FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A week back and we all feel like our feet are yet to touch the ground. Having said this our school has settled exceptionally well for both returning and new students who have quickly established a focus, with their new teachers, on their study for this year.

CLASS NUMBERS AND POSSIBLE CLASS REORGANISATION

As is always the case, at the beginning of each year, some reorganisation can occur as our enrolment settles. It looks as though we have more than achieved our predictive enrolment of 607 children which will ensure we maintain our 24 classroom teachers and potentially gain a 25th. Student numbers in our Year 3 and our Year 4 areas are seeing us hosting some discussions with teachers about how we can most effectively meet the needs of children in this area. If there is any reorganisation of classes it will occur in this year 3/4 area with all other classes in the school remaining as they are. If any changes need to occur parents in each of these year levels will be notified within the week.

NEW BUILDING PROGRAM

New visitors to the school so far this year would have confirmed that most of our Building Program is complete. We are currently using the rooms refurbished in our Prep area and all rooms in our new EAL/D facility. The main refurbishment of the main amenities block is complete providing a much updated amenities facility for our children.

Although the music building is complete we are unable to get in there until they complete the construction of screens. This we trust will be within the next week. Unfortunately the new P/3 playground although appearing to be complete is still requiring work and we hope to have that open soon.

When all our buildings are complete we will be hosting some open times to share and show them off with our community.

DON’T BE LATE FOR SCHOOL

When a child is 30 minutes late for school each day they miss half a day per week of school, they miss four weeks of school per year and nearly one and a half years of schooling in their life. Beside the fact that lateness is disruptive to individual children because they have to get organised and catch up with the class, it is also disruptive to the teacher and the class who have begun their day on time. For the sake of children's education I ask that all children are at school on time ready to commence their day which is 8.45am.

SMOKING BAN WITHIN 5 METRES

In a future Cooee we will publish the full details of the new regulations which ban smoking within 5 metres of school grounds. This is not 5 metres of entrances it is 5 metres from any fence on our school grounds.

Until Next Week

Mark
You should reflect from time to time on the important stuff you do. Personally, I think activities such as these are Parenting opportunities: to deepen a sense of purpose, and developing a sense of belonging to his family through contribution.

Here are five ideas to get more talk going:

1. Share conversations through meals
2. Regularly talk about news items that would interest kids.
3. Practise shoulder parenting by talking in the car, or while you are active together.
4. Through providing It’s easy to be dismissive of the provider role that we play, but the psychologist Maslow reminded us that "I love you" are three simple words that can get caught in our throats.
5. Write a letter and post it to your child.

If the score is low in WORDS, commit to introducing more conversation into your family life.

Score yourself out of ten against each of these four different ways of showing love.

Here’s a task.

A special thanks to all parents who take the time each week to sit down and talk to their child/ren about the week’s Value and focus.

Any Concerns

Our number one priority is the happiness and safety of every child at Darling Heights State School. Children who are feeling happy and safe are receptive learners. If you have concerns about your child, please contact the school, as ‘problems’ are far more easily attended to now than in the last week of school!

We are only too aware that at times parents tend to think their concerns are trivial and you debate with yourself whether you should contact the school. Our response is that NOTHING is too trivial when it comes to the education of YOUR child. So if you have concerns or want clarification, please contact us. I will ask you, however, to consider the following points:

- Teaching staff’s number one priority is teaching the children and therefore if you arrive unannounced, it may not be convenient or possible to release them from teaching duties to speak to you. It is always best to arrange a meeting time.
- If you want to meet with me, it is generally best to make an appointment or you can contact me on 46 368 333 if you have any concerns or questions.

James Leach
Deputy Principal

MICHAEL GROSE PARENTING BLOG

In 10 Conversations you must have with your son, author Tim Hawkes suggests there are 4 ways that parents show love to their children:

1. Through words - Hawkes writes, “A son (child) dispatched to school with the reminder that he is loved is a son (child) equipped to withstand the emotional and social attrition wrought by a world given to withering putdowns.” Hawkes is so right, but ‘I love you’ are three simple words that can get caught in our throats.
2. Through deeds - Hawkes says, “For a parent to be congruent with their son (child), there needs to be a congruency between that which is heard and that which is seen.” For some children a parent baking a cake for them is an act of love. They like the fact that you made it for them more than the cake itself!
3. Through presence - “In a time-poor society that is given to showing love through the gift of material possessions, the greatest demonstration of love a parent can give is to offer their child the gift of time,” writes Hawkes. Effective parenting is about choices, and choosing to be a presence in the lives of kids is an act of love that may not be appreciated at the time but can have a profound impact.
4. Through providing It’s easy to be dismissive of the provider role that we play, but the psychologist Maslow reminded us that unless a child’s basic needs -food, shelter and protection – are met he will struggle to have his higher order needs such as self-esteem and a sense of belonging met. But parents need to attend to those higher needs by attending to positive values, developing a sense of purpose, and developing a sense of belonging to his family through contribution.

Here’s a task.

Score yourself out of ten against each of these four different ways of showing love.

If the score is low in WORDS, commit to introducing more conversation into your family life.

Here are five ideas to get more talk going:

1. Share conversations through meals
2. Regularly talk about news items that would interest kids.
3. Practise shoulder-to-shoulder parenting by talking in the car, or while you are active together.
4. Text message or email your kids (if old enough), particularly if your child’s preferred ‘love language’ is WORDS.
5. Write a letter and post it to your child.

