Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

The last two weeks have again been extremely busy with the Swimming & Water Safety program occupying a mid-morning slot in the timetable for our senior students in the first week and the junior students on each day of this week.

As we are all aware, the skill of learning to swim is a priority for students. Swimming is an activity that promotes fitness and exercise which can be enjoyed across all four seasons with access to indoor pools. Swimming and hydrotherapy are physical programs incorporated into the weekly timetable to ensure all students have an opportunity to enjoy the freedom of whole body movements in a safe water environment. Participation in swimming at school can lead to each student being willing to swim as a social and physical activity in adult life.

Teachers and support staff have commented positively on the progress made by students who attended the program over successive days with students displaying:

- improved confidence to attempt tasks in the water within varying depths
- improved competency with stroke development, floating and kicking
- increased independence with undressing, dressing and care of own personal property.

The Swimming & Water Safety program encourages further opportunities of social engagement and co-operation also between the students and staff members from both campuses in an alternative environment. Learning and having fun with each other!

School Contact Details

41 – 43 Mooreville Road
(P.O. Box 520)
Burnie 7320

Phone: 64 333870
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113 Middle Road
Devonport 7310

Phone: 64 245554
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Dates to Remember

15th-19th October
Junior Learn to Swim

Friday 26th October
Music Camp permission forms due back

Friday 9th November
Final payments due for Music Camp

Sunday 11th November
Fundraiser – Country Music Afternoon at Penguin Sports & Services Club 1pm

12th-13th November
Music Camp

Wednesday 19th December
End of Year Assembly

Please check these dates as there were some mistakes in the last newsletter

Public Holidays

Monday 5th November – Recreation Day

Term Dates

Term 3 – 24th Sept to 20th Dec

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**Monday, 8th October - Student Free Day**

The schedule of professional learning for teachers and support staff included the following:
- Report writing in preparation for End of Year reporting to parents
- Discussion of visual timetables led by Felicity Lovatt
- Clicker 6 ICT training sessions
- Sharepoint exploration

This day was the last student free day for 2012.

**Parent meetings to discuss iPad distribution & iPad training**

Jo Corvinus at the Devonport Campus recently circulated invitations to parents and carers of individual students who were successful in gaining an iPad in Rounds 1 & 2 from the ‘More Support for Students with Disabilities’ Federally funded package. Meetings were held on Friday, 12th October.

It was very pleasing to see so many parents and carers who attended to find out more about the Department of Education guidelines concerning the management of iPads and the responsibilities for parents and carers to consider when the iPads are issued to identified students.

It was also pleasing to note the interest by parents in learning more about what an iPad can practically offer for each student from an educational perspective. Having a ‘hands on play’ with an iPad was great fun and parents began to become familiar with the apps.

I would further extend an invitation to contact Jo to arrange an alternative time if a parent or carer was unable to attend and missed out. I can guarantee that you will really find it a worthwhile session.

**Music Camp – November 12th & 13th at Camp Clayton**

Time is creeping on and there are many outstanding signed permission slips from parents and carers yet to be sent back to school!

Last year the music camp was an amazing experience for all our students.

The overall costs for the camp are subsidized by Ability Employment and it costs parents/ carers only $15 per student attending 2 days and $25 per student staying overnight.

Please look for and read the information sheet sent home with the last newsletter and complete the permission slip and return to school as quickly as possible.

If you have lost the information sheet please contact Cassie or Lindy in the school office to receive another one.

The camp payment will be accepted from now and until Friday, 9th November.

Best wishes,

*Grace*