Keeping in Touch

Newsletter No. 2 2013
PARENTS/GUARDIANS PLEASE NOTE:

It states in Section 7 on the information sheet accompanying the Application form that:

“a) The Department of Transport will provide written confirmation of the receipt of your PVC Subsidy application form within 6 weeks.

b) If an acknowledgement is not received within 6 weeks, you should contact the PVC Subsidy Team on the telephone numbers provided below.

c) Failure to contact The Department of Transport may affect the commencement date of your PVC Subsidy application.”

Telephone: 02 9891 8900
Fax: 02 9891 8985
Toll-Free: 1800 010 123
Website: www.transport.nsw.gov.au
Email: pvc@transport.nsw.gov.au

Your contact person at DSODE is Liz on (02) 5804 7009

Bedwetting Cured

A new DVD based program, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon, and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children.
For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website:

www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au

or phone 1300 135 796
Hello everyone,

I hope that you have all settled in to the pattern of completing and returning your work!

The residential for the year have started and the students have been working well with a lot of productive work completed. Keep your eye out for photos in future newsletters.

The Year 11-12 residential was on last week and the Preschool camp has just concluded. The 7-10 residential is coming up in week 8 for those invited students.

Make sure that you look after all of the resources that have been sent out to you. Return them as soon as you have finished with them please so that others can use them too.

Keep in touch with your teacher and don’t hesitate to call or email if you need any help at all.

Have a great year!

Regards for now,

Sue Howlett

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Satellite ‘Reopening’

See Of a Primary Concern on Page 12 for details.

Above: Jon Egan completing the installation.

Right: Cutting the ribbon! David Foley, Debbie Murray and David McLeod.
Greetings from the Library

New Books to Borrow

**An Anzac Tale** by Ruth Starke and Greg Holfield
When Australia pledges its support to Great Britain at the outbreak of World War I, mates Roy Martin and Wally Cardwell are among the first to enlist. But what the friends first thought would be an adventure soon turns to disaster. The day after the landing at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915, more than 2000 of their fellow Anzacs are dead. As the campaign drags on, life for Wally and Roy and their new friend, Tom, becomes a battle of endurance against a plucky enemy, a hostile landscape, flies, fleas, cold and disease.

The story of the Anzac campaign, including the battle of Lone Pine, is interspersed with scenes of Australians at home to show the shift from popular support of the Empire at the start of the war to profound disillusionment as the casualties begin to mount. This graphic novel creates an extraordinary and original work for upper primary students on the subject of Gallipoli and the Anzac campaign.

**The Little Eskimo** by Davide Cali and Maurizio Quarello
The Little Eskimo wants to know if he’ll be a great hunter when he grows up and also what’s on the other side of the Great Ice Lake. He starts out on a quest to find the answers but none of the arctic animals can help him.

Finally, a whale takes the brave little boy to the one creature who knows all and the Little Eskimo discovers his two questions are very much connected.

**New Guinea Moon** by Kate Constable
Sixteen-year-old Julie McGinty is sent to New Guinea to meet a father she knows little about. He is a pilot in the Highlands where life is simple, at the time that New Guinea was heading towards independence. It tells a story of racism, with the natives and new comers, mostly Aussies, not really mixing.

Julie finds herself falling for this beautiful land and an equally gorgeous Simon, who is a half-caste, and therefore not really accepted by those around him. But when her father, who she was just beginning to get to know, dies when his plane goes down in severe weather, Julie discovers a huge secret. With lots of environmental, racial and relationship issues, this coming of age novel will appeal mostly to thirteen- to seventeen-year-old girls.
Greetings from the Library

New Books to Borrow

To Brave the Seas by David McRobbie
With the outbreak of the Second World War and the recent death of his mother, Adam Chisholm chooses to join the Merchant Navy as a cabin boy. And so begins a marvellous adventure.

