Principal’s Message
Ms Nicole Molloy

Our New Tree – history in the making!

One of the highlights of this week has been a special event which took place at our school yesterday and culminated in our student representative council planting a special tree in our grounds. The beautiful Norfolk Island Pine was donated by Lend Lease after they held a ‘topping out’ ceremony on one of the buildings they are constructing at Barangaroo in the city. ‘Topping out’ is a tradition that builders have celebrated for centuries when a building structure reaches its topmost point. In the 14th century it was customary to put a new tree branch at the top of the building to wish the building well. Today common practice is to hoist an evergreen sapling to the top and conduct a ceremony to acknowledge the workforce and celebrate progress. This happened at the Barangaroo building last week with a Norfolk Island Pine. Thanks to one of our dads (Jock Gammon) who was working on the project, the decision was then made to donate the tree to our school. We are the first school to receive a donation like this!

Yesterday the student representative council attended a small ceremony with Jock Gammon and the Lend Lease representatives to plant the tree. Our school captains Angela and Dylan conducted an acknowledgement of country for the traditional owners of our land and made a thank you speech. All of the children involved then had a lot of fun planting the special tree. The tree is of significance due to the circumstances in which it was donated and also due the connections our school had with Norfolk Island in the 1970’s and 1980’s when our school band toured there several times.

The event was one of the first special occasions of the year when our student representative council were proud ambassadors for our school. They did a magnificent job and impressed our visitors. They will now be putting together a plan to look after the tree and will be running a competition to name it. The children also liked the idea of the
tree being a real live Christmas tree and are hoping to decorate it with the help of the Lend Lease staff at the end of the year as part of our reverse Christmas tree initiative. Lend Lease have also offered to support as part of their community program with the establishment of our new Outdoor Learning Area near the Creativity Centre.

Our special thanks go to Lend Lease for the donation and most importantly to Jock Gammon (Fynn’s dad) and his business Junglefy for organising the donation and the planting. We are very appreciative. As one of our year 2 students Ashley commented ‘When I am older and I come to pick my own children up from school here, I want to be able to tell them that I helped to plant our special tree!’

I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at our special Harmony Day celebrations next Thursday. There are further details later in the newsletter. This is an important day for our school and we would love everyone involved.

This week’s Principal’s Awards
Act of Kindness Award – Furkan E in 5/6K for always helping others
Positive Approach to School Life – Ely B for approaching all of her learning with a positive and enthusiastic attitude.
Outstanding Effort – Madeline L in KMO for trying her best at all times.
Outstanding Achievement – Oliver F in 1M for consistently working hard and improving in English and Maths

Some more photos from our Norfolk Pine Tree Planting!

Dylan N’s thank you speech:
Welcome everyone. My name is Dylan and on behalf of the students, staff and community at Daceyville Public School I would like to welcome you here today. I would like to express our gratitude and thanks for the very generous donation of this wonderful tree. We are appreciative that it has been donated to our school by Lend Lease and that it is a great addition to our school environment. We are all looking forward to helping to plant it and know it will become an integral part of our school and its history. We also thank Fynn’s dad Jock Gammon who helped to organise the donation and planting. We will now work together to look after the tree so it has a very long future at our school.
Working in the Creativity Centre with Ms Harding

In the Creativity Centre classes from 2-6 have been exploring the theme of Connections by first focusing on our favourite part of our school and drawing a birds-eye view connecting the areas that we love. After adding some colour we then did something crazy. We tore or cut up our drawing into 8 or 16 pieces rectangles and made a new piece of art work by connecting the separate tiles in a new way. It turned out to be a really interesting thing to do. Some of us even got to pick our favourite rectangular section and enlarge it to A4 size to get to know that section a bit better. How abstract is that?!

Music Program News – coordinated by Mrs Elfes

What an amazing treat we all had at Daceyville last week when cast members from Opera Australia visited our school! They presented a wonderful adaptation of Rossini’s classic opera specially created to introduce children to the delights of opera. Everyone was entranced by the beautiful singing and the imaginative props and costumes. The hour long performance seemed to fly by as we listened to the cast telling the story supported by beautiful songs and lots of hilarious antics. It certainly showed us all how much fun opera can be and how exciting it is to use our imagination to retell a well-loved story. The children were very appreciative and respectful audience members.

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. In 2015 we will be celebrating Harmony Day on Thursday 19 March.

Our Harmony Day Celebrations

- 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.
- 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.
• We will have a special Harmony Day Lunch where we ask each student to bring in some food to share with their class. The idea is that the food is something from each child’s cultural background. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of cultures in our school by sharing lunch.

• We will have a special Harmony Day assembly at 12.15pm where the choir will perform, there will be some other performances and we will present some awards.

