



Duaringa State School Newsletter

Term One
Week Eight

16 March 2009

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PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS IS MIDDAY FRIDAY

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

It is hard to believe Easter is nearly upon us! Over the last few weeks, I have had people coming up to me asking about why Easter is at a different time each year. So I did some investigating and this is what I found.

Easter Sunday is the Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon (PFM) date for the year. In June 325 A.D., astronomers approximated astronomical full moon dates for the Christian church, calling them Ecclesiastical Full Moon (EFM) dates. From 326 A.D. the PFM date has always been the EFM date after March 20 (which was the equinox date in 325 A.D.) Easter Sunday is the date of the annual celebration of Christ's resurrection.

The aim of the Easter Dating Method is to maintain, for each Easter Sunday, the same season of the year and the same relationship to the preceding astronomical full moon that occurred at the time of Christ's resurrection in 30 A.D. Easter Sunday, from 326 A.D., is always one of the 35 dates March 22 to April 25.

LOTE

We are currently reviewing the manner in which LOTE (French) instruction will be delivered for the rest of this year and in 2010. For the remainder of Semester One Years 4/5 students will receive half an hour face to face intensive French instruction and Year 6/7 students will 45 minutes intensive tuition face to face from Mr Cisternino.

From Semester Two, French will no longer be compulsory and will be offered under a new program called FAD (Flexible Alternative Delivery), i.e. Teleconferencing.

In 2010, we will begin offering both French and Japanese from Year 1 to 3 under the IC's program which looks predominately at the culture of each country and not the language. The children will be exposed to the culture of each country in Term 3 and 4, one lesson a week. We believe that being exposed to the cultural aspects of the language more intensively, will bring better results once the children reach Year 4 and beyond. More information will go out in a separate letter during Term 2. I look forward to your feedback.

Extra Curricula Activities/Clubs

We are looking at introducing lunchtime activities/clubs in Term 2 and are looking for some parent volunteers. Activities we are looking at starting up include a Running Club (possibly before or after school), Secret Pantry, Choirs, Scrapbooking, and Painting etc. If you have another interest not listed PLEASE let us know. Your time would only be required **1 break a week**. Please help us to get this off the ground for the children's sake.

Finally, please make sure you take note of the new sections added to the newsletter over the coming weeks and the renaming of other sections.

I look forward to catching up with you soon!

Sam

From the Playing Field

Duaringa District Soccer Trials

Duaringa District Soccer trials are in Blackwater on Friday. Best of luck to Jessica, Brittany, Breeannah and Kyanna who are attending the trials.

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.

Training

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 next 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.

Congratulations to all those students who have begun training for our up and coming swimming carnival on 25 March - they train every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Many thanks to Mrs Brimblecombe for working with these students.

To all parents, please try to find some time each week to play with a ball with your child. Throw and catch, or throw and hit and catch, or kick a ball with them as it helps to develop their ball skills and eye-hand coordination.

Australian University of NSW Competitions

Please find attached to the newsletter today an information letter about the different tests available from the Australian University of NSW for students in Years 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 to participate in. Please return your expression of interest for your child to participate in these tests as soon as possible.

NOTES AND REMINDERS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION DESK...

Handwriting Textbooks

I have a couple of handwriting textbooks left for which we are still waiting payment. These students are missing out on valuable handwriting skills in the classroom. It would be appreciated if you could please pay for these books **ASAP** or contact the office to make arrangements for payment. These books are required for all students in years 4 and 5.

Book Club

Wow! What a large order we had last month, thanks to everyone who purchased books. The school received free books and vouchers to the value of \$102. These new books will be available from the library shortly.

Last week we sent home catalogues for the second issue of the Scholastic Book Club. Money and orders need to be returned to the student collection box in the office before school on *Tuesday 24th March*. Please ensure that any cheques are made payable to Duaringa SS.

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
- ◆ **Book Club** - Tuesday 24th March
- ◆ **P&C AGM** - 24th March
- ◆ **End of Term BBQ** - Friday 3rd April

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 March and April that I will be in the office.

Monday	16 th March
Wednesday	18 th March
Tuesday	24 th March
Thursday	26 th March
Wednesday	1 st April
Friday	3 rd April
Tuesday	7 th April
Thursday	9 th April

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.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Attached to the newsletter is a note regarding parent teacher interviews. Parents, please return this forms with your preferred times as soon as possible so that we can confirm your interview.

*Thanks
Helen Draper
AO2*

P&C NEWS

Duringa State School P&C 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.

Winter School Uniforms

Anyone interested in ordering blue winter track pants or blue & gold school baseball jackets. Please let Stephanie Seeds know on 4935 7215, by the **24th March**, so an order can be placed before the cooler weather arrives.

The track pants are \$13.50 each and come in sizes 6 to 16 (child). The jackets are \$18.50 each and also come in size 6 to 16 (child).