With facts drawn from important events that took place during the war, we learn of life aboard these merchant ships as they cross the Atlantic with vital cargo for the war effort. The incredible seas, the constant fear of a submarine attack, the mateship that developed and the possibility of death just around the corner, make this a great adventure novel that will be best suited to boys aged 14+

When My Name Was Keoko by Linda Sue Park
A heart-warming tale of courage, resilience and hope. Set in Korea during World War II, when Japan had taken over the country, it tells of the struggle to keep your own identity when everything you believe in and know is being changed – even your name. It is quite confronting in parts and will make you smile in others, but you will be left with the impression of the courage required to be true to yourself and your heritage when the smallest mistake could cost you your life. A wonderful read for both boys and girls, Year 7-10.

The Discovery: Robert Irwin Dinosaur Hunter by Robert Irwin, Lachlan Creagh and Jack Wells
Set around Steve Irwin’s son Robert’s life and his love of dinosaurs. Robert’s dream comes true when he and his best friend Riley are allowed into the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum, the only museum dedicated solely to Australian dinosaurs.

And so the action begins! Robert travels back in time 95 million years when dinosaurs roamed Australia. But will he survive a dinosaur stampede, and if so, how will he find his way back in time? A great young person’s action adventure, packed with real facts about Australian dinosaurs which will please many.

The Big Bash: Toocool by Phil Kettle and Tom Jellett
Bad Billy Brown challenges Toocool to a 20/20 cricket match. Toocool and all his friends start training hard. Will this be enough or will they need some help? More fun and games with Toocool and Marcy and all their mates. Lots of action and fun, suitable for both boys and girls.
Greetings from the Library

The Last Elephant: Lost World Circus 1 by Justin D’Ath
Set in a future where the Rat Flu has wiped out nearly all of the animals on Earth. The creatures in Captain Noah’s lost world circus are the last of their kind. When our hero Colt Lawless attends the circus with his vet mother he is amazed to see an elephant. But his joy soon turns when a killer white rat, spreader of the deadly virus, infects Lucy the elephant.

So begins Colt’s amazing journey to try and save Lucy’s life, particularly from the Rat police whose job it is to ensure all infected animals are put down. When Colt was younger he was infected with the Rat Flu. His Mum quickly injected him with a large dose of anti-virus and while he is the only human known to have survived this dreaded disease, he now seems to be developing a superpower and super strength. With this power and the help of young Birdy the circus acrobat, can they save Lucy?

A great adventure full of wonderful characters that is sure to develop into a great series for 9-13 year olds.

All This Could End by Steph Bowe
An intriguing and highly unconventional plot. A family that constantly moves towns around Australia, wherever Dad takes a temporary teaching role. But Mum is the driving force – a bank robber as was her father before her, she makes the decisions and truly believes that they are doing no wrong. ‘We don’t hurt anyone.’ ‘The banks steal off everyone anyway.’ ‘The money’s insured’. But Nina knows what they are doing is wrong. It’s just, what can she do about it? She looks forward to the day, not so far away, when she will turn eighteen and leave all of this. But then she meets Spencer. Here blossoms a love born from disjointed families, and a love of weird things, particularly Spencer’s love of words. A 15+ audience is where this book will be most appreciated.

Netball Challenge: Marcy by Susan Halliday and Tom Jellett
Another fun filled Marcy adventure. Marcy challenges the Principal to a students versus teachers netball game to raise money for the lost dogs home. The students think they will win.

What a way to spend the last day of term! A fun read for all students, especially those who like sport and a bit of competition.

Until Next Time, Happy Reading!

David Strain
Teacher Librarian
(02) 5804 7023 david.strain@det.nsw.edu.au
Zoo Adventures – Taronga Western Plains Zoo
Autumn 2013

Zoo Adventures is a school holiday program for students attending primary school, aged from 5-12 years, which is run by qualified staff.

