Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

The beginning of December is almost here and we're very busy finalizing new enrolments, practicing for our final school assembly, completing end of year reports in readiness for distribution and generally organizing specific days to ensure a smooth start to the 2013 school year commencing Tuesday, 5th February.

No doubt, you're busy already preparing for the Christmas break and thinking about the long summer break ahead with children at home.

**Transition programs**

Bronwyn West has been working closely with Mission Australia case workers and Day Centre providers over the last few weeks to ensure that students who are leaving to commence their future pathway can gain an introduction to new settings that parents have negotiated with support from teachers, support staff and other agencies.

Brooke White was introduced this week to the GC Services Incorporated program which operates at East Devonport.

Luke Bird commenced work experience at the IGA Supermarket in Spreyton. His role has commenced with collecting new goods, unpacking and stacking them onto specific shelves. I had an opportunity to support Luke for his session yesterday and I was especially pleased by the warm welcome Luke received from other workers at the supermarket. Luke coped very well with the work.

All students involved in transition programs are provided with 1:1 support by teacher assistants from our school for the entire length of sessions.

Thank you so much Bronwyn for the valuable support you have given in assisting parents, carers and individual support staff members to seek and share information, make a plan and set up networks between agencies and day centre environments.
Reminder about the Holiday Program

Students at both campuses have an opportunity to attend the holiday program that is on offer across both campuses during January 2013. The holiday program provides daily activities that are specifically chosen from a range of enjoyable experiences with known support personnel as supervisors. If you haven’t yet considered this option then this is your last chance to make contact with:

- Steve Artis ph 64261831 operates the Daytime holiday respite program organized by GC Services Incorporated. There are limited vacancies so please ring no later than 11th December. This program services students living in the Devonport, Latrobe and Ulverstone areas.

Successful Fundraising

Throughout 2013, the school has benefitted greatly from members of the local community, service clubs and businesses to gain funds to purchase a range of items to enhance learning spaces or items that will support individual student’s capacity to strengthen personal learning goals.

The daily newspaper is continually quoting that the NW is being adversely affected by a continual downturn, yet we can be overwhelmed by the generosity and continuous support for the school through our local communities. Here are some examples:

Kindergarten at SOSE Devonport

The kindergarten teacher, Brooke Ansell identified that a body cycle tricycle would be a valuable piece of equipment that Kinder students would benefit from. She discussed her initiative with members of the support team and other staff members and very quickly a fundraising agenda was mooted with staff members making suggestions and becoming committed to supporting the project.

A lamington drive raised $830. A few weeks later, Sandy Webb networked with members of her family who are Country Music fans and very quickly commitments to raise further money were discussed and planned.

The Devon Country Music Association raised $450 and the Dusty and Friends Country Music Group raised $940 from events they held to assist us to raise funds to purchase the bike. What a great effort!

The bike will be ordered and ready for students to ride in Term 1 2013.

Thank you Brooke for being an enterprising practitioner who always puts the needs of her students first!

In conclusion

Please mark the important end of year days on your calendar! The end of year assembly is a great event to attend and join in with celebrating your child’s accomplishments throughout 2012! Please make an effort to attend. Every student looks around the audience looking for their mum, dad, grandma or grandpa. It really is a special day!

Best wishes to you all,

Grace