting our draft 2015-2017 school plan and would love to have your feedback and input as we work on this plan as a school community.

This week’s Principal's Awards

It is my pleasure to award the following Principal’s awards this week:

**Act of Kindness Award** – Steven V in 5/6H for displaying exceptional kindness and always going out of his way to help others.

**Positive Approach to School Life** – Taylah M in 1M for a positive and enthusiastic approach to all aspects of school life.

**Outstanding Effort** – Aila B in KR for a focused and positive start to school life at Daceyville!

**Outstanding Achievement** – Alexandra B in 4/5F for always working hard and achieving her learning goals.

Diary Dates

**February**
- Thursday 19
  - School Banking commences
- Friday 20
  - PSSA sports competition commences
- Tuesday 24
  - P & C Meeting – 7pm
- Thursday 26
  - Zone Swimming Carnival

**March**
- Tuesday 3
  - NAPLAN Information Evening – 7pm
- Wednesday 4
  - K-6 Opera Australia performance of Cinderella
- Monday 16
  - School Photos
- Mon 16 – Thurs 19
  - Years 5 & 6 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Mon 23 – Thurs 26
  - Years K - 4 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Tues 24- Thurs 26
  - Stage 3 Excursion to Canberra

**April**
- Wednesday 1
  - Cross Country Carnival
  - Years 2-6
Students in all of our classes have been working hard to get to know their new class mates and teachers. They have been sharing their interests and creating some fabulous portrait artworks to make their classrooms look bright and colourful. Their artistic skills are fabulous.

**From 2S...**

Starting a new school year is always exciting, but it also means we need to get to know all our new classmates. That’s why in 2S we decided to do some artworks all about ourselves. First we started by using all our favourite coloured paints to make a beautiful patterned background for our artworks. Then we wrote lots of interesting things about ourselves and cut out our faces and stuck them on. We had lots of fun making these artworks and getting to know each other along the way.

**From 3/4H...**

In art we created a self portrait of half of our face. We folded the paper into eight squares. First we drew the shape of our face followed by the neck. Next, we drew the eyes, eyebrow, nose and ear. Then we drew half our mouth and our hair. After we wrote our names going down. Then we outlined the pencil lines with black texta. Finally, we coloured our pictures with oil pastels. Isabella

In art we created colourful portraits of half of our faces. We folded the paper into eight parts so that we would know where we could draw the parts of our face. We also wrote our names in big block letters going down the page next to our faces. We worked hard and had lots of fun making our portraits. Daniel

**From 5/6H...**

In 5/6H we have been learning all about portraiture and practising our skills in creating our own self-portraits. We have also linked it with some learning in mathematics and studied not only symmetry but learnt some interesting facts about the proportions of the face. We each began with our own photograph but the trick was Ms Head only gave us half and our challenge was to create the other half using pencil and pastels. We hope you like our work!
Student Leadership Assembly
Congratulations to the 30 students who were inducted as our 2015 student leaders at the leadership assembly we held yesterday. These children are fulfilling the roles of school captains and leaders, house captains and student representative council members. At the assembly our year six leaders read the pledge on behalf of all of the students ensuring their commitment to upholding our values of respect, safety and lifelong learning. It was an honour to present their badges. We are looking forward to working closely with this great group of children.

Parking Around the School
Please be reminded that it is important that all parents and friends abide by the parking restrictions and regulations around the school. These regulations are in place for safety reasons and when motorists do not abide by them it puts the safety of our students and families at risk. We especially ask that you do not stop in the ‘No Parking’ zones along Joffre Crescent or near the main school gates, even for a short while.

Stage 3 News
Canberra Excursion
A highlight of the calendar this term for students in years 5 and 6 is the 3 day excursion to Canberra. This is an exciting excursion where children are able to participate in a vast array of interesting activities and learn a great deal at the same time. Notes were sent home last week outlining the details. It is important that we finalise bookings very soon, so please ensure you return the permission note with payment as soon as possible.

High School Applications for Year 6 Students and Open Nights
It is now time for parents of Year 6 students to begin the process of completing and submitting applications for high school placement in 2015. Please note the following information:

- **Expression of interest application forms will be sent home with all Year 6 students next week.**
- **Each form will indicate your designated local high school based on your address. You will have the option to apply for your local high school, apply for a non-local placement or indicate that you do not require a placement for your child in a NSW government school in 2015. A form needs to be returned for every child regardless of the option you select.**
- **If you need advice about your options or about applying for a non-local placement, do not hesitate to contact the school to speak to Ms Head or Ms Molloy. We are happy to assist and advise.**
- **All forms need to be returned to your child’s class teacher NO LATER than Friday 13 March to ensure the school has enough time to process them before we are required to submit them to the high schools. We ask that you complete the forms as early as possible so that we are able to contact you if there are any omissions or errors.**

