Hello Everyone

I have been very fortunate to return to school at the start of this term for a few weeks. During this time the school has held two successful camps - the preschool, primary camp and the NAPLAN camp. It has been great being able to catch up with students and a few parents as well.

During the Week 3 preschool/primary camp staff were invited to visit the classroom on wheels catering for the travelling show children, who are enrolled with Dubbo School of Distance Education (DSODE) and are in Dubbo for a few weeks with the annual Dubbo Show. This classroom set up is very impressive! Being able to see students in the classroom and shown how they are able to engage in educational programs was interesting. It was great to meet Mandy, who provides such great support to the students and links them with their teachers here.

In week 4 a great group of talented, engaging and respectful students attended camp! They participated in a variety of interesting activities including creative ventures to submit items for the Dubbo Show, athletics events at the upgraded Barden Park Dubbo Athletics facility, public speaking and sitting for the NAPLAN tests. The teachers and support staff have demonstrated once again their vast commitment and energies, ensuring that the students have had an enjoyable and productive week. At this point I would also like to acknowledge and thank Jan Duncan for the work she continually undertakes to make sure the students are well fed.

I wish to acknowledge the great contributions Melissa Halpin has made to DSODE firstly as teacher, then Head Teacher Science and Deputy Principal. Melissa has fulfilled a wonderful career in public education and through her strengths as both teacher and leader she made a positive difference to the lives of many students and teachers. We wish her well in retirement and thank her for her work here at DSODE.

Congratulations to Debbie Murray who has been selected on merit for the Deputy Principal position, vacated earlier this year by Melissa Halpin. During my leave Debbie Murray has been relieving as Principal and Jenny Donovan relieving as Deputy Principal. They have been doing a fantastic job and will continue for the next three months as I need to take further leave. They have ensured that the school planning process was successfully undertaken using the Department of Education’s new 2015 – 2017 planning processes. An initial outcome is a more integrated and collaborative 2015 School Plan, which has been published on the school’s website and is to be developed further and implemented over the next three years.

This week the 2014 Annual School Report was also finalised and has been published on the school’s website. Thank you to all who contributed items for this report on school activities that were held during 2014.

Best wishes to everyone and I will return early September, hopefully able to run again!

Chris Mason
Hi Everyone,

Term 2 has begun with a number of activities that have kept staff and students very busy already. Our first day back for Staff Development Day on Monday 20th April provided all staff an excellent opportunity to listen to renowned public speaker, Maggie Dent. Maggie addressed an audience of approximately 250 teachers from DSODE, Buninyong and surrounding small schools. She spoke about a number of issues which affect the education of children, the changes to technology and the way that we communicate, educating boys, teaching resilience and building self-esteem for young people. If as parents or supervisors you gain an opportunity to listen to Maggie at a parent-focused seminar, I would highly recommend and encourage attending.

Chris Mason has already mentioned our student participation in the preschool/Primary camp in week 3 and the 7-10 camp in week 4. Students and teachers participated in some great activities which you will see throughout this edition of the newsletter. NAPLAN tests were conducted during camp in Week 4. On Friday, the tests were mailed out to all other students in Yr 3, 5, 7 & 9 for tests to be conducted at home. If you wish to have your child’s NAPLAN results marked and recorded officially, then these papers need to be returned to the school no later than the 27th May.

Chris has also mentioned two documents that have recently been posted on our school website. The ASR (Annual School Report) gives you a report on what the school has achieved in 2014 and a summary of the past 3-year School Plan. The other document, the School Plan 2015-17, is a result of the collaborative planning that has been informed by parents, students and staff to determine our directions for the next three years. Please take the time to have a look at these reports as it clearly outlines our strategic directions which involve the education of your children at DSODE.

There is still an opportunity for parents/supervisors to be involved in the secondary parent forums held via teleconference during the term. We would love to hear from you if you feel as though you have some ideas to contribute, or to participate in hearing about what our school is planning throughout the year. Please ring the school office if you would like to be part of this important forum and we will get you involved.

