Principal's Message
Ms Nicole Molloy

Special congratulations go to all of the students who represented Daceyville at the zone swimming carnival last week. All of our students were wonderful ambassadors for our school, swam well and showed wonderful sportsmanship. We were very proud of them. Thanks go to Mr Hills and Ms Head for their coordination of the team. We will have a more detailed report in next week's newsletter.

Student Attendance
There is a significant amount of research about the things which make a positive difference to the learning outcomes of our students. One of the most important is regular attendance. It is a legal requirement that all children attend school on time, every day unless they are sick or there are extenuating circumstances. Missing even a small amount of school can impact significantly on your child’s academic and social development. The Department of Education and Communities has recently changed the attendance policy relating to students taking holidays during school time. Families can no longer apply for an attendance exemption for a holiday or travel overseas. In special circumstances a certificate of extended leave may be granted by the principal. However, there needs to be special reasons for taking your child out of school and their time away will still be recorded as an absence on their permanent record. I urge you to plan travel and holidays during school holiday time. If you have any questions or specific circumstances please do not hesitate to come and discuss it with me.

Upcoming Events to Prepare for...

- Read the information about our successful Being Excited About Reading (BEAR) program and join us for the training session on 12 March.
- Begin thinking about our Harmony Day celebrations on March 19. We are planning a delicious multicultural lunch and would love all families to share. A note accompanies today’s newsletter with further details and there is some further information later in the newsletter.

This week’s Principal’s Awards
Act of Kindness Award – Jack K in 4/5F for consistently helping others.
Outstanding Effort – Tatiyana Z in 1T for always trying her best.
Outstanding Achievement – Sara A in 2S for working hard in reading and writing.

Diary Dates

March
Wednesday 4
NAPLAN Information Evening – 7pm
Thursday 12
BEAR training session at 1.45pm in the BEAR room.

Monday 16
School Photos
Mon 16 – Thurs 19
Years 5 & 6 Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thursday 19
Harmony Day Celebrations

Mon 23 – Thurs 26
Years K - 4 Parent/Teacher Interviews
Tues 24- Thurs 26
Stage 3 Excursion to Canberra

Saturday 28
P&C Run Election Day BBQ

April
Wednesday 1
Cross Country Carnival Years 2-6
Thursday 2
Easter Hat Parade and last day of school for term 1
1M with Mrs Masters

1M always love to read or listen to someone read to us! One of our favourite books this year so far is ‘Magic Beach’ by Alison Lester.

These are our inspired artworks involving painting, drawing and colouring. We have also added text about our own magic beach.

Whole School News

Harmony Day – Everyone Belongs!

On Harmony Day we think and talk about the different cultures and languages that people contribute to our country. It is a day to celebrate, learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and make it a better place. We celebrate the values of tolerance, respect and collaboration. This year we are celebrating the idea of our family story. We would like all of our students to bring in a photo of their family. The students will share stories about their family with their class and learn more about the cultures, traditions and personal journeys they have experienced.

In 2014 we will be celebrating Harmony Day on Thursday 19 March.

How will we celebrate this special day?
• Orange mufti day for all students, parents and school staff. Orange is the traditional colour used to celebrate Harmony Day. Every child out of uniform will donate a gold coin. This will be collected by our student representative council and donated to a charity of their choice. We will advertise which charity the children have chosen next week.
• Each class will participate in a variety of classroom activities on the theme of Harmony Day and family which they will share.
• We will celebrate at lunch time with a multicultural picnic and performances. If you would like to be part of the multicultural performances please call Serena Petriella on (02) 9349 1211.

School Photos

A note and envelope was sent home on Monday with all students regarding our school photographs which will be taken on the following dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Photos</th>
<th>Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16 March 2015</td>
<td>Class, Individual &amp; Group Photos</td>
<td>Full Summer Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22 May 2015</td>
<td>Sport Photos</td>
<td>Full Sports Uniform</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To ensure smooth running on the day, please ensure all orders are either done online or returned to the school by Friday, 13 March 2015. A copy of the note can be found on the school website. Family photos are only for siblings attending Daceyville Public School. Family photo envelopes are available at the school office.
Being Excited About Reading - Community Reading Tutor Program

Over the last three years we have implemented a highly successful program called Being Excited About Reading (B.E.A.R. Program). We are now ready to implement B.E.A.R for 2015. This program seeks parents and community members to donate some time each week to work with individual children and support them to develop their reading skills. The aim is to increase students’ reading accuracy and sight words within a 10 week time frame. The program is open to parents, grandparents, friends and community members – the more help the better! Things to know about the program:

- **Volunteers will work with one child at a time. All of the resources and support are provided for you.**
- **Times are open to whenever volunteers are available. You may like to volunteer time in the morning, during the day or in the afternoon. You may volunteer as little or as much time as you are able. Ideally you will be able to work with students for several sessions per week. However, if you are only able to come along once per week, this is fine too.**
- **Volunteers will be fully trained by school staff in how to deliver the tutor session. This will include useful tips on how to assist children when reading, games and drill exercises. While this will be extremely useful for this program, it will also be invaluable in assisting you to work with your own children at home.**
- **A dedicated tutor room is provided, where each child will have their own work pack to use.**
- **Staff will be on hand to provide support and assistance where needed.**

**What do you need to participate in this exciting project?**
All that is needed is some time and enthusiasm! No special skills are required. Parent support to work with students on an individual level makes such a difference to the learning development of our students.

If you are interested and able to donate some time please complete the attached form and return it the front office by **Wednesday 11 March**. The training session will be conducted on **Thursday 12 March at 1.45pm**. If you are unable to attend this session but would still like to be involved in the program we can arrange an additional training time.

**NAPLAN Information Night – 4 March @ 7.00pm – Amended Date**

All parents are invited to an important NAPLAN information evening next **Wednesday 4 March at 7pm** in our school hall. On the evening we will be running an information session as follows:

**At the meeting we will share information about the following things:**
- An explanation about how the assessment works and its purpose;
- How we are preparing our students for success in these assessments;
- Sharing of resources which can be used at home by parents to assist in preparation.

The information session will be useful for all interested parents. **We especially encourage all parents in years 3 & 5 to come along.** Parents of students in year 2 & 4 will also find the session useful.

**Stage 3 News**
**Canberra Excursion (Repeat)**
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 were sent home with all Year 6 students on Monday of this 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.**

Important things to do this week
- Return payment for textbooks and resources as classes commenced 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>

P&C News
Upcoming Events – We Need Your Help!

- **Election Day BBQ – Saturday 28 March.** The P&C will be running a BBQ on the day of the state election to raise funds for the school. We need as many parents as possible to help. Keep an eye out for a note we will be sending out shortly with more details.
- **Harmony Day Lunch – Thursday 19 March.** The P&C will be assisting with the community lunch for the school’s Harmony Day celebrations. We need parents to assist with set up, serving lunch and pack up. Please fill in the note accompanying the newsletter to let us know if you are able to help. This is a great opportunity to be part of a special community event at our school.

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 – 9.15 am

School Banking
Daceyville School Banking day is **Thursday.**
Being Excited About Reading

Community Reading Tutor Program

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Phone Number: __________________________________________________

Training Session – Please Tick

☐ Yes - I am able to attend the training session on Thursday 12 March at 1.45pm.

☐ No - I am unable to attend the training session on Thursday 12 March but would still like to volunteer for the program.

Please indicate days and times when you may be available for tutoring:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Times Available eg. 9.15am – 10.45am, 2.00pm – 3.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature: ______________________________ Date: ____________________