Children experience the sights and sounds of the zoo; join in with art/craft and other activities with an animal theme!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tall and Short</th>
<th>Animals in Art</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The tall and short of this day is that all animals are different! Explore the Zoo to find those animals that are very obvious and those that you need to look a little more closely to see.</td>
<td>Animals have amazing patterns, textures, lines and colours... all of which help them survive! Artists throughout history have always represented animals through art. Come to the zoo and undertake a mini artist in residence!</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wildlife Wizards</th>
<th>Keeper for a Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Become a wildlife wizard for the day. Investigate different animals and their characteristics. Get involved with a conservation challenge and help us come up with campaigns for some of our threatened species.</td>
<td>Come and find out what our keepers do in a day at the zoo. Get up close and personal with some of our magnificent animals and help us make some delicious animal autumn delights.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Egg-cellent Easter Hunt</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Its Easter time and we have an egg-cellent day planned for you at the zoo! Come and discover which animals in the zoo lay eggs... other than the Easter bunny! Make some egg-citing Easter treats and take part in the great Easter Egg Hunt!</td>
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</tbody>
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### Details

| Age: | 5 – 12 years (must be attending school) |
| Time: | Full Day – 8.30am to 3.30pm |
| Cost: | $55.00 per child per day – Full Day $50.00 – ZooFriends – Full Day |

**Special Offer!**

1. Book 5 days and pay 4 – days must be consecutive and applies to one child.
2. For additional siblings attending on the same day – first child $55.00 additional siblings $40.00

ZooFriends rates do not apply to the above Special Offers.

Drop off and collection point is located on the grassed area on Obley Road outside Zoo Gates.

**What to Bring**

- Clothing to suit all weather & Hat
- Enclosed shoes
- Lunch and Drink Bottle

**Morning Tea is provided**

### Afternoon Extended Care

3.30pm to 5.00pm. No late pickups are allowed.

Cost: $15.00 per child per day

Collection point for extended care only is located at the Education Centre. Please speak to staff regarding access after hours.

**You must be pre-booked to use this service.**

### Conditions

- No refunds will be given on cancellations after Monday 8th April 2013.
- Payment must be made at time of booking.
- ZooFriends must send copy of current membership in child’s name when booking to obtain discount.
- Cheques made payable to Taronga Western Plains Zoo.
- Program and activities are subject to change without notification.
- Please note all receipts and confirmations will now be sent via email only – please ensure your email address is supplied.
It is hard to believe that we are now more than half way through term one and that we are into another season. The cooler weather makes it a little more pleasant to be outdoors and working your way through the preschool program. The cooler weather is also an excellent time to snuggle up with your children and read books!!

We are very fortunate to have Mr Strain, our talented librarian, at Dubbo School of Distance Education. Mr Strain makes sure that we have a large collection of quality picture books available and is always adding to this collection. A range of books is sent out with each preschool unit. However, if you would like additional resources please let your teacher know. The Preschool also has an extensive range of parent support materials. If you would like to access these materials please talk to your child’s teacher.

**Term One Preschool Camp**

Our first Preschool camp was held from Monday 11th to Friday 15th March. Nine preschool students made their way to Dubbo to make new friends and meet their teachers as well as participate in a range of activities around the theme of our camp which is Safety. During this camp students had the opportunity to participate in swimming lessons each afternoon at the Dubbo RSL heated pool.

**Easter Packs**

Easter packs have been sent to those families who have requested them. These activities are part of your yearly program and you will find the activities are all appropriate for early learning. Teachers ask that you set aside the unit that they are currently completing and focus on the Easter unit from Monday 25th March to Thursday 28th March. We hope that you enjoy completing these craft activities with your preschooler. The preschool teachers love receiving photographs of their students working on activities, so please keep the camera nearby while your child is engaged in their preschool activities.

**Birthdays.**

We wish the following students a very Happy Birthday for March:

- Caitlin 4th March
- Lucy 17th March
- Henry 30th March
- George 30th March

**Useful Information**

Throughout the year we will be sending information that we feel would be of interest to you as parent of a preschool aged child. Sometimes this information will be emailed to you or sent if you don’t have access to email. We also like to include relevant information in our newsletter if space is available.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of Early Childhood Education that you would like addressed please talk to your child’s teacher. The dissemination of relevant information with a preschool focus may be beneficial to other families.
Getting Your Child to Listen

Have you ever asked your child for help and been overwhelmed by the response? Perhaps your reminder about bedtime gets no action. If so, did you repeat your request in the way most of us would do? Still ignored? Then my bet is you’ve turned up the volume until you got some action.

If this routine sounds familiar then your children have a bad dose of parent deafness, an affliction increasingly common for many kids.