This week we are looking forward to the Music camp for three days, followed by the Languages Camp in Week 6, and the Year 11-12 Residential in Week 7. Teachers have been very busy organising the activities for students, including the HSC Seminars for all the Western Area Schools which will be held on the 4-5th June at the Dubbo RSL. If you have a student undertaking the HSC this year, please encourage their attendance at these valuable seminars.

I am looking forward to reporting on these events for the next newsletter.

All the best,

Debbie Murray  Deputy Principal
Healthy Kids Bus Stop

Royal Far West was delighted to deliver the Healthy Kids Bus Stop program to families at the Dubbo School of Distance Education earlier this month.

On the 5th and 6th May, the ‘Bus Stop’ delivered free, comprehensive health checks to children at the school, which included a child health check, hearing screening, dental check, fine and gross motor skill development screening and a language and speech development check.

Royal Far West CEO Lindsay Cane said that this particular ‘Bus Stop’ was a significant one because it was aligned with the School’s Preschool – Year 6 Camp.

“Many of the children who were involved are not permanently based in one area of the state or are from very remote parts of the state. We wanted to make sure that these children didn’t miss out on benefiting from the Healthy Kids Bus Stop and had the same opportunity as other NSW country kids to access the program,” she said.

Kellie Turnbull, whose family lives outside of Brewarrina and whose daughter participated in the program said it was a wonderful experience. “It’s just an excellent idea,” she said. “It’s fantastic that rural NSW families like us, can get easy access to these kinds of services.”

Royal Far West staff were very excited to meet with families during the delivery of the program and were also delighted to have the opportunity to sit down with Assistant Principal Jenny Ballhausen to find out more about the work of the Dubbo School of Distance Education.

The Healthy Kids Bus Stop program is a whole-of-child health screening, assessment and pathway to care program for children aged between 3-5 years old. It aims to improve the health and well-being of children living in rural and remote communities through early detection of lifestyle risk factors, delayed development or illness. Importantly, a coordinated referral pathway is developed for each child at the conclusion of the program.

Visit www.royalfarwest.org.au for more information.
Our preschool artist of this newsletter is Nicolas. He created this beautiful spider in a web as part of the ‘Nursery Rhymes’ unit.

Congratulations Nicolas!

Look who’s been caught reading!
New Picture Books to Borrow

**Muddle & Mo** by Nicki Slade Robinson

Muddle is a loveable, slightly confused yet enthusiastic little duckling who asks lots and lots of questions. Mo is a long-suffering, not very adventurous white goat who has lots of patience.

They are best friends, but Muddle is rather confused about what type of animals they both are. Fortunately, during the course of their walk together Mo helps Muddle get his duck identity sorted out.

**Teddy took the Train** by Nicki Greenberg

Dot loves Teddy, and Teddy loves Dot. So when Teddy goes missing, she misses him a lot!

But Teddy is a brave bear. What wonderful adventures will he have when he rides away on the train? Will there be picnics? Will there be parties? Will he have time for a nap? And most importantly, will he find his way home to Dot – or will she never see him again?

**How big is Too Small?** by Jane Godwin and Andrew Joyner

My brother was making a game with a ball, bouncing and throwing up high on a wall, when I asked to join in, he straightened up tall and I knew what he’d say, he said, ‘you’re too small.’

Poor Sam! He always gets left out of his brother’s games. But one day when the big boys leave him out again, Sam gets to thinking… How big is too small?

**Stories for Simon** by Lisa Miranda Sarzin and Lauren Briggs

A beautiful story of acknowledging the past and working together for a brighter future.

When Simon unwraps a beautiful boomerang wrapped in an old newspaper, he learns of the national apology to the Stolen Generations and how can saying ‘sorry’ help?

Through a new friendship and a magnificent collection of stories, Simon gains an endorsement from Adam Goodes, Australian of the Year 2014.
Bogtrotter by Margaret Wild and Judith Rossell

Bogtrotter doesn’t ever stop running, until the day he meets the frog. Every morning Bogtrotter runs across the bog, up the bog, down the bog and around the bog until it’s time to go home. Sometimes he wishes things would change, but he doesn’t know how or what or why. Until one afternoon, when he picks a flower for the first time in his life.

