Hello Everyone,

As we are nearing the end of term 1, 2013, the year seems to be moving very quickly.

Melissa Halpin and Sue Sheridan recently completed the DEC review of the DSODE provision of Stage 6 curriculum for Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville students. The review recognised the great success of this program. The partnerships developed between the teachers in Ashford, Bundarra, Emmaville and DSODE are highly effective.

The DSODE 2012 Annual School Report is now available on the school’s website for download. It presents an overview of the school’s planning and achievements as well as a summary of targets for 2013.

Congratulations to Year 6 student Will for his prize winning Artwork (below). Will submitted his work for judgement at the Bathurst Royal Easter Show in the Under 13 category. The judges asked him to submit the piece in the Open category. Will won first prize!

Congratulations to Year 6 student Belle for selection in the Western Region Soccer Team! Belle is a talented athlete.

Congratulations to Katrina Shannon who has been appointed as a permanent teacher at DSODE after eight years of temporary appointment. We are all very pleased.

Finally I want to acknowledge the work of teachers and administration staff throughout Term 1. The work in distance education becomes more complex as national and state educational changes increase rapidly and new technologies are introduced requiring continuous professional learning and changes in practice. Simultaneously staff are preparing for the pending implementation of the Australian Curricula through participation in distance education networks to create innovative learning materials that include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia and Sustainability cross curriculum perspectives.

This work is being completed as staff also deal with a constant stream of new enrolments, many of whom have diverse needs and require significant program modifications. Every staff member at DSODE is dedicated and committed to supporting each and every student achieve to the best of their ability. Thank you and have a great holiday.

Best wishes
Chris Mason
Hello everyone,
We have just had a very successful Junior Residential. It is always really good to see our students. They were very well behaved and seemed to enjoy all of the teaching and social activities planned.
The swimming carnival was a huge success and all swimmers participated very well.
For those students who are invited, mark your term 2 calendar for all the important camp dates!

Please look after all of the resources that have been sent out to you. Return them as soon as you have finished with them 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 relaxing and enjoyable school holiday! Come back ready and rearing to go for another busy term ahead.

Regards for now
Sue Howlett

Hello Everyone,
My standard line seems to be how quickly time passes but I cannot help but keep coming back to it! During the term we have seen separate Preschool, Primary, 7-10 and 11-12 camps occur as well as many field service visits and professional learning events.
HSC students are now half way through their courses and have just completed half yearly examinations for which reports will be prepared early next term. They are to be reminded about keeping in touch with their teachers, checking emails regularly and keeping an eye on the Board of Studies website, about which there is some information on Page 13. Once again, Dubbo School of Distance Education is organising the Western Area HSC seminars on 6th and 7th June. These seminars prove of great value to HSC students in assisting their preparation for the HSC examinations.
Term 2 this year, will commence with two Staff Development Days devoted largely to the introduction of the Australian Curriculum into our school. In NSW, years 7 and 9 will commence the new Australian Curriculum in 2014 in English, Mathematics, Science and History and K-6 in English. This means there is a lot of preparation to be done by teachers to ensure quality learning materials are available which address these new requirements.
NAPLAN testing will also occur around weeks 3-6 of next term for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. You should have already received some initial information from the school about arrangements for these tests and there is further information available on the website: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html
As term 1 nears an end, it is appropriate to pass on a big thank you to all those students, supervisors and teachers who have worked together so well during the term. Have a wonderful and safe two week break.

Bye for now, Melissa
Greetings from the Library

New Books to Borrow

Siege
by Sarah Mussi

Siege is a gripping look into the future that we hope never arrives. When Leah arrives late at school, she is one of a few not to be hoarded into the gym as year 9 and 10 students take over the school at gunpoint. It is a special government funded school for the poor and hopeless students called YOUOP78, one of many across the country. The school is locked down during the siege and when Leah contacts the outside world to be rescued she realises all is not as it should be.

Is the government actually behind the siege? Where could these kids have obtained all their guns and ammunition? Action packed and realistic, with strong characters that you can’t help but admire.

Sun Catcher
by Sheila Rance

On her 13th birthday Maia, who has been brought up by Tareth, the weaver and warrior who she has always believed is her father, falls into an adventure that will take her on a perilous journey to a kingdom poisoned by bitterness and jealousies. A kingdom that she must save.

