At Dubbo Public School we believe in being safe, respectful learners

Kinder Information Meeting and New Parents Luncheon
Today we held a meeting for kindergarten parents to discuss school routines, procedures and learning strategies. After the meeting all our kinder parents and new parents came together for lunch. This enables us to welcome new parents and provides the opportunity for them to meet other parents and staff. We want to have a strong, friendly and supportive community and bringing people together is the best way to build it.

Parents & Citizens Annual General Meeting
Our P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 19 at 7.00 pm in the Railway Bowling Club meeting room. The focus of this meeting will be the election of office bearers for 2013. I will also provide a report about our academic plans and programs for 2013. Please accept our warm welcome to come along to the P&C meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to find out more about your child’s school, meet other parents and support your child’s education.

Induction of Term 1 Class Captains
Induction of Term 1 class captains will take place tomorrow, Friday, 15 February at 11.45 am. Parents are invited to come along and pin on their child’s badge of office. Class captains represent their class at SRC meetings, act as exemplary role models for other students and take care of new students.

‘Setting the Scene’ Conferences
We encourage parents to take advantage of our ‘Setting the Scene’ Conferences as they provide the perfect opportunity to meet up with your child’s teacher and build positive relationships and mutual respect. The children will set their learning goals for the year and a Personal Learning Plan for each child will be developed around the matters discussed in their conference. Notes will be sent home in the next few days and parents are asked to indicate their preferred meeting times and return the notes to class teachers as soon as possible.

‘Setting the Scene’ dates
Stage 3 and S2/3M  Monday, 25 February
Stage 2 and K6B  Tuesday, 26 February
Stage 1  Wednesday, 27 February
Kinder conferences will be held later in the term on Thursday, 7 March.

School Band
The first school band session for the year got off to a very positive start last Friday. Our new band teacher, Shannon Landon, is very enthusiastic about working with the band this year after the success of our first practice session.

New Band Members Being Sought
We have several instruments available (flutes, clarinets, a sax, a trombone and trumpets). If students are interested in joining the band they will need to put in an expression of interest to Mr Shortis and provide a reference from their class teacher. After a meeting between the student, their parents and Mr Shortis, they may be selected to play in the band.

Swimming Carnival
The Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday, 21 February at the Dubbo Aquatic Centre from 9.45 am. Nomination forms need to be returned to school by Friday, 15 February. If there are any parents who can assist on the day, your help would be much appreciated. Please leave your name at the school office. This is an excellent day where the children join together in an atmosphere of friendship and positive house spirit. We encourage all parents to come along and support your child.

Canteen Closed on Swimming Carnival Day
Parents please note that the school Canteen will be closed on Thursday, 21 February owing to the Swimming Carnival.

Parent tip
It important to build daily routines which include leisure time, homework, exercise and reading. Children actually like routines and they are helpful in allowing us to fit everything into busy lives.

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Dates for Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM, Railway Bowling Club, 7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 25</td>
<td>‘Setting the Scene’ Conferences, Stage 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26</td>
<td>‘Setting the Scene’ Conferences, Stage 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27</td>
<td>‘Setting the Scene’ Conferences, Stage 1</td>
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**School News**

**Parking in Drop Off Zones**
Parents are reminded that parking is not permitted in the drop off zone. Fines can be imposed for cars left unattended in this zone. If you need to get out of your car and come in to the school to collect your child, please use street parking or the car parks at Centrelink or Victoria Park.

**2013 Stage Levy and Voluntary Contributions $40**
The Stage Levy for 2013 has been set at $40.00 per student. Voluntary contributions are not compulsory and payment is a matter for decision by parents. They are also set at $40.00.

**Wacky Wednesday Canteen Special Deal**
Next week’s deal is ‘Fish and Chip Frenzy’. For just $5.50 get oven baked crumbed fish, wedges and a popper. Orders by Tuesday, 19 February.

**School Photos**
School photo day is Monday, 11 March. Family photo envelopes and spare student photo envelopes are available from the school office.

**Gifted and Talented Program 2013**
This year our students will be involved in a range of Gifted and Talented programs across the curriculum. We are starting the year with students competing in state competitions in Debating, Public Speaking and Spelling. Our G&T program will also enrich the learning of students with skills in creative arts, visual arts, mathematics, science and writing. Mr Ebert is planning incursions (using the Smartboard connected classroom) and excursions (to places such as WPCC Art Gallery and Western Plains Zoo).

DPS will offer all students in Stages 2 and 3 the opportunity to complete the ICAS University of New South Wales tests. These tests include Computer Skills, English, Maths, Science, Spelling and Writing. Mr Ebert will work extensively with students participating in the G&T program to ensure extension and enrichment and the best possible outcomes for our students.

We are also planning to be involved in some other unique events this year such as science days run by universities, visiting experts (authors, scientists etc.) and involvement in the Channel 7 afternoon TV show ‘It’s Academic’.

If you feel your child is gifted in any particular area please come in and see Mr Ebert.

**Book Club News**
Order forms are due back at school tomorrow. Please send these to the library. Orders will be distributed as soon as possible after they are received. As not orders arrive at the same time some children will receive their orders before others.

Thank you for supporting Book Club. The bonus points received from each order are used to purchase resources for the library and classrooms.

**Library**
Borrowing has now begun for the whole school. It was great to see so many Kinder children keen to borrow on Monday. Students in Year 1 were very excited to be borrowing non-fiction books.

Children in Kindergarten and Stage 1 need to have a library bag. This can be any kind of bag that will hold a large book. Please check that your child’s library bag had both their first and last names on it – this helps avoid confusion.

**Lost Wallet**
A black and red leather coin purse with a picture of a pirate has been lost in the school. If found, please return it to the school office. Great sentimental value.

**P&C News**
Thanks to the parents who helped prepare the kinder and new parents lunch today. Your support was appreciated.

We had a great response to our first 2013 Wacky Wednesday meal deal. Orders are due each Tuesday. Please note the school canteen will NOT be open next Thursday due to the swimming carnival.

The P&C will hold its annual general meeting at the Railway Bowling Club at 7.00 pm next Tuesday. All positions will be declared vacant. For an outline of what’s involved in the executive positions, join the Dubbo Public School P&C Facebook group or contact Donna Ambler, Vice President on 0400 2580 690 or donna@theverbgarden.com.au

**Community News**

**Hear our Heart Ear Bus Project Trivia Night**
This will be held on Friday, 22 February at the Dubbo Golf club from 6.30 pm. Cost is $10.00 (online) or $15.00 (pay at the door). For more information contact Colleen on 0418 617 931 or Rowena 0432 344 755