Please note: Only the winter uniforms ordered given to Stephanie will be ordered. We will not have winter stock stored in the uniform cupboard. Uniforms are to be paid before, or upon collection.

Tuckshop Titbits

Many thanks to everyone who made the effort to write up their tuckshop orders correctly last week. Your help made our life a little easier when sorting orders.

In Our Classrooms



Library Happenings

No library this week as Mrs Harris will be away.

In the P-3 Classroom

Hi Everyone,

Yet another busy week last week with the Preps focusing on the nursery rhyme, 'Mary, Mary quite contrary....' Many of their activities involved gardening and doing a variety of art and craft activities around the garden theme. Please make sure you come in and have a look at their garden at the top of the C block stairs.

In Jolly Phonics we focussed on the letters 'r' and 'm'. Make sure you check your child's sound book for the new actions to practise. Handwriting saw the Preps continue with patterning whilst the 1, 2, 3's continued to practise pointed entries. Year 4's have been working hard practising in their text books. Many thanks to all those parents who paid for these books so promptly.

In Maths, the Year 4's looked at Perimeter whilst the Year 3's focussed their attention on how to use a calculator. Year 2 continued with place value and sequencing numbers and Year 1 looked at different shapes and the number 5.

Mothball had a very busy week spending his first night away from school with the Howard family. She then moved onto Emily's house and from there to the Ryan's at the Ambulance station. Mothball came back all bandaged up, which had us all concerned until Mikealy reported that she was fine and just tricking everybody. She spent her last night for the week at Colby's where she went driving in his monster trucks.

We can't wait to see what Mothball unveils this week at her sleepovers.

Homework again was very disappointing with the same 3 or 4 children returning fully completed work. However, a number of children returned their's today. This is much appreciated but the due day is Friday. We therefore, cannot guarantee any work will be marked until this day.

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

This week our Special Person is Keenan. We look forward to meeting his family at the end of this week.

Sam Howard
Class Teacher

Weekly Awards

Prep – Year 4 **Students of the Week** awards this week goes to Anna, Kourtney, Georgia and Sydney for co-operating with their friends

Years 4-7 **Students of the Week** awards for week goes to Chris, Brianna M, Nick, and Bronwyn for being conscientious workers and Kurt for his achievements in Maths.

The '**FAH Award**' this week goes to Breeannah for showing initiative.

'Congratulations to our winners'

What's Healthy!

An Easter Treat: **Marshmallow**

2 cups sugar
2 tablespoons gelatine
1½ cups hot water
Colour
1 teaspoon essence (vanilla, strawberry etc)

Simmer sugar, gelatine and water for 5 minutes, stirring. Then simmer for 10 minutes without stirring. Boil for 5 minutes without stirring. Cool slightly. Add essence and colour. Start beating while mixture is still hot, beat until light and fluffy. Pour into moulds and allow to set.

Duaringa Community News

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

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 17TH 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: emeraldrafts@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
TOMORROW**

**DUARINGA HISTORICAL & TOURISM
ASSOCIATION INC.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4th April, 2009

@

**10.30 am at the Information Centre,
Duaringa**

BBQ Lunch to follow

**All persons interested in being part of this
vibrant & enthusiastic association are
invited to attend**

Birthday Wishes

Congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Beryl Hammond who celebrated her 90th Birthday over the weekend with family and friends.

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 16th MARCH

FOUR HOLIDAYS

Rated M - 88 Minutes

What's On

CALENDAR EVENTS: Quick glance at Term One

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

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

Ambulance News

Redevelopment

I am happy to announce the redevelopment of the Ambulance Station is now scheduled to commence on Tuesday 24th March.

During the redevelopment, there will be a few temporary changes at the Ambulance Station as the station will become a construction site for approximately 3 – 4 months.

In the construction phase, the station/office will not be assessable to anyone. As a result of this, the Casualty Room will be closed and we will not be able to monitor blood pressures, do re-dressings or take any enquiries at the front door.

The Ambulance Service will still operate 24 hours a day / 7 days a week as currently happens. There will be no change in Ambulance Service response if you are sick or injured. Only Casualty room services will not be available.

If you have any injuries or require Ambulance assistance continue to call 000 or 13 12 33 if it is not an emergency. If you are in doubt **ALWAYS** call 000.

For any enquiries or administration questions call 49 357 115.

If you don't have a phone there is a phone box at the post office which 000 can be called from. You will not be able to come to the station for assistance. We will come to you.

I trust that everyone will be patient with these temporary changes as the station is modernized during this redevelopment.

If you are aware of anyone who does not receive this newsletter please advise them off this change.

I will place another article in next week's newsletter to confirm these changes.

If anyone has any concerns please do not hesitate to speak to me.

I remind everyone again the Ambulance service/response will still operate 24 hours a day / 7 days a week during this time.

There will be no change to Ambulance response during this time, only Casualty Room services will not be available.

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

For general enquiries please call 13 12 33