Key Dates for 2015

Fri 4 December
Dentist visit
Grades 1, 2, 6, 7

Fri 4 December
Devonport Christmas Parade

Wed 9 December
Christmas Lunch for students

Mon 14 December
Leavers Dinner

Wed 16 December
Final Assembly (11:00 am)

Thur 17 December
Term 4 ends

Key Dates for 2016

Wed 3 February
Term 1 first day
Grades: Prep to 12

Mon 8 February
Term 1 first day
Grade: Kinder

Issue No. 18: 4 December 2015

Principal’s Message
Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,
The 1st of December denotes the official commencement of Summer, and there are only three weeks remaining of Term 4. Teachers across both campuses are busy completing students’ end of year reports in readiness to be sent home before the end of term. We are also formulating the class groupings for 2016 and when finalised, a letter will be sent home that details your child’s class and the name of the teacher/s that will be responsible for the class program.

Items for the end of year assembly are being prepared and rehearsed. If you check the important dates in this fortnight’s newsletter you will note that there are several events that require your attention.

Christmas Lunch for Staff and Students
SOSE Devonport will enjoy a communal lunch on Wednesday 9th December which will be hosted in the gym. It’s always a happy occasion for the students to eat a delicious meal alongside their teachers and teacher assistants.
Leaver’s Dinner for families and staff members
At the SOSE Devonport Campus, we are officially farewelling Jayde Lynch, Katherine Voss and Zachary Parnell-Fitzgerald. All three students have been motivated and valued learners in the Senior class. Katherine and Jayde will be commencing varied day program options that focus on life skills, work experience and leisure pursuits. Bronwyn West, our school’s Transition Co-ordinator has been very involved with the carers during the decision making process towards developing an adult pathway for both Jayde and Katherine.

Zachary will continue studying subjects via The Don College distance program in 2016. He has excelled at ‘History and the Environment’ and ‘General English’ this year. Family members, friends, teachers and teacher assistants will attend the Leaver’s Dinner at The Argosy, East Devonport on Monday, 14th December commencing at 6.30pm.

Visit to the Nepean School in Victoria
I made a one day visit to the above school which is situated in the Frankston area on Wednesday, 25th November where I was able to meet with the Principal, Mrs Carolyn Gurrier-Jones and the Registered Nurse, Stacey Matheson. The aim of my visit was to evaluate the role of a school nurse in a special school setting comparable to our student population including the status of students’ disability descriptors and associated daily healthcare and medical needs. The Nepean School has an enrolment of 108 students, and their focus of support is on managing acute health needs associated with developing individualised learning programs for students diagnosed with moderate disability.

I was welcomed into every classroom to observe student’s learning and teachers were given time to have conversations with me. I was very fortunate to be able to attend the end of year Primary class concert held in the school’s assembly hall which was a most memorable experience.

I hope your preparations for Christmas are going well!
Kind regards,

Grace
Green Room News

Community Access – Penguin
On Wednesday 18th November Green room students visited Penguin for a Community Access outing. We started the visit with a Maths Trail (a series of questions in relation to numeracy), the main question asked the students to find and count how many picture/models of penguins there were in the Main St, and in small groups we kept a tally chart and found 127.
We also went Geo Caching (a modern day treasure hunt using an app on the iPad), we were lucky enough to find one near the dog beach, the cache was hidden up in a tree, it was the size of a small key ring.
Written by Nathan, Brandon and Katherine.

Green Room students have recently learnt how to make Sushi during their cooking program. To make sushi, we needed to cook the rice, marinate and cook the chicken, slice cucumber, avocado and grate carrot, and roll up in Nori (roasted seaweed). To help we used a sushi mould that we pushed our ingredients into and allowed us to roll each neatly. Green Room students thought the sushi was so yummy and looked amazing that they even made it for the staff to buy for lunch.
Written by Nathan and Brandon.
Birthdays
Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday this month:
December: Jake, Lily, Alex D

Emailed Newsletters
If you would like to have a copy of the newsletter emailed to you please send an email to:
cassandra.bonis@education.tas.gov.au and ask for your address to be placed on the list, or leave your email address at the office.

Emergency Contact Numbers
A reminder that the people you nominate as an emergency contact for your child MUST be someone who is able to come and collect them if necessary. With all the illnesses we have had lately we have had several instances of emergency contacts being people who don’t have transport or live on the mainland.

If we decide that your child is too sick to stay here at school it is YOUR responsibility to arrange their collection.

Head Lice
There are head lice out and about in the community again at the moment. Parents / carers are reminded to please check their child’s hair on a regular basis.

Mobile Phones at School
Parents/carers are reminded that students should not be bringing mobile phones to school unless they have permission from their class teacher.

Students are to be reminded that they MUST NOT take photos of other students or staff without asking permission first.

Old Uniform Items
We are looking for some second-hand uniform items. If you have any items at home that your child has grown out of we would appreciate them.

Outstanding Accounts
A reminder to parents who have outstanding accounts that we are happy to accept part payments. If you would like to discuss payment arrangements please contact the school office.

Sick Children
A reminder that if your child is unwell it is your responsibility to keep them at home to stop the spread of germs. If your child arrives at school unwell you will be asked to come and collect them.
If your child is away from school / or sent home because of vomiting or diarrhoea we ask that you keep them home for 48 hours after the last episode.

Student Absences / Late Arrivals / Early Departures
• If your child will not be at school for any reason, it is the parent/carer responsibility to phone the bus company MerseyLink on 6427 7626. You must also let MerseyLink know if the bus does not need to pick up your child for any reason.
• You must also contact the school office before 10:00am to inform us. It is NOT the responsibility of the bus aide to pass the message along.
• If your child is arriving late (after 9:30) or leaving early (before 2:30) then you must sign them in/out at the school office.

School Hats
A reminder that we have school hats available at the school office for $10. During terms 1 and 4 students must wear hats when outside.

Uniform Items
The school office has a few spare uniform items still for sale if anyone is interested. Please see the office if you would like to look at what we have.

Also please remember to name all items of school uniform.

CONTACT DETAILS
113 Middle Road, DEVONPORT, TAS 7310
Phone: 03 6424 5554 Fax: 03 6424 2992
Email: school.of.special.education.devonport@education.tas.gov.au
Web: education.tas.edu.au/schoolofspecialed