Tareth is no ordinary weaver – the silk he weaves sings of destiny and danger, of Maia’s future. Because she is no ordinary girl either. She has always been the flame-headed outsider among the Cliff Dwellers, but she doesn’t want to listen to the song of the silk, or to the terrifying words of the village Watcher. Guarding her secret, denying her future, Maia steps into places she has never explored where she’ll encounter mercenaries, spies, friends and enemies. And where she will face her destiny as a Sun Catcher.

A great novel for upper primary and lower secondary students.

National Geographic Kids: Everything Sharks
by Ruth A Musgrave

Swim with sharks through reefs, past schools of silvery fish, to weird, watery depths and back. Glide with great whites, tiger sharks, bull sharks, and hammerheads. Tear into facts about shark hunting habits and diet. See what’s feared most in the ocean: sharks or people.

Then test your shark smarts to see what you learned.
Greetings from the Library

New Books to Borrow

National Geographic Amaze Adventure – Search for Pirate Treasure by Graham White

Enter the world of hidden treasure and piracy on the high seas. A friend needs help. His family is facing poverty because his father’s ship was attacked by pirates, who took all his worldly wealth. A new ship is ready to go in search of these brigands, overpower and capture them, and regain the treasure. There is little time.

You must make your way to the harbour. With luck, you will be allowed to serve as a cabin boy. When the pirates are found and engaged in battle, you will look for their treasure map. If successful, you’ll be ready to tackle the final puzzle, crack the code, and find the hidden treasure.

A Ring through Time
by Felicity Pulman

Allie Bennett has moved to Norfolk Island with her family, and as the texts and phone calls with her friends back in Sydney dwindle, Allie feels increasingly alone.

The instant attraction that occurs between Allie and her classmate, Noah O’Brien, is threatened when he keeps reminding her that she is descended from John Bennett, the brutal commandant who oversaw the penal colony 150 years ago and made the lives of the convicts, including Noah’s ancestor, a living torment.

When the discovery of a hidden diary catapults Allie into the tragic story of two young long-dead lovers, she is appalled at the injustice detailed in the diary and vows to put things right. But digging up the past has the potential to damage reputations and end her relationship with Noah. It will take a token of love – a ring made from hair – to solve the mystery of what really happened so long ago, and lay the past to rest.

Suitable for Year 7’s and up, both boys and girls.

Definitely No Ducks!
by Meg McKinlay and Leila Rudge

Max, the class duck, is in trouble.

The Antarctica display has been totally destroyed. Ripped. Torn. Chewed. And everyone knows Max is to blame. Or is he? Abby and Noah are determined to uncover the truth. If they can’t they will have to say goodbye to Max forever.
Greetings from the Library

Online Encyclopaedia access

Encyclopaedia Britannica is renowned as one of the most comprehensive general reference collections available. Not only do users of the online version of this encyclopaedia have access to everything that has been written on a certain subject by simply typing the search term once (no need to go to all the pages listed in the index volume), but they are also referred to a selection of magazine articles, videos and other related and approved websites on the subject.

Web Address: http://school.eb.com.au

User Name: dubbosde
Password: Ktwelve (case-sensitive – make sure the “K” is a capital)

Woolworths Earn & Learn!

A Great Big Thank You to all those teachers and parents who participated in the 2012 Woolworths Earn & Learn! Program by placing their grocery receipts in our school’s tub outside each Woolworth’s store or returning them to the front office of the school. We were able to obtain new learning resources that were distributed amongst the Library, DE outreach centres and the Music department.

Until Next Time, Happy Reading!

David Strain
Teacher Librarian
(02) 5804 7023 david.strain@det.nsw.edu.au

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program is back!

From Monday 8th April until Sunday 9th June 2013, when you shop at Woolworths you will be given a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent, excluding cigarettes, liquor and gift cards.

Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and your local school will be able to redeem these for educational resources.
We value, encourage and support responsibility.

Myles enjoying painting with the traffic light colours.

Caitlin playing with playdough.

Leeyah dressing up.

Conrad using the traffic light colours.

Bridie at the easel.

Fletcher with his drawing.
During Week seven we welcomed eight enthusiastic preschool children to our term one camp. (See photos Page 7)

The theme for this camp was safety and it was great to see the students involved in such activities as road safety, water safety, farm safety as well as attending water confidence classes at the Dubbo RSL pool each afternoon.