The Eagle Inside by Jack Manning Bancroft and Bronwyn Bancroft

Jimmy is the smallest bird at school. Surrounded by big, tough birds, he feels different in every way and is certain he will never fit in. But when Eagle reminds him that being small isn’t necessarily a weakness, Jimmy discovers how being different can also be a strength.

The Race to the Beach by Anna Shuttlewood

On your mark, get set, GO! The zoo animals are off for a summer’s day at the beach! Find out which zoo animal will win the race to the beach in this fun and delightfully illustrated picture book.

Kookoo Kookaburra by Gregg Dreise

Kookoo is a kind and well-loved kookaburra who is famous for entertaining the other bush creatures with his funny stories. One day Kookoo runs out of kind stories to tell, and he turns to teasing and making fun of the other animals. Refusing to listen to the sage advice of his uncle, Kookoo finds himself alone and ignored by his friends. When he listens to the sound of his own laughter, it is an unhappy sound. Finally he remembers his uncle’s words “kindness is like a boomerang – if you throw it often, it comes back often...”
2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Years Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home-schools. Participation by schools and students is voluntary.

The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

As the PRC website is the main way to communicate with schools and parents, it is important to watch the website for information, updates and helpful tips about the Challenge. Please use the ‘Refresh’ button regularly on your navigation bar to ensure you are viewing the latest version of the website.

When does the Challenge start?
The Challenge runs from 2 March to 21 August 2015. Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by 21 August (11:59pm).

How will the Challenge be coordinated in our school?
Each school participating in the Challenge has a unique PRC username and password used by the designated coordinator (Mr Strain) to register the school and students, and verify the students’ reading records.

Students must be registered before books can be recorded online. So if your child is interested in participating you can let me know your intentions in an email or telephone call and I will register your child’s name in the challenge.

How many books read will be required to complete the challenge?
Students must complete a set amount to meet the Challenge, see below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books needed to complete the Challenge</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge</th>
<th>Maximum number of personal choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklist selection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<td>3-4</td>
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<td>3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<td>7-9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>7-9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Happy Reading!

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

Greetings from the Library
This term we welcome Danielle Eggleton to the Learning Support Team (LST). Danielle has been employed to assist the LST in the completion of Personalised Individual Education Plans (PIEPS) and to help the LST prepare for the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) Census which will be conducted on 7th August 2015. Danielle has a lot of experience working with students with identified needs and we are very excited and pleased to have her on the team!

The LST continues to meet weekly to discuss new referrals and conduct progress reviews of identified students. We are also working very hard to prepare for the NCCD census. Along with this newsletter you will have received a Carers Fact Sheet. The information in this fact sheet will help you to understand what the NCCD census is about and the process involved. Later this term the parents of identified students will receive a letter about the census, this is an ‘opt out’ letter that only needs to be returned if you DO NOT want your child included in the census. If you have any questions about the census please contact the school.

Kristina Powell and Julie Messner

THE MASK

Year 7 student Jordan is proudly showing us his art project.

This was made for his teacher, Mrs Britten, on a recent field service visit.
We hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful Mother’s Day and enjoyed some special gifts created by your busy pre-schoolers. We look forward to seeing some of the results and hearing about the special things they did to celebrate their wonderful Mum on Mother’s Day.

Last week was a fantastic week at school; an excellent opportunity to meet with other DE families and develop a sense of belonging to our school community. We had five excited pre-schoolers join us for our P-6 camp. The children thoroughly enjoyed the theme of Earth and Space and all the activities on offer. It was a busy week with a focus on investigative play and exploring our surroundings. One highlight was exploring and playing with our huge dirt pile, but the children also enjoyed painting, story time, an outdoors obstacle course, constructing stars on sticks and using a large box for dramatic and imaginative play. The box became a rocket and a space ship piloted by capable young navigators taking youngsters on moon walks and adventures into space! Kinder Gym at PCYC was another highlight of the week. The children developed their gross motor skills, fine motor skills and body strength through a great range of well developed activities. After exhausting themselves in the foam pit they went home for a well-earned rest! Thank you so much to Mrs Hoy, Mrs Milling, Ms Lawler, Mrs Cosgrove, Ms Ballhausen and Mrs White for their enthusiastic leadership of the preschool program during the camp and for the support from participating parents.
The P-6 camp was also an opportunity for our pre-schoolers to participate in the Royal Far West Healthy Bus assessments. This service was well patronized by those families attending and a wonderful opportunity to check overall health of your children. The clinicians in attendance were an amazing group of people and really valued the time to work with your children. Follow up reports and recommendations will be organised and mailed by Royal Far West as soon as they are processed.

