



# Duaringa State School Newsletter

Term One  
Week Seven

10 March 2009

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PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS IS MIDDAY FRIDAY

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As many of you who visited the school late last week will have noticed, we have the painters here painting B Block. This painting is being done under the State Schools of Tomorrow program and is focussed on B Block and the EEC this year. The other buildings are scheduled for painting in 2010 and 2011. The staff and I are very pleased with the development and the refreshing image of the new colours, which are meant to be reflective of the schools colours.

Tuesday saw Mr Jim Pearce, MP for Fitzroy, here to present the student councillors with their badges. It was lovely to see so many parents attend and stay for morning tea afterwards.

Last Wednesday Queensland Rail representatives visited our school to conduct 'Rail Safety' workshops with the children. The workshops focussed specifically on how to be safe around the railway lines and the trains, particularly when out walking or exercising. The children thoroughly enjoyed their presentations. It would be great if you could talk with your child and reinforced the QR message.

### School Grounds

Our school grounds are looking absolutely beautiful at the moment and I thought it an appropriate time to thank Mrs Howard who has also worked tirelessly to ensure our gardens and lawns are kept in pristine condition.

### School Pool

I would also like to make mention of the wonderful job both Mr and Mrs Brimblecombe are doing with the school pool. Since my arrival last year, I don't think it has ever looked better. Both of these

people are also working tirelessly to keep our pool in tip top condition. Many thanks to you both. Now that we have a permanent Pool Grounds & Maintenance person, we will be looking into the viability of opening the pool up for community use in Term 4. A meeting will be held early in Term 2 to discuss this and formulate a Pool Committee to oversee this project. I will keep you posted through the newsletter as we progress this forward.

### RE Classes

Religious Educations classes finally recommenced a fortnight ago with Mrs Cummings. Students in Years 4-7 will participate unless we receive notification otherwise. The lessons run for 20 minutes. A big thank you to Mrs Cummings for taking this onboard.

### Worm Farm

Our environmental action plan is finally starting to progress forward with the introduction of a worm farm to the school last week. A big thank you to Mrs Smith who will be overseeing the farm and for also coming in and discussing the worms with the P - 4 class so far. We will be recycling all our food and vegetable scraps and then using the castings for fertilizer on the garden.

Finally, a big thank you, to Mrs Harris, who stepped in at the last minute, to help ferry Year 7 students to the Impact Leadership Conference last Thursday. Mrs Wood was unable to ferry children in her car due to the river being up, so Mrs Harris generously offered to drive the children instead. A thoroughly informative time was had by all.

*Have a great week!*

*Sam*

## From the Playing Field

### Duaringa District Touch Football & Soccer Trials

Duaringa District Soccer and Touch Football trials were offered to the children last week. An information note was sent home last week with all relevant information in it.

If your child is interested in trying out for the Duaringa District trials and didn't receive a note, please advise the school ASAP so that permission forms can be sent home.

### Cross Country

Our Inter-house Cross Country, will be held on Wednesday 1st April, with the Duaringa District Cross Country the following Wednesday 8th April. Students are currently training at school however, they should also be training for these events at home if they wish to move onto the next level i.e. Duaringa District and Central Highlands.

We are looking for any parents who would like to come in and do some extra training with the children and/or help us out at school with training. Please contact the office if you can spare half an hour once or twice a week. The children would very much appreciate it.

### Swimming Carnival

The Inter-house Swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 25th March. The day will commence at 9.30 am sharp and will finish around 2.00pm. All students are expected to swim and have a go to earn points for their house team unless there is a legitimate/authorised reason.

Don't forget if you haven't already done so, to join in Swimming Club on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. This is a great way to get in some extra practice in the lead up to our swimming carnival and will also help with stroke correction.

### Australian Mathematics Competition

This year Duaringa SS is offering students in Years 3-7 the opportunity to participate in The Australian Maths Competition. It will be held on August 6th. More information regarding the tests will be sent home shortly, to those students eligible to sit the test.