You should reflect from time to time on the important stuff you do. Personally, I think activities such as these are Parenting Gold

From the P&C

I want to start with a big THANK YOU to all the wonderful (grand)parents of our school who contributed to the cake stall and sausage sizzle on Saturday. We received lots of baked goodies, and the people who turned up to vote were more than happy to buy them. The sausage sizzle also did well. It was great to start the year with so many new faces and a lot of contributions. THANK YOU!

During the year, we will often need people to give us a helping hand at various activities. Some ways in which you could do that:

- Come to our craft group: Joy and her team meet every Thursday morning at 9am in the function room (next to the Tuck-shop). Pre-schoolers are welcome to accompany their parent.
- Join our volunteer community on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/DHSSvolunteers/
- Leave your name and phone number at the office, and Lee-Ann (Tuckshop) will add you to her text-message list.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Hey Y’alls,
I hope everyone had a great weekend. I know I had a great weekend because I won my MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) fight on the weekend. That is why I might have a couple of bruises on my face this week.

This Wednesday the Breakfast Club starts again from 7:45am until 8:40am. I am super excited about the Breakfast Club starting, and I am thankful that Metro Church is running this event again at Darling Heights this year.

Starting next week during first break I will be starting a UNO club in the Library. On Monday it will be for the Year 3 & 4 students, then on Tuesday for the Year 5 & 6 students, and on Wednesdays for the Yr 1 & 2 students. We will be using one of the rooms in the Library for the UNO club and it would be great to have some students come who enjoy a fun game of UNO.

Sincerely,
Chappy Matt

LEADERSHIP ROLES 2015

School Leaders
- Brianna Volp
- Ky Richardson
- Imajyn Jones
- Maarten Dekeyser

Music Leaders:
- Pookie Lane-Gessiri
- Erin Symes

Sport Leaders:
- Aquila: Sarvesh Joshi and Timothy Wright
- Cygnus: Harry Shelton and Chloe Johnson
- Orion: Issra Maryol and Ayasha Duggan
- Pegasus: Joey Jones and Kiranjot Kaur

YEAR 5/6 AREA PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

We will be having a meet and greet for the parents of our 5/6 students on Monday 9th February at 6pm. This will be held in the new 5/6 module at the back of the school. All parents are invited to meet the Senior Teachers and learn about the program in this area of the school. We hope to see you there.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Year 1 Stars
- 1B William Zietsch
- 1S Abdurrahman Amar
- 1M Lahtoya Withers
- 1J Sameer Ahmadi

Year 2 Stars
- 2M Isabella Frater
- 2V Working Hard in English
- Marcus Poole
- 2D Hinekahuangi Tatapu

Year 3 Stars
- Year 3H Stars
  Esperance Mutamuliza, Patrick Boland

Year 4 Stars
- Student of the Week
- 4R Fitsum Abay Weldenugus
- 4B Siddartha Subedi
- 4P Mahmoud Al-Nuaimi
- Merit
- 4R Johanna Beard
- 4B Nosieba Abousnina
- 4P Shahad Albdair

SEP AWARDS

Student of the Week
- Rosie Callagher

Merit Awards
- Hadeel Al-Rashid, Jayson Carandang, Philip Lane-Gessiri, Asher Peters, Nikki Gilozier, Madison Powell, Levi McClelland, Ryan Barlow, Kayla Dodd, Gregory Simmons, Zulaihka Nowrozy, Tiba Hazim, Ayuen Pach, Lena-May Smith, Cody Elliot, Evan Jack-Stanley
COMMUNITY NEWS
Please see Noticeboard for information regarding the following:-

- YMCA - Ph. 0455 088401 or 46 356308
- Valleys Juniors Sign on will be held this Sunday from 10.00am until 1.00pm at our Pillar Street grounds. Bring your Birth Certificate if you have not played for the club before.
- Kiyua Performing Arts - Dancing and Performing Arts every Saturday morning in the DHSS Hall from 9am. Recomencing Saturday 7th February. Call Sheridan on 0412135925
- AUSSIE HOOPS AT DARLING HEIGHTS STATE SCHOOL
  Aussie Hoops is a national program which provides an environment where children of all abilities can achieve on the court and reap the rewards of skill development, enhanced self-esteem, social co-operation and grassroots sports participation.
  $95 for new participants  
  $65 for Returning Participants  
  New Participants will receive the Aussie hoops carry bag, basketball, and singlet.
  Program Details:
  Thursday afternoons from 3:15pm-4:15pm
  Feb 12-April 2nd
  Email:aussiehoops@toowoomba.basketball.com.au
  Facebook: 
  Aussie Hoops Toowoomba
  Register at:
  www.aussiehoops.com.au
  and find "Darling Heights State School"

- Toowoomba Flyers Swimming Club - Taking bookings now for all levels at Harristown State High School. Bookings made by email. its.toowoombaflyers@hotmail.com
- Hockey Expo 2015 - Saturday 7th February 2015 Toowoomba Hockey Centre phone 07 46331229 for details.
- St Anthony's Parish - St Anthony's Parish are conducting a Sacramental Program in 2015. Interest from families who have children in year 4 and up who are interested can contact our office for more details. Phone 46361737

RELIEF TEACHER AIDES WANTED
We are looking to extend our pool of relief Teacher Aides. If you feel this is something you would be interested in please submit a one page resume stating your experience and availability to be part of our Staff. All our Teacher Aides are replaced immediately whether that be Prep, SEP, ESL or mainstream. Please also advise if you have a preference for a particular area. Interviews will be called within the next two weeks which is mainly designed to be a “meet and greet” for us to check out your suitability for our School. Please drop your resume to the School Office no later than Friday 6th February.