In addition to our camp, our Preschool teachers will be visiting the Emmaville area this term. They will contact you regarding your planned home visit. Just like camps, home visits are a valuable part of our preschool program as they provide an excellent opportunity to build stronger relationships with both our students and their families.

Happy Birthday!

This month we wish Marleah a very happy birthday for the 5th May.

Please remember to contact your teacher or Kristina or Jenny with any questions or concerns.

Robyn, Alison, Kristina and Jenny
It has come to our attention that some of our Preschool students still prefer to sit in this position. We hope that you find this article interesting.

**What’s wrong with W-sitting?**

The W-position is one of many sitting positions that most children move into and out of while playing. Why is it presumed to be OK for some children and forbidden for others?

When playing in other sitting postures, children develop the trunk control and rotation necessary for the midline crossing (reaching across the body) and separation of the two sides of the body. These skills are needed for a child to develop refined motor skills and hand dominance.

W-sitting is not recommended for everyone. Many typically developing children do move through this position during play, but all parents should be aware that the excessive use of this position during the growing years can lead to future orthopaedic problems.

**Why do Children W-sit?**

Every child needs to play and children who are challenged like to play as much as anybody. They don’t want to worry about keeping their balance when they’re concentrating on a toy. Children who are frequent W-sitters often rely on this position for added trunk and hip stability to allow easier toy manipulation and play. When in the W-sit position, a child is planted in place or ‘fixed’ through the trunk. This allows for play with toys in front, but doesn’t permit trunk rotation and lateral weight shifts (twisting and turning to reach toys on either side). Trunk rotation and weight shifts over one side allowing a child to maintain balance while running outside or playing on the playground and is necessary for crossing the midline while writing and doing table top activities.

It’s easy to see why this position appeals to so many children, but continued reliance on W-sitting can prevent a child from developing more mature movement patterns necessary for higher-level skills.

W-sitting should always be discouraged. This position is contra-indicated (and could be detrimental) for a child if one of the following exists:

- There are orthopaedic concerns. W-sitting can predispose a child to hip dislocation, so if there is a history of hip dysplasia, or a concern has been raised in the past, this position should be avoided.
• If there is muscle tightness, W-sitting will aggravate it. This position places the hamstrings, hip adductors, internal rotators and heel cords in an extremely shortened range. If a child is prone to tightness or contractures, encourage other patterns of sitting.

• There are neurologic concerns/developmental delays. If a child has increased muscle tone (hypertonic, spasticity), W-sitting will feed into the abnormal patterns of movement trying to be avoided (by direction of the child’s therapist). Using other sitting postures will aid in the development of more desirable movement patterns. W-sitting can also discourage a child from developing hand preference. Because no trunk rotation can take place when W-sitting, a child is less inclined to reach across the body and instead picks up objects on the right with the right hand and those placed to the left with the left hand.

Try sitting in various positions. Notice how you got there, got out, and what it took to balance. Many of the movement components you are trying to encourage in a child are used when getting in and out of sitting.

Transfers in and out of a W-position however, are accomplished through straight-plane (directly forward and backward) movement only. No trunk rotation, weight shifting, or righting reactions are necessary to assume or maintain W-sitting.

**How to prevent W-sitting?**

The most effective (and easiest) way to prevent a problem with W-sitting is to prevent it from becoming a problem in the first place. Anticipate and catch it before the child even learns to W-sit. Children should be placed and taught to assume alternative sitting positions. If a child discovers W-sitting anyway, help them to move to another sitting position, or say “Fix your legs”. It’s very important to be as consistent as possible. When playing with a child on the floor, hold their knees and feet together when kneeling or creeping on hands and knees. It will be impossible to get into a W-position from there. The child will either sit to one side, or sit back on their feet; they can then be helped to sit over to one side from there (try to encourage sitting over both the right and left sides). These patterns demand a certain amount of trunk rotation and lateral weight shift and should fit with a child’s therapy goals.