**The open nights for our local high schools are as follows:**

**South Sydney High School - Tuesday 3 March at 6.00pm in the school hall.**

**Randwick Boys High School – Tuesday 10 March at 5pm – 7pm**

**Randwick Girls High School – Tuesday 3 March at 6.30pm in the multi-purpose centre**
Sport News

Friday Sport 3-6

Notes have been sent home for PSSA AFL, PSSA Softball, and Tennis. Please ensure all notes and money are returned by Thursday this week and that you have read and signed the player code of conduct. All sport will begin on Friday 20 February and will be held in the morning during term 1. Congratulations go to Zac R who trialled for the Zone AFL team this week and was successful in progressing to the next round of trials. Great week Zac, we are very proud.

Performing Arts News – Band

We are currently reviewing our band program for 2015 to strengthen it and ensure it is engaging for all children involved. We will be restructuring the program and looking at some changes in staff. For this reason it is taking slightly longer to send information out to parents. We are taking a little more time to ensure we have a quality program. Notes will be sent out early next week.

Performing Arts News - Choir

Congratulations to the choir who had their first performance at the leadership assembly on Monday. We now have 67 children in the choir and are looking forward to a fabulous year. We are still welcoming new members. Collect a note and pay your membership fee at the office if you would like to join. Rehearsals are at 8.15am on Wednesday mornings.

Special Religious Education and Ethics

Special religious education and ethics classes commenced this week on Tuesday afternoons. Ethics classes are being offered in 2015 for all year levels. Please let the school office know if you would like your child to join ethics classes or if you would like some more information. Heidi Cartwright is our ethics coordinator. Please contact her via the school office if you are interested in volunteering to train and teach ethics.

Important things to do this week

- Return payment for textbooks and resources as classes will commence using textbooks from Monday 23 February. Please contact the school office if you require assistance.
- Return permission notes and money for Years 3-6 Term 1 sport.

K-6 Assembly: Weeks 3, 6 and 9 @ 1.00pm in our hall. All very welcome!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week and Date</th>
<th>Class Presenting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 6 – Friday 6 March</td>
<td>5/6H with Ms Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 – Friday 21 March</td>
<td>1T with Miss Trikilis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra Curricular and After School Opportunities

GUITAR LESSONS BY CONTOGEOERGE

- Lessons resume on Thursday Feb 12 at 8:15
- The lessons are held in the BEAR room at the end of the ground floor corridor near KMO. If your child is interested, we'll be taking enrolments there on Thursday the 12th February.
- We'll also be including singing in the program.
- The cost is $12 per lesson payable at the beginning of the lesson.
- If you’d prefer to pay by the term, we accept cash, bank transfer or cheque. For information re: purchase of guitars & other paraphernalia, email: cathymacmusic@gmail.com - Cathy & Molly Contogeorge

The Mustangs registration day is Wednesday 25th February at Rowland Park, from 5-7pm. There will be a sausage sizzle and jumping castle.
P&C News

P&C Monthly Meeting

**Where?** Staff meeting room

**When?** 7pm Tuesday 24 February 2014 (The last Tuesday of each month)

**What?** Discussions will focus on P&C assistance and activities related to kind support, fundraising, social events, community engagement and school promotion. New members are encouraged to attend, particularly as this is the first ordinary meeting for 2015.

Second Hand Uniform Shop Opening Times

The Second Hand Uniform shop will now be open on:

- **Monday afternoons from 3.00 pm – 3.30 pm**
- **Wednesday mornings from 8.15 am – 9.15am**

School Banking

Daceyville School Banking day is **Thursday**, commencing on **Thursday, 19 February**.
Recognising Student Achievement
– excerpt from our student wellbeing policy

Our school believes strongly in the importance of acknowledging and rewarding positive student behaviour, work habits, citizenship and achievement. We consistently encourage all students to uphold our school values. Recognising and rewarding student achievement is about acknowledging students across the full range of activities in the school including class and academic achievements, positive school and social behaviours, participation, sportsmanship, and friendship.

Strategies to recognise and reinforce student achievement operate at both an individual classroom level and at a school-wide level. At both levels the focus of recognition is on students following the rules of the school and developing the core values of safety, respect and lifelong learning.

Classroom strategies for recognising and rewarding student achievement

Classroom teachers use a wide range of strategies to support and encourage students. Classroom strategies reflect the individuality of teachers and enable teachers to best create a classroom environment that suits their particular management style. Classrooms strategies at Daceyville Public School however, have a number of common features:

Classrooms are:
- Positive in focus and have high levels of praise and acknowledgement of both social and academic behaviours.
- Respectful and tolerant of the needs of all members.
- Consistent with the school behaviour code and reflect the values of the school.
- Focussed on high levels of engagement with learning, both social and academic.