## NOTES AND REMINDERS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION DESK....

### Reminders

- ◆ **Parade** - Mondays
- ◆ **Newsletter** - Mondays
- ◆ **4-7 Library Day** - Mondays
- ◆ **Student Banking** - Tuesdays
- ◆ **Swimming** - Wednesdays
- ◆ **P-4 Library Day** - Wednesdays
- ◆ **Tuckshop** - Thursdays
- ◆ **Newsletter Deadline** - 12 noon Fridays
- ◆ **End of Term BBQ** - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

### Arts Council

A reminder that this Friday 13th March, Arts Council will be visiting Duaringa State School. Information regarding the Arts Council was sent home last week. Please ensure money and permission slips are returned by Wednesday.

### Office Hours

This term I will be available in the office two days a week. These days will alternate each week. The table below shows the days for February and March that I will be in the office.

Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup> March
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup> March
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup> March
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> March
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> March
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup> March

On other days it would be appreciated if you could limit your calls to the office to before 9:00am or after 3:15pm except in an emergency situation.

### Absences

Thank you to those parents, who checked, signed and returned their students absences.

*Thanks  
Helen Draper  
AO2*

# P&C NEWS

A reminder that the AGM for 2009 will be held on Tuesday March 24. This will be followed by a general meeting. The agenda so far is:

## \$2000 Breville Package

The P&C will be entering 'The Morning Bulletin & Breville Tuckshop Package' Competition again this year. From the **2nd of March to 24th July**, there will be **tokens** appearing in TMB on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Newspapers. Simply **cut out the token**, and after you have a few, or lots, you can **send them into the tuckshop on Thursdays** for the P&C to collect.

They will then be sent to TMB in bundles of 100, as 1 entry in the competition.

Anyone can collect the tokens for the school, Grandparents, Aunts/Uncles, other family & Friends, and anyone in the local community can donate the tokens to the school. The more tokens we get, the more entries we will have.

Any queries about this can be referred to Mrs Stephanie Seeds on 4935 7215.

## Tuckshop Titbits

### A NOTE FROM THE TUCKSHOP COMMITTEE...

It is important that everyone is aware of how our tuckshop system operates at Daringa SS.

Tuckshop is open Thursdays for both first and second break. We encourage the children to use first break as their main meal break.

#### ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

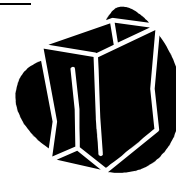
Each child ordering tuckshop needs a bag for first break only. We recommend the layout shown below to assist volunteers who sort the bags. Write the information in biro on the lower half of the bag and fold down the top twice so monies cannot fall out. Bags are available at tuckshop for a cost of 5c each or can be bought in bulk at the supermarket.

During second break no hot food is sold. Children are able to come up and choose from a range of items on the counter as well as drinks and ice blocks.

Correct money is preferred but we will give change. If money is short we will substitute items to the value received.

#### LUNCH

Laura Kelly  
5 Chicken crackles \$2.30  
Fresh Chocolate Milk \$1.80  
Total \$4.10  
Amount Enclosed \$5.00  
Change 0.90



#### Volunteers

We would like to thank the parents and caregivers that volunteer their time currently to help in the tuckshop. We depend on your help to run our tuckshop efficiently and profitably which benefits all our school community.

Our school only has a school population of 48 students however; the Tuckshops needs all the support they can get from the Daringa Community.

Mothers, fathers and any member of the extended family are most welcome as a helper.

Your assistance is required between the hours of 8:45 am and 2:00 pm. Should you be unable to help for these full hours we are happy to have your assistance at any time - particularly serving times which are approximately 11:00 am – 11:45 am and 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm. The more helpers we have at serving times, the less time your child has to spend lining up for food. Not only do you assist the school by participating in the roster, you also ensure our level of service remains high while prices remain as low as possible.