If a child is unable to sit alone in any position other than a W, talk with a therapist about supportive seating or alternative positions such as front and side lying. Trial sitting against the couch it may be one alternative; a small table and chair is another?

The therapist(s) working with the child will have many other ideas.

*About the Author:* Jean McNamara is with Helping Hands School in Clifton Park, NY.
Tax File Numbers

As of the 1st January the Australian Tax Office has changed the process for students wishing to apply for a Tax File Number. Schools can no longer give out Tax File Number application forms. Students now need to apply online and then visit an Australia Post Office to verify their identity.

How can students apply for a TFN?

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Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ’QC22604’

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Make sure you are checking local papers and approaching potential employers for positions. Check any apprenticeship providers in your town, for example in Dubbo Skillset. Once you find a provider you need to register with them so that they can support you in finding an Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

Year 12

Make sure that you are keeping up to date with your studies and that you are handing in all of your assessment tasks. You should also be starting to look at and think about which direction you want to take after school. If you are wanting to attend university, you need to be starting to look at which course(s) you are interested in and which universities offer them, as well as what the ATAR was for the course in 2014.

Below is a list of institutions and the dates they are holding information sessions or open days.

Whitehouse Institute of Design Summer School Holiday Workshops 2016

5 January 2016

Illustration for Fashion, Techniques for Interior Illustration, Image Styling, Sewing. Choose from 2,3,5 and 10-day Workshops. For bookings & information please email enquiry@whitehouse-design.edu.au or phone 1300 551 433

Event Management/Travel &Tourism/Sports Business Career Taster Days at Macleay College in July

Find out more here http://goo.gl/feB6FW
ADFA Open Day
29 August, 9.00am to 4.00pm
Northcott Drive in Campbell, ACT
Contact: +61 2 6268 8201 or student.recruitment@adfa.edu.au
http://www.openday.adfa.edu.au/about.html

University of Wollongong Open Day
15 August
Northfields Avenue, Wollongong

Hunter and Central Coast School Leavers Expos for Students with Disability
Central Coast 25 June, 9.00am to 1.00pm, Mingara Recreation Club
Hunter 23 July, 9.00am to 1.00pm, Hunter Stadium
Post school options for students with a disability or ongoing medical conditions.
https://www.facebook.com/HCCExpos

Psychology Info Day at Southern Cross University
17 June
Year 11 & 12 students are invited to attend Get Psyched at SCU Info Day at the
Coffs Harbour campus. Students & teachers will have the opportunity to participate
in interactive workshops & laboratory activities, meet with academic staff & current
students to discuss all things psychology. Contact ellen.fleeton@scu.edu.au

If you would like more information about careers that may interest you have a
look at the schools careers website (www.dsodecareers.com), the myfuture website
or Jobjump website. The school’s password for the Jobjump website is magpies.
Alternatively you can contact Mr Quayle on (02) 5804 7079 or email him at
timothy.quayle@det.nsw.edu.au
During Week 10 of Term 1 the Hospitality students of both Emmaville and Bundarra Central Schools joined together for a two day workshop at Bundarra to complete an Assessment task.

The Preliminary and HSC students spent their time undertaking a number of tasks to prepare for completing the assessment. The students prepared a Rustic Chicken tart and salad as a takeaway meal for customers.

The students spent the first day undertaking all of the preparation work in order to be able to complete the task on the second day. For a few of the students who are new to the Hospitality Industry it was a lot of practice working out how to do the precision cuts on the vegetables both for the salad and the vegetables for the tarts. In Hospitality we teach students to follow the Cordon Bleu cooking methods and they have to learn the French terms for the ways to cut food for certain recipes.

In Term 2 the students will be coming to our Senior Residential and will be undertaking more practical tasks that will see them learning even more new methods of cookery and food presentation.