If you want to check, just try whispering “Anyone for ice-cream?” They’ll come running in an instant. Just a few minutes later ask for help and you’ll probably get no reaction. If this is the case, parent deafness is definitely the right diagnosis.

The good news is there is a cure for parent-deaf kids. But it’s important to understand how your child became parent-deaf in the first place. Parents tend to make quite predictable responses when kids don’t cooperate, which trains kids to ignore them.

These methods of communication happen when parents are tired and stressed, but they are largely ineffective. So what’s the cure?

Get their Attention: When you want kids to cooperate rather than ignore you, get their attention first. The best way to do so is to move into their proximity and make eye contact. Then be brief with your instruction. Simply ask for help, remind them it’s time for bed or let them know that dinner is being served.

Talk less, act more: If you get no reaction, avoid repeating yourself or raising your voice. Keep well-meaning lectures for another time and put consequence into place. Stop what you are doing if they don’t help, or start reading the bedtime story in their bedroom even if they are dawdling. Or, if you really want to make your point, put the meal on the table and take it away if they are still not there when you’ve finished.

The point to remember is that kids learn from your behaviour, not your words. Your willingness to act in a reasonable, respectful way is the key here. Most of us talk too much to our kids when we want cooperation, which trains them to tune out rather than take notice. Next time your kids ignore your reasonable requests for cooperation avoid your first impulse, which is probably to repeat yourself or ramp up the volume.

Talk less and act more! Do this repeatedly and you’ll soon discover that you’ve found the perfect cure for that infuriating energy-sapper known as parent deafness.


The Four Common Mistakes That Lead to Parent Deafness Are:
1. When parents repeat their requests and reminders
2. When parents turn up the volume
3. When parents use the language of coercion
4. When we deliver a lecture

Sue, Robyn and Hayley - Preschool Teachers
In each newsletter we aim to include a piece of quality work that preschool students have sent to us. This is a lovely way to showcase the talents of our students and highlight the fact that there is such a variety of ways in which you can complete each of the preschool activities.

The Artist of this newsletter is **Jordan** who sent in these lovely ‘Hand Prints’ and a ‘Fold a Blob’ which he completed as he worked his way through his first unit.

Congratulations Jordan!
HSC & Preliminary

I was able to meet with HSC, Pathways and Preliminary students at the Week 6 Senior Residential. I hope to discuss career options with Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville Preliminary and HSC students during Week 11 of Term One.

If you wish to discuss career options please ring me on:

(02) 5804 7067 - Ian Smith

Information Received


2. Pathways to CSU – a guide to pathway options for study at Charles Sturt University

3. UMAT – preparation information. If you are considering a career in Medicine, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Optometry or Health Science you may have to sit the UMAT as part of the entry procedure. NIE offer a program (at cost) to help prepare you for this test

4. Cultural Care – Au Pair USA information pamphlets

5. CSU Undergraduate Guide for Study 2014

6. Lattitude Global Volunteering information

Ian Smith
Careers Advisor
02 5804 7067
ian.douglas.smith@det.nsw.edu.au
The term is already half over! Amazing how quickly the time passes us by. It would be expected that all students will have returned several sets by now if enrolled from the beginning of the year. By now all children should be into a school routine. As it is now half way through term 1, routines should be in place to ensure that all school is able to be completed. If you are having difficulty in settling down or need assistance developing a timetable, you should speak to your teacher now.

**New Staff**

Our numbers are increasing at a rapid rate and we are on the way to our highest Primary student population for a number of years! To accommodate this we welcome Miss Tahlia Webb to our staff. Tahlia is new to Dubbo but has been working in the Walgett DE centre so has experience. Currently Mrs Keen is taking some Long Service Leave (LSL) and in term 2 Ms Cox and Ms Ballhausen will be doing the same. To cover our classes, Tahlia’s sister Sammy Webb has joined us. We welcome them both to the school and hope that they find their time here a positive, enlightening and fun experience.