Being a volunteer also enables parents to network with other parents and helps provide a vital and much appreciated service to the children. **Best of all the children love seeing their Parents, Grandparents or Friends there.** Please lend us a hand and help keep our tuckshop going!!

Finally, we would appreciate you help! We are noticing a number of children not using their manners when asking for and receiving their orders. Could parents please have a chat to their child/ren about the importance of using manners at all times not just during Tuckshop. The school has worked hard introducing their Values Education and FAH Award system in Term 4 last year and revisits this in the first term of each subsequent year.

# In Our Classrooms

## In the P-3 Classroom

Hi Everyone,

Who could believe that we are now half way through Term 1 and still with so much to do.

Well, 'Mothball' has finally arrived. For those parents who haven't heard we had a new addition to our classroom last Wednesday. Mothball the wombat, was discovered by some very inquisitive students last week hiding under Mrs Harris' desk in the Library.

Mothball is our wombat who lives in a backpack. He will be venturing to each of your houses this term. This term he has a book "Diary of a Wombat", a blue display book with paper in it and a pencil case with pencils in his backpack. Your child is to write a recount and draw a picture about what special things Mothball and your child have done together. Please take Mothball with you if you go somewhere special and always make sure you know where Mothball is and that our Wombat is safe and happy. Your child will read their writing and show their drawing to their classmates the following day. Please ensure that Mothball is returned with his backpack and equipment the following day so that your child can show what they have done and also to avoid disappointment for the next child.

Our Preps spent last week focussing on the nursery rhyme, "Little Miss Muffet". Activities included cooking, measuring and pouring and other cutting and pasting activities.

Our Year 1's investigated patterning and the number 4 in maths whilst the year 2 & 3's continued with sequencing numbers. Year 4's spent time practicing their times tables, getting their head around numbers involving thousands and 3 digit addition with regrouping.

In Literacy Block we continued with our Guided Reading activities, handwriting focusing on rounded entries including, m, n r & i. Our Jolly Phonics continued with our Monkey and Elephant groups, with the sounds 'r' & 'h' being introduced last week. These sounds have been included and updated in your sounds books.

Please continue to revise these with your children at home each night. This will help to reinforce what we are doing in class each day. Our Hippos and Eagles looked at the blend "gr" as well as adding 's' to words.

In Art we began practicing portraits. We discussed tone, light to dark and the different marks we can make. Then we and tried hard to draw our partner's portraits.

Science found us investigating our five senses with a focus last week on the sense of sight. Make sure you talk with your child about some of the things they learnt and did.

**Parents, it is important that you encourage your child to finish their home readers, sight words (if they have them) and sound books each night and return them for hearing and changing the next day.**

**We have the majority of children NOT returning their books for changing at present, as well as continually leaving their books at home. This makes it very difficult to check student progress with reading, sight words and phonics.**

Occasionally, we have days when readers aren't changed for a variety of reasons and we appreciate your patience with this.

**We also have a major problem with the majority of children NOT doing and returning their homework each week as well. A lot of thought and time goes into organising homework each week and it is very disappointing when children and parents can't be bothered to complete it let alone to return it for marking.**

**Homework is an important part of your child's learning – a time to consolidate and reflect on what has been taught the week before.**

I'd like to thank parents in advance for their support with this matter and also to those 4 who do ensure homework is completed religiously each week and readers are returned daily.

Lastly, our Special Person for this week is Kourtney. We look forward to meeting Kourtney's family on Friday and finding out what makes her special.

Sam Howard  
Class Teacher

## In the Year 4-7 Classroom

### Unit Work

Students have spent the past three weeks researching their chosen significant Australians. The research activities were to be completed on Friday 6th March and the biography is to be completed before the 20th March. These dates have been displayed on two calendars in the classroom.

Students have been provided with guidelines and examples in regards to what is required and these guidelines have been discussed numerous times throughout the past few weeks.

