Principal’s Message

Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,
The final week of the school year has arrived and teachers are busy completing students’ end of year reports in readiness to be sent home. Shelves and cupboards are being cleaned out and displays of students’ work are being gradually taken down and dispersed.

Student Leavers for 2015
The dinner to celebrate with staff, friends and family has taken place. It is such an emotional event to ‘farewell’ students who have been attending our school campuses for several years. Teachers reflect on the personal and educational highlights of every individual leaver and reminisce by telling funny stories and events that are easily recalled. We all wish Tim Goss from the Burnie SOSE Campus and Katherine Voss, Jayde Lynch and Zachary Parnell-Fitzgerald from the Devonport SOSE Campus good health and personal happiness as they embark on their life pathways. To the parents and carers of the leavers, thank you sincerely for your positive support of our school.
What's been important for 2015?

- The Capital works refurbishment of the yellow and blue classrooms for SOSE Devonport is almost ready to commence with the successful tender being chosen by the end of this week. The refurbishment also includes the construction of a new office beside the ramp area near the main entrance. The current office will revert to the kindergarten classroom for 2016. This kinder classroom and accompanying toilets will be remodelled with new joinery, floor coverings and kitchen facilities.
- The Capital works refurbishment at the Acton campus is in the final stages of planning and will go to tender in a few weeks.
- The success of a grant initiated by the Independent Living Centre in Launceston at the end of 2015 was instrumental in both campuses gaining funding and professional training to purchase and trial eye gaze technology and software specifically for students with cortical vision and multiple impairments. This technology is having a positive impact on the learning outcomes of an increasing number of students at SOSE NW. These students are becoming empowered learners, which is an exciting outcome.
- The Lions Clubs of Devonport and surrounding areas are committed to supporting the purchase of a new bus for the Devonport campus. As many parents would be aware, a new bus is required due to the increase in student enrolments over the last few years. A new bus will insure that all students can participate in larger groupings to access extracurricular programming across the whole five days of the week.

These are 'big picture' outcomes that will fully support the growth and further development of the School of Special Education NW in 2016 and beyond.

Student Awards announced at the End of the Year Assembly for 2015

Congratulations and well done to the following students who received these awards:

**Senator Anne Urquhart – Award for Exceptional Improvement in all areas**
- Lucas Cook

**Mike Gaffney – Outstanding Achievement Award**
- Chandni Grubb
- Brady Harris

**PE Award**
- Anthony Bryant
- Logan Barnes

**The Minister for Education and Training – Jeremy Rockliff, Respectful Student Award**
- Jake Langer

**Principals Award**
- Chloe Osborne
- Zachary Parnell-Fitzgerald

**General Achievement Awards**
- Nathan Pitchford
- Zali Stott
- Lachlan Weeks
- Abraham Ferrao

**Forestry Tasmania – Caring for People Award**
- Katherine Voss

**Music Award**
- Jayde Lynch

In Conclusion

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our school throughout 2015. We will begin our fundraising in 2016 with a whole school fair to be held towards the end of February. It is hoped that this big fundraiser will be jointly supported by our School Associations and the Fairy Godmother’s Association. When we all work together, larger outcomes are achieved!

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a relaxing New Year!

Kind regards,

Grace
LEAVERS DINNER PHOTOS
Messages from the Office

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.

2016
At the beginning of 2016 we will be sending home the following:
- Validation Form
- Uniform Order Form
- Permission Forms
- Anything else we think of by then 😊

It would be appreciated if all these forms could be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

Student Absences
If your child will be absent from school for any reason you MUST contact the school office on 6424 5554 before 9:30am.
If your child travels on a bus you MUST also phone the bus company MerseyLink on 6427 7626.

School Hats
A reminder that during Term 1 everyone MUST wear hats when outside. The reminder

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.

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