**Community Partnerships – South Sydney High School**

Building positive relationships with our local schools is important to our school community for many reasons. Over recent years we have fostered a wonderful partnership with South Sydney High School, one of the high schools our students transition to when they complete year 6. A couple of weeks ago I visited the school and met with the South Sydney High School principal Robyn Matthews to tour the school, talk about the programs the school has to offer, discuss ways in which our schools can collaborate and talk about transition programs for our students. We are also thrilled to have four of our Year 6 students attending the South Sydney enrichment program on Wednesdays this term. The program gives our students the opportunity to work with peers from other schools on creative and critical thinking tasks across a range of subject areas and experience life in a secondary school setting. We are looking forward to meeting Mrs Matthews and her team when they present at our next P&C meeting on 29 March. In the meantime, I encourage you to attend the South Sydney High School open day on 12 March. Have a look at the following link to a great article written by our own parents Brooke Lumsden about the opportunities provided by our great local secondary schools.


**Our second grant for 2016!**

Last week I talked about the $10 000 library regeneration grant we received through Dymocks Children’s Charities and Sydney Airport. I am delighted to let you know this week that we have been successful in receiving a second grant of $6200 to enhance our sports programs. Sporting Schools is an Australian Government initiative committed to growing sport activity in primary schools. Its key purpose is to encourage more children to do more sport activities and games, and empower schools to help them do that. The funding will be used to engage additional sports coaches for our school sports program and purchase equipment. Special thanks go to Mr Hills for his hard work in applying for and obtaining the grant.

**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 has 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...**
- I look forward to seeing as many families as possible at our working bee this Saturday 5 March. Come along and help to make our school look brilliant. Even a small amount of time will make a difference. There will be a pizza lunch at 12.30pm for all of the hard working volunteers.
- I encourage all interested parents to come along to the NAPLAN information night on Monday 7 March at 6.30pm in 5/6H’s classroom.
- Begin thinking about our Harmony Day celebrations on March 10. We are planning a delicious multicultural lunch and would love all families to come along to share in the lunch and celebrations.

**This week’s Principal’s Awards**
- **Act of Kindness Award** – Nathan B in 2/3F for showing kindness to others.
- **Positive Approach to School Life** – Gracia S in KM for always displaying a positive attitude to learning.
- **Outstanding Effort** – Aila B in 1R for approaching all learning tasks with enthusiasm and her best effort.
- **Outstanding Achievement** – Junior C in 5/6K for working hard in English and Mathematics.

**Our Library Regeneration Grant!**
Our books have arrived! Special thanks to Dymocks Children’s Charities and Sydney Airport for the generous library regeneration grant of $10 000. We are very excited to have received all of our new books. We were so excited that we just wanted to spend all day reading them!!
2S with Miss Smallwood

In 2S we have been having so much fun getting to know each other this term. We have been working together in different teams, playing games, problem solving and having fun. We have been practising working together as a team, encouraging each other and speaking respectfully. On Friday’s we have a wonderful time doing sport out in the playground. Our class had a great ‘rob the nest’ competition with all children cheering on their team mates and trying their hardest to win for their team. Our class loves to be active learners and we are excited for the rest of the term.

Stage 1 News

POSTPONEMENT - Excursion to Rouse Hill House and Farm
Due to the extreme weather warning for Wednesday, 24 February, we postponed the Stage 1 Excursion to Rouse Hill House and Farm to Friday, 29 April, 2016 (Term 2, Week 1).

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
At Daceyville PS we love to celebrate the great effort our children make each day to make sure they are respectful, safe and sensible students. We celebrate and share the achievements of selected students during our K-3 Assembly and through our weekly newsletter. Congratulations to-

Willy-John: For being a responsible Stage 1 leader.
Mariah: For looking after our school environment.
Ralph: For always being a great friend and helping others.

Whole School News

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15 March 2016</td>
<td>Class, Individual &amp; Group Photos</td>
<td>Full Summer Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27 May 2016</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, 11 March 2016. 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.
Harmony Day Celebrations

Daceyville Public School will be celebrating Harmony Day on **Thursday 10 March 2016**. This is a special event recognised nationally that celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. The theme for Harmony Day 2016 is “Our diversity is our strength.”