### Number Facts

The results are in! Some of our students have already 'set up' a plan which will help them recall number facts quickly. We have been trying to learn some 'short cuts' that can be used when we work with larger number

### Leadership Workshop

Yr 7 students had the opportunity to attend a Leadership Workshop in Rockhampton on Thursday 5th March. I was impressed by the way in which this workshop was organised. Fun activities and 'serious stuff' were well balanced throughout the entire day.

Thank you, Mrs Janette Harris for assisting with transport on the day.

Have a good week  
Mrs R

## Weekly Awards

Prep **Student of the Week** award this week goes to Kourtney for encouraging her friends with their work efforts

Prep – Year 4 **Student of the Week** award this week goes to Javena for her neat presentation of her homework as well as her excellent results in spelling.

Prep – Year 4 **Student of the Week** award this week goes to Nickolas and Crystal for their excellent efforts with spelling and receiving their first 10/10 result

Year 4-7 **Student of the Week** award his week goes to Kate for good work ethics.

Year 4 – Year 7 **Student of the Week** award this week goes Patrick for being a conscientious worker

**Homework Awards** go to Javena, Lane, and Mikealy for completion of all homework tasks. Well done

The '**FAH Award**' this week goes to Sydney for following directions.

*'Congratulations to our winners'*

## What's Healthy!

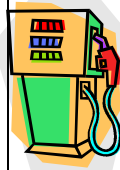
### BREAKFAST IS FOR EVERY BODY!

Children need **energy** to walk to school, work in class and for activities such as reading. This energy comes from **breakfast foods** such as cereals, milk, fruit, bread, baked beans, low fat yoghurt, eggs and vegemite toast.

It's important that children fill up on the right type of fuel for their bodies.

Studies have shown that children who eat breakfast have increased concentration, are less irritable, and perform better in memory tests!

If some days are rushed for time, pack a banana, muffin or some toast, that may be eaten on the way to school or at before school care.



### EASY CHEESY SCONES

**Ingredients** (serves 4-6)

1 cup of white self-raising flour

1 cup of wholemeal self-raising flour

1 tablespoon of monounsaturated marg

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup of grated cheese

1 egg

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup of milk

#### Method

- Beat together eggs and milk
- Rub margarine into flour and add cheese
- Stir in milk and egg mixture to make soft dough
- Knead dough on a lightly floured board
- Cut scones (4cm across) and place on a lightly greased oven tray
- Bake for 15 minutes at 240-250°C





## Library Happenings

Mothball has been found! The Prep - 4 class searched frantically all over the school for the little wombat and Mothball was found hiding under my desk in the library!!! Much excitement followed as the class listened to the 'Diary of the Wombat'-the story of Mothball and his adventures.

The library has some new purchases from Book Club which arrived last week. These books will be available for borrowing shortly.

### Why reading stories matters

Books help to develop your child's language, knowledge and understanding, as they introduce young readers to a huge variety of new words and topics.

If your child is familiar with books and reading, they will be better prepared to take advantage of all learning.

Taking the time to read to your child, or introducing them to a number of different books will make them more comfortable reading at school.

Reading is also a way for parents to spend quality time with their children and will help to build a stronger relationship between you and your child.

Children learn by example, so watching you read and talking together about reading will show your child that reading is a valuable a skill and an excellent way to spend free time.

If you would like more information about reading with your child visit: [www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/)

Hope everyone has a great week,  
Mrs Harris

## Duaringa Community News

### What's On!

#### Playgroup

Playgroup runs every Tuesday from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon, in the Duaringa SS EEC building. We look forward to seeing many new faces this year.



REMOTE AREA FAMILIES SERVICE  
WILL BE HOLDING  
"OCCUPATIONS" THEMED PLAYGROUP  
DUARINGA EARLY LEARNING CENTRE  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

9-12 NOON

ALL WELCOME

PLEASE BRING A SHARED

MORNING TEA AND LUNCH

RSVP TO EMERALD RAFS

ON 4982 0915 OR EMAIL

BE SURE TO BRING A HAT AND SUNSCREEN

**Emerald Remote Area Families Service**

Phone: 4982 0915 Fax: 4982 0453

Email: [emeraldrafs@bigpond.com](mailto:emeraldrafs@bigpond.com)

If possible could any families please bring along egg cartons they are no longer using as we need some for a craft activity we are doing with the children.