Our Harmony Day Celebrations – Thursday 19 March

11.10am – Community multicultural lunch in the playground. Bring a plate of food to share. All parents and friends are welcome to come along and share lunch with the children.

12.15pm – Harmony Day assembly in the hall feature a performance by the choir, some other special performances and presentation of awards in recognition of Harmony Day.

Remember to wear orange and bring a gold coin donation to raise money for charity.

Morning Routine Reminder

A reminder goes to all parents and caregivers that when students arrive at school each morning that they are to move immediately onto the asphalt playground. This is the designated teacher supervised area. The grassed area and playground equipment are out of bounds before school so it is important that no child be playing in these areas, even if they are accompanied by an adult. Teacher supervision is provided from 8:40 each morning. No student should be at school any earlier than this unless they have special school commitments such as choir. If you need to drop your child at school before 8:40 please arrange before school care with the wonderful staff at Currawong, our out of school hours care service. Please do not send your child to office before 8.40am to be supervised. We do not have staff available at this time for supervision. Remember that our morning bell goes at 9:05am so all children should be at school by 9:00am, ready to be lined up and go into class at 9:10am.

Years 2-6 Morning Fitness

Mr Hills will be starting a morning fitness program for the students before school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The students will break up into their house colour groups and participate in different fitness activities. The program will begin on Wednesday 18 March, Week 8 and will commence at 8:50am.

Sport News

Congratulations to our Daceyville zone swimming team who competed at Botany Pool on Thursday 26 February. The students were wonderful representatives of the school demonstrating outstanding behaviour and participation on the day. The following boys placed in the top eight and qualified for the 50m freestyle final:

• 8 Years Boys – Semisi M (7th Place)
• 9 Years Boys – Daniel C (5th Place)
• 11 Years Boys – Sebastian M (4th Place)
• 12 Years Boys – Dylan N (4th Place)
Well done to Sebastian M who placed 2nd in the zone in the 11 Years 50m Butterfly event. We wish him all the best for the Regional Swimming Carnival held at Homebush on Wednesday 18 March. A special thank you to Jo and the parents who provided our team with exceptional support throughout the day. Well done Daceyville, we are proud of your efforts.

Zone Swimming Team 2015

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Uniform</th>
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<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>
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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.
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
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. Please contact your class teacher if you have any questions or need assistance.

Important things to do this week
- Return permission notes and money for Years 3-6 Term 1 sport.
- Return photo envelopes.

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

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<tr>
<th>Week and Date</th>
<th>Class Presenting</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9 – Friday 21 March</td>
<td>1T with Miss Trikilis</td>
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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.

Fundraising Opportunities

**Fundraising & the ANZ Mortgage Introducer Program**
If you are shopping around for a home loan or thinking of switching your home loan provider and are considering ANZ (Eastgardens), did you know that just by mentioning that ‘Daceyville Public School’ referred you to Haroula Kioroglou at ANZ Eastgardens (or providing a referral form) when you make your first enquiry, ANZ will provide a commission of 0.3% of the total loan amount to our school as part of the ANZ Mortgage Introducer Program. This is a great way to raise funds for our school. ANZ referral forms are available from the school office.

**Rebel Support Your Sport Program**
Daceyville Public School joined the Rebel Support Your Sport program last year, the program has been re-branded and is now called ‘Rebel Active’. When you make any purchase at Rebel and you register as a Rebel Active member, simply by nominating to support Daceyville Public School, the school will receive 5% from all member purchases* and this will be used to purchase sporting equipment for the school.
*T&C’s apply

**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
ELECTION DAY FUNDRAISING BBQ

We are holding an election day fundraising BBQ at the school on **Saturday 28 March**, where we will be selling sausage sizzles, bacon & egg rolls and refreshments.

This is a great opportunity to raise funds for our school. To make the day a success we need lots of helpers. We would greatly appreciate parent and carer volunteers to help with setting up, cooking, serving & packing up etc. Any assistance you can provide will be appreciated.

The barbecue will run from 8.00am to 3.00pm. We will begin setting up at 7.30am. If you are able to come and assist for an hour or two, please write your name on the roster posted on the wall outside of the school hall or complete and return the note included below to your child’s class teacher by **Friday 20 March**.

Don’t forget, you can also support our Election Day fundraising BBQ as a customer. We hope to see lots of hungry Daceyville families on the day.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the P&C’s fundraising efforts.

Kind Regards,

Melissa Darke
On behalf of the Daceyville Public School P&C Association

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DACEYVILLE PS - ELECTION DAY BBQ VOLUNTEERS

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<td>Child’s Name:</td>
<td>Class:</td>
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☐ I am available to assist with the BBQ on **Saturday 28th March** at the following times:

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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:

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<th>Day</th>
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Signature: _____________________________ Date: ____________________