Cheers,
Mrs Leigo
During the Junior Residential, Year 8 made a serving tray using wood technology. The teachers involved were Kim Hopkins, Dale Faulkner, Brenda Colliver and Alan Boland.

Left: Trays drying after being lacquered

Above: The completed task

Below: The end product
Term 2 has been a busy term! We are just on half way with staff about to start writing Semester 1 reports and planning for Term 3 packing. To assist with this, we remind supervisors about returning work regularly to school and if there are any issues or concerns to please ring and talk to us.

**TERM 2 RESIDENTIAL**

A very busy week of activities last week for our eligible students. As well as many opportunities to work with staff and peers, the students had a busy time:

1. visiting the PCYC for a gymnastics session
2. a night excursion to the observatory.
3. Stage 3 visited West Dubbo Public School for an all day debating workshop.
4. The Royal Far West had the Healthy Kids Bus Stop visiting. This was an excellent and valuable opportunity to have a full health screen. There is a separate report from the Royal Far West in regard to this. If at any time you have a concern about your child’s physical or mental health or development, it is important to follow it up without delay. Your GP should be the first contact as at times referral to a specialist may be required and, sadly, this may take time. If you have concerns with your child’s educational progress, it is important to speak firstly with your child’s teacher or one of the Assistant Principals. Adjustments to their program or referral to the school counsellor could be made depending on the outcome of discussions.

**NAPLAN**

Some of our students recently completed their NAPLAN papers. This is one of many diagnostic tools used by teachers to help assess student progress and future focus areas when programming. If you are in Year 3 or 5 and completing the papers at home, please do them and return to school asap as we need them here by **27 May**.

**NEW STUDENTS**

We have had a huge number of new students since the start of the year. We have also had a number leave (our enrolment is currently 105 but can change weekly!!) Since mid Term 1 we have welcomed Angus, Ashton, Corey, Erin, Hudson, Jessica, Kaitlin, Kane, Kelly, Kennedy, Lachlan, Sarah, Stacie, Tom, Ylee and Zane.

**EMAILS**

Please encourage your students to check their emails on a regular basis. Once every couple of days would be ideal. We hear that some families make a habit of checking their emails once a day following a satellite lesson. This is a great habit to be in. We also ask that parents check their emails at least once a week as this is a major form of communication between the home and school. Generally, Kinder – Year 2 students’ mail will also be sent to the parents whereas students in Years 3-6 are expected to be more independent and the mail is sent only to their address.
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. It is also a school procedure that **ALL** students and families **MUST** sign in at the front office. The front staff will then ring down for your teacher/s to come and meet you in the foyer.

SUPERVISOR’S ROLE
We recognise that the role of the Supervisor can, at times, be fun, demanding, interesting, rewarding and even a struggle. If at any time, you feel snowed under, please do not hesitate to talk to us about ways that it could be improved. After all, *you in the home and we here in Dubbo are a team to ensure the best education for your child*. We would like to request a couple of things to happen from all our Supervisors.

1. **PLEASE** be our eyes and give some feedback on the weekly return sheet, sign and date it when returning the set’s work. Feedback and communication are critical for us to ensure that the program is appropriate to your child’s needs.

2. At this mid-point in Term 2, we are finding that some of our families are ‘falling behind’ in their programmed work. It is important to stay ‘on track’, but we recognise that things can happen that are beyond your immediate control. This is where it is important to talk to us so any necessary adjustments can be made. We are bound to work within the curriculum as set by the Board of Studies but we can still be creative and flexible in our approach. If you are having any difficulties, please ring so we can all work together. By 29 May (end of week 6) it would be expected that for Australian based students, we should have physically received at least up to Set 2.4 or Week 15 for our NSTSC students.