All students are encouraged to wear **orange clothing** and bring in a **gold coin donation** for a charity selected specifically by our School Representative Committee (SRC). Students are also encouraged to bring in a food dish that represents their cultural background to share at our school Harmony Day picnic. We invite all parents and community members to join us from **11.10 – 12.00 for our Picnic** and from **12.15pm for our Harmony Day assembly** where there will be culturally inspired guest performances, singing, awards and more. Community helpers for serving and packing up are always appreciated. If you are able to assist in the preparation, serving and clean-up of your child’s picnic group, could you please return the reply slip to the class teacher ASAP.

For ideas, information and a range activities that you can do at home with your child in preparation for Harmony Day please visit the following website: [http://www.harmony.gov.au](http://www.harmony.gov.au)

High School Applications for Year 6 Students and Open Nights

Last week we sent home expressions of interest for Year 6 students to apply for high school placements. We encourage you to attend the information sessions at our local high schools to find out more about the schools.

*The open days/ Nights for our local high schools are as follows:*

- **South Sydney High School** – Saturday 12 March at 11am – 1pm
- **Randwick Boys High School** – Tuesday 8 March at 6.30pm
- **Randwick Girls High School** – Tuesday 8 March at 6.30pm

**Stage 3 Camp (Repeat)**

A highlight of the calendar this term for students in years 5 and 6 is the 3 day camp to Point Wolstonecroft. 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. **It is important that we finalise bookings very soon, so please ensure you return the final payment as soon as possible.**
NAPLAN Information Night – 7 March @ 6.30pm

All parents are invited to an important NAPLAN information evening on Monday 7 March in 5/6H’s classroom. On the evening we will be running an information session as follows:

The National Assessment Program (Literacy and Numeracy) will be conducted for all students in Years 3 and 5 this term. 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.

Sports News

Zone Swimming Carnival Champions!

Congratulations to our Daceyville Zone Swimming Team who competed at Botany Pool last Tuesday 23 February. The students were excellent representatives of the school and swam extremely well. Special congratulations go to Sebastian M who has qualified to compete at the Sydney East Carnival for the Senior Individual Medley, 12yr 50m Freestyle, Senior Breaststroke, Senior Backstroke, Senior Butterfly and Open 100m Freestyle. A special thank you goes to Miss 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 2016


Friday PSSA Competition

The 3rd round of PSSA AFL and Softball will be this Friday 4 March @ 9.30am

AFL Draw Round 3 – Daceyville vs South Coogee at Heffron AFL Fields

Softball Draw Round 3 - Daceyville vs Maroubra Junction at Snape Park
Important things to do this week

Return payment for textbooks and resources as soon as possible. Please contact the school office if you require assistance.

K-6 Assembly: Weeks 3, 6 and 10 @ 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 4 March</td>
<td>1B and 1R with Miss Rush and Miss Bonanno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 – Friday 1 April</td>
<td>KE with Mrs Elfes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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P&C and Community News

March P&C Meeting
The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 March @ 7.00pm in the Teacher Resource Room.

Second Hand Uniform Shop
The second hand uniform shop will be open Wednesday and Thursday - 8.45am-9.30am until further notice. Donations of uniforms are greatly appreciated.

School Banking
School banking has started for the year every Thursday, so bring in your deposits and hand them in during class. If you would like to sign your child up for school banking please collect an application form from the office.

Working Bee – Saturday 5 March 8.30am – 12.30pm
We are lucky to have such large grounds at Daceyville but this also means they need a lot of love and attention. Please come along to our working bee on Saturday 5 March ready to help with gardening, pruning and general clean up to make our school look great. Even if you can only spare a short amount of time we will be very grateful. There will be a delicious pizza lunch afterwards for all of the workers!

Daceyville Breakfast Club – Tuesdays at 8.40am in the hall

Did you know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and is important for optimal learning?
Every Tuesday morning we have a breakfast club in the hall at 8.40am. The club is coordinated by Jon-Paul Barry, Jeff and the staff at Kingsford Church of Christ. They provide the food and organise set up and serving. All children at our school are welcome.

How can you help support this very important initiative?

- We would love some extra parent help with the club so please let us know if you are able to assist or come along on Tuesday mornings. Everyone is welcome.
- Donations of long life juice and fresh fruit are very much appreciated. If you are able to donate fresh fruit please drop it in to the office by Monday afternoon so the breakfast team know what purchases need to be made for the next morning.