Our Term Two camp will be held from the 12th to the 14th June.

The Preschool Teachers travelled to Walgett on 28th March to take part in ‘Kids Matters Early Childhood’ training. ‘Kids Matter Early Childhood’ is a national mental health initiative currently being introduced in early childhood services throughout Australia.

Dubbo School of Distance Education is currently running Mind Matters and Kids Matters Primary programs in the school. It is our intention to introduce Kids Matter Early Childhood so that we will be a Preschool to Year 12 Mind Matters School.

Supervisor’s Directory.

This Directory has been compiled to give Preschool families an opportunity to correspond with others who are completing our program. It has proven very popular over the years as a way developing new friendship and catching up with other DSODE preschool families in your area. If you would like to be included in this year’s Directory please contact Sue on 58047061.

Staff Movements

Hayley Cosgrove will be the Relieving Assistant Principal while Sue Gown in on leave. Jan Maher will be joining our Preschool staff during May and will be teaching Sue’s students during her absence.

Mrs Hayley Cosgrove
Relieving Assistant Principal
Preschool

Mrs Jan Maher
who will be teaching
Mrs Gown’s class
Birthdays

*Congratulations to the following Preschool students who have a Birthday in April.*

- David C 6th
- Grace M. 24th
- Jordan G 26th
- Bailey T. 27th
- Jock K. 27th
- Sydney 28th

Mother’s Day

These packs should arrive at your place shortly. Mother’s day is on Sunday 12 May. We ask that you put the preschool unit that you are currently completing aside from the 6th -10th May so that your preschooler can participate in this unit. This may the perfect opportunity to get dads involved in your child’s preschool program. This will provide dads with an opportunity to help their preschooler make a range of gifts to surprise their mothers on her special day.

Holidays

We trust that you all have an enjoyable two-week break from the 12th April till the 29th April. This is a great time to spend with your students revisiting and consolidating some of the activities that they have already completed in their preschool programs. It is also a great time to spend reading some of the many books sent in their preschool boxes.

Have an enjoyable holiday and we look forward to working with you all again next term.

*Sue, Robyn and Hayley*

*William and Sydney preparing lunch*
HSC

Tertiary Information Day will be held at Dubbo Senior College Campus on Wednesday 8 May from 9am – 1pm.

Most universities in NSW will be represented plus TAFE, Police, Defence Forces an many private college providers. Cost is $5.

If you are thinking of studying at the tertiary level in the future you should try to attend to research and discuss options.

HSC Seminars will be held June 6-7 in Dubbo. Lectures will be delivered mostly by people who have marked or helped to set HSC exams. This provides an opportunity for you to optimise your HSC performance.

All HSC students should have a TFN, bank account and a resume. Contact me regarding Tax File Numbers (TFN) application and resume information if required.

Information Received

UTAS – Undergraduate Course Guide 2013/2014 and scholarship brochure.
University of Canberra – Course Guide 2013
University of Technology Sydney (UTS) – Courses and Careers 2014
University of New South Wales (UNSW) Course Guides 2014 - Law, Engineering, Business, Science, Medicine, ADFA, Built Environment, COFA, Arts & Social Sciences, Scholarships, Nura Gili.

Open Days

University of New England (UNE)
Friday 3 May 2013
Check out the uni courses, meet lecturers and get a feel for campus life. Friday is your day to explore UNE and find out everything you need to make an informed decision about your future.

Saturday 4 May 2013
On Saturday your UNE experience will be more personal. If you're looking for information on courses, distance education, postgraduate studies, or simply can’t make Friday, come and join us on Saturday.

www.une.edu.au/openday
Also...

**UAC is now on Twitter**

UAC has joined the twittersphere and is now tweeting at [http://twitter.com/UACinfo](http://twitter.com/UACinfo) Students can get up to date information and reminders such as closing dates and offer rounds by following us as well as by liking UAC’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/universitiesadmissionscentre](http://www.facebook.com/universitiesadmissionscentre)

UAC also has a new YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/UACinfo](http://www.youtube.com/user/UACinfo) with videos on how to apply, changing preferences and explaining the ATAR.

**Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT)**

In 2013, UMAT will be held at various locations across Australia on:

Wednesday 31 July 2013

Registrations for UMAT open in April and close on Friday 7 June 2013. Late registrations close on Friday 21 June 2013. Fees apply.

Registration must be completed online at [www.umat.acer.edu.au](http://www.umat.acer.edu.au)

All enquiries concerning UMAT should be directed to the UMAT office:

UMAT Office
ACER
Private Bag 55
CAMBERWELL VIC 3124
Tel: (03) 8508 7643
Email: umat@acer.edu.au
Website: [www.umat.acer.edu.au](http://www.umat.acer.edu.au)

*Ian Smith*

**Careers Advisor**

02 5804 7067

ian.douglas.smith@det.nsw.edu.au
We all hope that you enjoy the school holidays.

**NAPLAN**
Families, with students in Years 3 and 5, have been sent letters regarding the planning for the implementation of the 2013 Naplan. It is important that the school is informed of your decision as soon as possible. Communication is vital and we ask parents to keep us informed as we will keep them informed.

**Satellite**
We have had an amazing term in regard to Satellite with the installation of React. I know I have said it before, but once again a HUGE thankyou to all our geographically isolated families for your patience and understanding during the transition period. Everyone is slowly getting out of old habits and learning about and implementing the new features of the new system. The staff have been working closely together supporting each other and sharing ideas. I acknowledge that it has not been smooth sailing all the way. It is important that when an issue happens at the home site that the HelpDesk is notified. All calls are being monitored to see if the issue is widespread or an isolated case.

**Communicating with the school** – Remember we are only a phone call (or email) away if you need to discuss an issue with your child’s program. Sometimes we are not at our desk so please leave a message – we all have voice mail – and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

**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.

**Term 1 Holidays** – Term 1 ends on Friday 12 April. Term 2 commences on Monday 29 April. Primary Staff Professional Learning will take place on this Monday and Tuesday 30 April. All primary staff will be involved in Professional Learning with a focus on the New Australian Curriculum. This makes it a short week and thus we may not be in a position to make our regular phone calls. There will be no satellite this week EXCEPT for our Assembly on Thursday at 9am.

We wish you all an enjoyable and restful break. And I think I have found the perfect quote:


Steve Maraboli

Until next time………………The Primary Staff
Students Online is your source for personal information about your senior secondary study, from year 10 to year 12.

You are now able to activate your Students Online account.

Activate your account and check that you are enrolled in the correct courses, and that your contact details are accurate. If you find any errors, let your Principal or Year Adviser know immediately so they can be corrected.

Your personal HSC exam timetable will also be available to view in your account on **Monday 29 April**.

**How to activate your account**

Have a pen ready to record your log in details, which includes your Student Number and PIN.

You will need to submit your given name(s), your family name, school and date of birth.

You will be emailed an activation link. The link will take you into your account where you will create your six-digit PIN.

You will use your PIN with your BOS Student Number to log in each time.

**Activate my account now!**

If you cannot click on the link above, try copying and pasting this link into your browser’s address bar:

https://studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/go/access/
Welcome to Autumn – a vibrant colourful season!

During the coming weeks look for the changing foliage as the leaves change colours. Enjoy the last flush of roses and watch as the gum blossoms attract native birds.

Are you collecting wood ready for winter fires? Ensure you are not disturbing the habitat of native birds and animals.

smoke ALARMS! As daylight saving ends, it is a timely reminder to replace the 9-Volt batteries in all your smoke alarms. Have a fire plan in place for your family home.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? It’s a great time to be outdoors. Start planting bulbs and annuals for a spring flowering garden.

Plant some trees!

Get that compost turned over or start a fresh one.

When pruning, take cuttings from shrubs and plant them into pots ready to share with others.

Go hiking in the national parks.

2013 Calendar of Events

International Year of Water Cooperation
International Year of Quinoa

April 13-21 Australia Heritage Week
April 18 World Heritage Day
May 7-9 Australia Water 2013
Look Who’s Been Caught Reading

Jennifer...

How many books do you read a year?

1560

When is your favourite time to read?

At night and the middle of the day after school

What do you think makes a good book?

Lots of drawings and exciting problems... mysteries!
A wonderful evening at the Lazy River Estate, Dubbo

PDHPE

Above and Below are work samples by Year 9 student Tiffany.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE FOR COMPUTER AND PHONES!