### Swimming Club

All students in Year 4-7 are invited to attend the Duaringa

SS Swimming Club held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:15 pm. Swimming club is run by Mrs Brimblecombe and is all about stroke correction not learn to swim. It is important that those children attending swimming club are able to swim the length of the pool and do at least freestyle and one other stroke.

Cost is \$3 each session and parents are required to attend some of the sessions to act as spotters.

Please note NO SWIMMING CLUB NEXT

Tuesday 17 March

BICC Cinema

Cnr Capricorn Highway & Littlefield St, Blackwater  
Phone 07 4982 7755, Fax 07 4982 5299

SHOWING EVERY DAY AT 10.00AM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY AT 3.00PM  
THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS AT  
7.30PM

WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 9th MARCH

AUSTRALIA

RATED M - 165 MINS

### Newsletter Deadline

Whilst we love to have community information included in our newsletter, we do have to stick to a deadline. We do our very best to keep things up to date. However, if details are sent in after the deadline we can only include them in the following weeks' newsletter. **All messages must be written in detail. These can be faxed or emailed to us.** The deadline for our newsletter is **midday Friday**. You can write, fax or email items you would like included in the newsletter to: Fax: 49357026 or email: [the.principal@duaringass.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@duaringass.eq.edu.au)

## Dates to Remember

13 <sup>th</sup> March	Arts Council
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Inter-house Swimming Carnival
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Inter-house Cross Country
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	End of Term BBQ
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Incentive Day – 'Capricorn Caves'
8 <sup>th</sup> April	Duaringa District Cross Country
<b>9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Last Day of Term One</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Monday
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Student Free Day</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> April	First Day of Term Two

### Ambulance News

#### Push Bike Safety

I spoke on assembly recently to the kids about the importance of riding a push bike safely when on the road.

It is important for the kids to understand that when riding a bike they need to ride on left hand side and ride in a straight line.

All too often kids will get lost in their own thoughts and will start zig zagging down the road; unfortunately it would not take to much for a car to come around the corner at the wrong time for an accident to occur.

Can I please ask every one to encourage their kids to not only wear their helmets but ensure when riding on the road to stick to the left and ride in a straight line.

#### House Numbering

Again this year I am going to encourage everyone to put house numbering up.

While I know we live in small towns and everyone knows everyone, it may not always be a local person who attends to you if I am on days offs on attending another incident.

Depending on what is occurring the closest Ambulance will be sent to you and this may be an Ambulance which is passing through, these people will have no idea who lives where.

In an emergency valuable time can be wasted in getting assistance to you looking for unmarked houses.

By putting up prominent house numbering it will make it easier for you to be found and help to commence for you at the earliest opportunity.

This is a vital and important thing I can not stress enough that will help responding emergency services in coming to help you.

#### CPR Charts

I still have plenty of CPR charts to give away FREE to anyone who has a pool, dam or any other water source. Ideally I would like to see every house with these have a CPR chart, unfortunately we still have a very long way to go.

**If you require an Ambulance or wish to report an emergency always dial 000.**

For general enquiries please call 13 12 33

#### **St Brendan's College Regional Visit**

**Mr Jock Walker-Campbell (Director of Boarding) and  
Mr John Stephensen (Campus Ministry) will  
be at**

**Duaringa State School  
Monday 23rd March from 10.30am  
to have**

**Morning Tea with current and prospective  
parents from Duaringa and Dingo areas.**

**Please RSVP - Thursday 19th March to  
Sue or Rosemary at SBC - 49399450  
or**

**Tanya Madden - 49357238**

**Come along for a chat and cuppa.**