With these common features in mind, individual strategies may include:
- Use of verbal praise and encouragement for academic and social behaviours
- Classroom based reward systems (stickers, house points, raffles, free time)
- Free time and privileges
- Talking to parents about positive student behaviour

Classroom Specific strategies:
All classes have specific strategies to recognise student achievement and positive behaviours. These are customised to meet the needs of the class. Examples of systems used include:

The Traffic Light System K-2
All teachers K-2 operate on a traffic light system to recognise and support positive behaviours. This approach adapts the “Stop, Think, Do” approach (Peterson, 2002) where student behaviours are grouped into positive “Green light behaviours”, minor rule breaking “amber” and unacceptable “Red”.

House Points
House points are a common system used across our school to recognise both individual and group achievement. House points are often used in groups to encourage cooperation and a sense of pride on your school and your house.
School wide strategies for recognising and rewarding student achievement

‘Hoot’ Points

Teachers at Daceyville PS reinforce the following of our school rules through the issuing of ‘Hoot Points’. Each child at Daceyville is issued with a ‘Be a Dacey Kid’ chart as follows:

Be a Dacey Kid – Hoot Points Record
Our school is SAFE, we RESPECT each other as LIFELONG LEARNERS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: _________________________</th>
<th>Card Number: ____________</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 9 17 25</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 10 18 26</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 11 19 27</td>
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<td>4 12 20 28</td>
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<td>5 13 21 29</td>
<td></td>
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<td>6 14 22 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 15 23</td>
<td>Congratulations!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 16 24</td>
<td>Now you have reached 30 ‘hoot points’ you are invited to the Principal’s Lunch.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students receive ‘Hoot Points’ in the classroom, playground and during special programs such as sport and extra-curricular activities for positive behaviours. These behaviours are always linked to the school’s core values of safety, respect and life-long learning.

Student achievement is recognised when children reach the 10, 20, 30 and 60 points.

- **10 Hoot Points**: Students receive a bronze merit award at assembly
- **20 Hoot Points**: Students receive a silver merit award at assembly and are acknowledged in the newsletter.
- **30 Hoot Points**: Students receive a gold merit award; they are invited to the end of term Principal’s lunch; a letter is sent home to the student’s parents acknowledging their achievements and their photo is put on display in the ‘Owl tree of fame’.
- **60 Hoot Points**: Students receive a special ‘owl badge’ to be worn on their uniform. They are invited to the end of term Principal’s lunch; a letter is sent home to the student’s parents acknowledging their achievements and their photo is put on display in the ‘Owl tree of fame’. They are acknowledged at the school’s annual presentation day.

This award system is continuous which means it carries over from year to year.
How do students get ‘Hoot Points’?
Students can be awarded *hoot points* by all staff members in all school settings. Points are awarded for a range of reasons at the discretion of staff members. These may include but are not limited to: students who uphold the school’s values, display positive behaviours, engage in learning to the best of their ability, go above and beyond expectations.

*Value of the Month*
To assist in guiding positive behaviour and student recognition the school will focus on a specific value each month. This value will be discussed and explicitly taught in class and publicised around the school. This focus will assist students to understand the meaning of the school’s core values.

*Fortnight Focus*
In addition to the value of the month the school will have a fortnightly focus which will be a more specific skill or behaviour. This focus will be discussed and students will be recognised for positive behaviours related to the focus. Each focus area will be a subset of the three core values.

**Other awards and recognition**

![Image]

At Daceyville we have several other types of awards which are independent of the ‘Hoot Points’ awards:

**Class Assembly Awards** – two students are nominated by their class teacher at each assembly to receive an award based upon their work, effort and behaviour in class.

**Specific Program and Special Event Awards** – awards are presented at various times for high levels of effort and achievement in specific programs such as home reading and artist of the term. Awards are presented for special events throughout the year such as Harmony Day and the school’s annual presentation day in December.

**Principals Awards** – three students are nominated each week for a special principal’s award. These awards are at the discretion of the principal and are for exceptional effort, achievement, behaviour and citizenship.

**Group Recognition** – a class competition is run each term for the classes who display the best behaviour at lines after lunch and recess and for the class who consistently wears full school uniform with pride.

**Communicating Positives between School and Home**
As a school we recognise the importance of communicating positive student achievement and behaviour between school and home. This is done using a variety of strategies:

- Positive phone calls
- Good News Postcards
- Letters
- Acknowledgement in the newsletter