MAGGIE DENT
We were incredibly fortunate to have Maggie Dent as our guest speaker for our Term 2 Staff Development Day. She is incredibly dynamic, practical and inspirational. If she is ever in your area speaking, I (along with all the staff) can highly recommend her. Here at school we all respect Maggie Dent. As quoted from her website *Maggie Dent is an author, educator, and parenting and resilience specialist with a particular interest in the early years and adolescence. Maggie is a passionate advocate for the healthy, commonsense raising of children in order to strengthen families and communities. She has a broad perspective and range of experience that shapes her work, a slightly irreverent sense of humour and a depth of knowledge based on modern research and ancient wisdom that she shares passionately in a commonsense way. If you have a spare 30mins and looking for some ideas that may help you at home, have a look at her website: [http://www.maggiedent.com](http://www.maggiedent.com)*
BEWARE BEWARE Computer Scams

We have had parents ringing us with concerns that they are being ‘harassed’ by callers (usually with a foreign accent) insisting that there is a virus in their computer. They ask you to turn it on so they can talk you through a download. BEWARE - THIS IS A SCAM. Do not take notice of any of these callers as you are the only person who can detect a virus and then you should contact the Helpdesk on 1800 338 737.

MYALL MAIL

The Myall Mail is our annual school magazine and includes an overview of school activities, achievements and students and a selection of their work. For the primary section, we would like a photo and a piece of work from each student included. We ask parents to assist us in this regard, especially travellers and students who have not visited the school, to ensure that we have a ‘head and shoulders’ photo of your student. Teachers will often choose a piece of work for inclusion but if students have a particular piece they would like can you please send us either the original work, an electronic copy or a photograph if it is art work. Please send one in ASAP so we can start collating.

PHOTOS AND PRIVACY

We often like to include photos of our students in this newsletter (which comes out three times a term), our School Magazine, our website and other publications. If you have a concern with your student’s name and/or image being published, please ensure that the school is aware. An email to your class teacher is the best method for this.

AND FINALLY

Food for thought…….
‘If you only do what you know you can do – you never do very much’ (Tom Krause).

Cheers for now VD, SD, AK, AH, ME, LW, KL, HC, MC, AL, RM, RH, AM, KP & JB
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Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at [ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604']

Private Vehicle Conveyance Claims

If your child is in Preschool or Year 7 and you intend claiming the subsidy for driving your child to a school camp, you will need to fill in a PVC Application Form.

Even if a parent has completed an Application Form when their child was in Primary it does not automatically carry through to Year 7.

If you would like a form sent or emailed to you please contact Liz Heilbronn, email elizabeth.heilbronn@det.nsw.edu.au or phone 02 5804 7009.
Year 7 and 8 have just completed the topic “Feed the Birds”. The students were given the following design brief:

“You are to design and make a bird feeder which can be hung from a convenient place, for example a pole or a pergola. It must have a place to hold the bird seed and a place for the birds to land. It must keep the seed dry and hang without tipping over.

You are not allowed to spend any money to buy construction materials. You have five weeks to finish the project.”

Along with the bird feeder, students were also asked to complete a design folio. The design folio records all the steps of the design process.

Pictured are some of the bird feeder projects.

*Brenda Colliver*
Students in years 7-10 worked together to submit various pieces of work into the Dubbo Show.

On Monday evening the house groups created four scarecrows, from which two were selected for entry. “Borris the scarecrow” claimed first in the Years 7-12 competition, with a Highly Commended being awarded to “Bus Man Scarecrow”.

Each student also participated in card and gift tag making activities on Monday evening. The entries did really well, winning a bunch of firsts, seconds, highly commended and encouragement awards!

Birdfeeders which were made as part of Year 7 and 8 Technology were entered into the Waste to Art section, with Isa and Elizabeth claiming first and second in their section.

Year 9 Textiles students Alison and Brook were very successful with their patchwork, claiming first and second in the 7-9 Craft section.

The school also entered some flowers from our garden, achieving firsts in the iris and native flower classes.

All students are commended on their efforts, and are encouraged to consider entering pieces of work in their own local shows throughout the year.
Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care

Since 1972 The United Nations Environment Programme has promoted World Environment Day. It encourages positive action for the environment and care of the earth. Individually we have the power to become agents of change.

On June 5 consider what you can do differently to care for the Earth and the natural environment.

www.unep.org/wed/wed2015/

The 2015 theme for World Oceans Day is ‘Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet’. For more information - check the website www.worldoceansday.org

For further info about Global Wind Day check the website www.globalwindday.org