From the Principal’s Desk

As we head into the latter part of this term, preparation is well underway for 2016 with staffing and classes currently being organised. Professional learning also continues with our K-2 teachers training in TEN (Targeting Early Numeracy). We are very fortunate to have a trained facilitator in Lisa Green on staff at present. The staff is also involved in developing scope and sequences and resourcing for new syllabuses –English, Maths, History/Geography and Science. Further preparation for next year will take place on the two Staff Development Days at the end of the year when staff will review our progress in relation to the school’s strategic directions. As always your input is valued and if you would like to make comment regarding our school plan or participate in one of these days, please contact me. The school plan can be found on the school website.

Over the last week our senior students have been presenting their SRC speeches – voting will take place next week and the big announcement will be made at our Presentation Day in week 9. It is wonderful to see such mature, responsible and articulate students so enthusiastic to lead our school in 2016. Congratulations to you all.

Have great week!

Debbie Pritchard
Principal

School Attendance

Attending school each day is important to ensure children don’t fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children who regularly attend school have better health outcomes and better employment opportunities. We need to develop the habit of regular attendance at an early age. The school day at Dubbo Public starts at 9.25am and finishes at 3.25pm. It is important that not only students attend school each day but come to school on time. The beginning of the day is when the most valuable instructions are given as teachers review and explain the activities for the entire day. Teachers then give explicit details and expectations for the first lesson. It is disruptive to other students when a student arrives late and time consuming for staff when instructions have to be repeated. Students who are late to school not only miss valuable interaction time with peers but can be anxious about entering a room when a lesson is already underway. If your child is absent or late the school needs to be provided with a valid reason, either verbally or in writing.

Assemblies

There will be a K-2 assembly on Thursday at 12.45am under the COLA. 1S and KG will be performing items. The 3-6 assembly will be held on Friday 13 November at 2.10pm under the COLA.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

A reminder to all parents, if you haven’t already done so please return the note concerning the distribution of newsletters, calendars and canteen menus in 2016. We are aiming to improve our carbon footprint by reducing the amount of paper and ink we use. From Term 1, 2016 we will be distributing school newsletters, term calendars and canteen menus electronically through our app, the school website and via the P and C Facebook page. If you would like to continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, calendar and canteen menu next year or if you wish to have them emailed to you, please ensure you return the note to school as soon as possible.

Library

This week is the last week for borrowing in 2015. All books need to be returned by week 8 for stocktaking. If your child’s book cannot be returned because it is lost or missing please send a note to Mrs Neville.

Sports Photos

The sports and whole school photos are ready to order. If your child represented the school in sport this year or if you would like a whole school photo you are able to order via the office or online at www.advancedlife.com.au. The nine digit code for online orders is AWB 8FT ZLB. Select "browse groups" from the menu. The cost of photos is $14 for online orders or $17 for orders through the school office.

Dance-a-thon

There will be a dance-a-thon next week, Thursday 19 November. It will start at lunch time and continue into the afternoon. Cost will be $5 for drink, chips and music supplied by DJ Miss Trudgett. Students may wear suitable casual clothes to school.

School Calendars

Each year school calendars are sold to raise money for special projects in the school. For students in Years 1 to 6 the calendar features their own artwork, which should be completed at home. Kinder students will be using artwork they produce in class. Calendars cost $5.00 each. Information and order forms will be sent out soon.
Election of 2016 Student Executive
The process of electing School Captains, Vice Captains, Ministers and House Captains for 2016 has started. The election process is:

- Students nominate for these positions by completing an agreement to abide by a list of criteria including showing respect and following school expectations.
- Nominees give a short speech to the student body at a series of special assemblies.
- Students in Years 3-5 and staff vote for the candidates after all speeches have been delivered. All votes are of equal value.
- All positions will be announced at the Presentation Day Assembly on Tuesday, 8 December 2015. Students will receive their badges at the first K-6 Assembly early in Term 1 next year.

Selective Schools Year 7 2017 Applications Closing Soon
Parents of Year 5 students are reminded that applications for entry into selective high schools for Year 7, 2017 are closing on 16 November 2015 and no applications will be accepted after this date. All applicants are required to sit the Selective School Placement Test on Thursday 10 March 2016. Apply online at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. Further details can be obtained from the Selective Schools website at the above address.

Old Dubbo Gaol Excursion
Stage 2 is going to Old Dubbo Gaol on Tuesday 17 November. Notes were sent home last week. If you do not have a note please contact the school. Cost of the excursion is $8.50. Notes and payment need to be returned by Friday 13 November.

Excursion to Dubbo Cultural Centre
Stage 2 will be walking to Dubbo Cultural Centre on Thursday this week to have a look at the museum exhibitions and the gallery. There is no cost for this excursion.

Canteen Chatter
Wacky Wednesday for next week is Chicken and Gravy Day. Roast chicken and gravy rolls and a popper for $5.50. Orders need to be placed by 10.00 am on Monday. The canteen is still accepting donations of foil and muffin cases during Term 4. Students who donate have the chance to win some great prizes in the draw which will be held soon.

REMEmBRANCE DAY 11 NOV 2015

Community News
Smith Family Saver Plus
Join Saver Plus and have your savings matched, dollar for dollar, up to $500, for education costs including school uniforms, stationary, text books, tablets, laptops and PC’s, TAFE and apprenticeship costs, sports fees and equipment, excursions and more. Eligibility criteria; Centrelink Health Care Card or Pension Card, over 18yo, you or partner have some regular income from work including part time, casual, seasonal, or be self-employed, and have a child at school or attending vocational education yourself. To find out more contact John Edwards on 6882 3329.

The Christmas Story in the Church Garden
Dubbo Uniting Church is running a 1 day Advent Program on the meaning of Christmas. This year it will be for Preschoolers 4 yrs. old to Year 6 children and will involve drama, craft, and music. Morning and afternoon tea and lunch are provided. The workshop is on Saturday 12 December from 9am to 3.30pm. Cost is $12 per person which includes all food, drinks and craft supplies. More information and a registration form can be obtained from the Church office, by phoning 6885 4200, or by emailing dubbouca@bigpond.com