**Satellite Lessons**

Wow what a fortnight we have had with the satellite!… Out with the old One Touch and in with the new React. Staff have all spent a couple of days learning and practising with the new equipment. Supervisors too have been shown how to operate the system from their end. We even had a bit of fun with a ‘reopening’ of the studio and a cake to celebrate!! Over the next few weeks we all need to be patient with each other as we stumble our way through and become more proficient with the features of the system. If you have any questions about the system (except for timetabling questions) please ring the Help desk – 1800 338 737. Satellite lessons will recommence on Monday 18 March. We do ask that (wherever possible) students inform teachers of absences before their lessons. It is also requested that students do not log on too early for their lesson. There is a five minute break between lessons for logging on to take place. Teachers currently on satellite may log students off if they are too early.

**Communications between home and school**

Communication is a key element to a successful relationship between school and home. Here at school we rely on email as the main means to communicate. We currently have 57 families in the primary (and growing every week!!) and it is ineffective to ring each family to pass on news. Information is sent out as quickly as we can to give as much notice as possible. Please ensure that the school has your preferred email address to receive school information.

**Dubbo & District Swimming**

Congratulations to Kate F who participated at this event. She certainly gave it her best. Thanks to her parents who brought her all the way to Dubbo to give her this opportunity.
Term 2 Camp
Information to invited students will be sent out regarding the Term 2 camp very shortly. Please watch your email inbox.

Visiting Dubbo
We love it when our students are in town and come to visit. We welcome the chance to show you around the school, visit the library to borrow your own books, discuss any work issues, and for some families, even meet you face to face for the first time!! We do ask, however, that you ring to let us know you are coming so we can make time for you. It can be disappointing for students to visit and have their teacher unavailable.

Online Learning Opportunities
This year we will be introducing some on-line websites to our students and continuing some known ones. These are web sites that allow for the revision and consolidation of concepts through drills and games. They are not a teaching site and do not replace the work sent out to students. Teachers will be individually informing their classes as to logon details and the sites to work with as not all students/classes will access all sites. Remember that teachers too will have a range of skills and knowledge in setting up these programs. We encourage students to take advantage of these opportunities.

Student Information
It is most important that we are able to regularly communicate with our families. Please ensure that all your details are up to date with the school. If your email, fax, emergency contacts or health information change PLEASE inform us as soon as possible. It is also important to regularly check your emails as this is becoming the preferred mode of communication for information especially regarding camps and the Naplan Tests. All students who have a DET installed satellite will be communicated with via their DET portal (ie your @education address). Travellers and overseas students will be communicated with via the most appropriate address for their family.

And lastly…. Remember we are only a phone call or email away if you need any assistance.

“Let us read, and let us dance; these two amusements will never do any harm to the world.” Voltaire

So until next time........ have a great and fabulous day!!!
2013 Calendar of Events

- **International Year of Water Cooperation**
- **International Year of Quinoa**
- March 23 Earth Hour
- April 13-21 Australia Heritage Week
- April 18 World Heritage Day
- May 7-9 Australia Water 2013

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**EARTH HOUR**

Buildings in the CBD of Sydney switched off their lights on a Saturday in March 2007 for the first EARTH HOUR.

Last year over 152 countries throughout the world took part in this campaign that encourages cleaner use of renewable energy practices.

Individuals, businesses and governments are switching off lighting, computers, chargers, photocopiers, printers and other non-essential electrical appliances.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**SWITCH OFF YOUR LIGHTS**

at 8.30pm on Saturday 23rd March for Earth Hour.

In homes and businesses make use of solar and other renewable energy.
Lydia...

How many books do you read a year?

144

When is your favourite time to read?

In Spring - afternoon to sunset

What do you think makes a good book?

Lots of detail, good characters and really long stories...
On Tuesday 5th March as part of the Years 11 and 12 Residential, an Earth and Environmental Science excursion was held to visit the new Alkane mine called the Tomingley Gold Project, The Peak Hill Gold Mine and the Wambangalang Field Studies Centre. The students were George (Tibooburra), Gilbert (Cumnock), Caitlyn (Gilgandra), Elsie (Dubbo), Olivia (Narromine), and James (Grenfell), accompanied by Mr Hart and Mr Horley.

The students were taken through the process of setting up a new mine at Tomingley and then through the rehabilitation process at the Peak Hill Gold Mine. In the afternoon they visited the Wambangalang centre to understand classification of native plants and how to construct transects of the environment.