Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,
What a great turnout of parents, carers, local community guests and friends who attended two major events - the End of Year Assembly and the Leaver’s Dinner!

The assembly is an extremely special occasion because the school and local communities are collectively gathered to celebrate a number of successes:

- To sincerely thank many local community organizations and members of the general public who have assisted us with donations to improve the amenities and to purchase specific equipment for use with students.
- To acknowledge the journey that the School of Special Education NW has taken during 2012 towards becoming ‘a centre of excellence’ where specific programs are researched, implemented and assessed to broaden our students’ learning opportunities. The 4 Blocks Literacy framework is an integral part of the weekly literacy plan providing every student with daily opportunities for Guided Reading, shared reading, working with words and writing this year. Ongoing professional learning has been crucial during the implementation phase however, we are now sharing the benefits of the daily literacy intervention and overview with neighbourhood schools.
- To recognize the dedication of all staff members who are committed to work as a team to provide a supportive learning environment on every day for every student to achieve their best outcomes across a range of curriculum options.
- To showcase the student’s efforts and achievements gained in 2012 with special recognition to the students who are leaving SOSE NW to commence an adult life.

Congratulations to Mrs Jacqui Astley and her keen volunteer, Jack Cox-Patchin who accompanied teachers and support staff to perform a colourful and most entertaining musical item with all students in costume, happy and eager to take part. The students are always so spontaneous in front of an audience! What great team work!

The digital presentation for 2012 was prepared by Lynne

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**Dates to Remember**

Tuesday 5th February 2013
Students start Term 1

**Term Dates 2013**

Term 1 – 5th February to 19th April
Term 2 – 6th May to 5th July
Term 3 – 22nd July to 27th September
Term 4 – 14th October to 19th December

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**School of Special Education**

**North-West**

Newsletter
20th December 2012
Devonport Campus

Principal: Mrs Grace Brown

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Department of Education

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Tasmania
Explore the possibilities
Ryan. Thank you for carefully showcasing the school’s events and the participation of every student across a range of programs. The 2012 record is very impressive.

The 2012 Students to receive certificates and awards are:
Brooke White – Minister for Education “Pride in Our School” Award
John Viney – “Consistent application in the manual arts and music curriculum”
Christopher Wallis – Forestry Tasmania “Care for People” Award
Kobi Johnson – Senator Urquhart “Award for Exceptional Improvement in all Areas”
2012 Leavers - Students
The Devonport Campus formally farewelled John Murray and Brooke White at a dinner held at Dannebrog on Wednesday evening, 12th December. The students’ parents, siblings and close family relatives joined with SOSE staff members to celebrate each student’s achievements. Brooke and John were each presented with a guardian angel together with distinctive gifts – a small button accordion for John and Brooke received a special bear adorned with staff member’s signatures and messages.
We will remember our leavers fondly and we sincerely wish them a happy transition to their support program in January 2013.

2012 Leavers – Staff members
At the Devonport Campus, Sharon Lovatt, a teacher assistant, who from the commencement of 2012 chose to transfer from SOSE Devonport to work at The Don College with disabled students. This transfer has become permanent with Sharon deciding to take up the transfer provision to The Don College from the beginning of 2013.
Thank you sincerely Sharon for your long association as a teacher assistant at the Devonport Campus. Sharon was appointed back in 1998 to co-ordinate the students identified with disabilities in regular schools who attended an intensive 1 on 1 program for one day per week. Sharon also worked extensively across all grade groupings until the end of 2011 where she developed strong relationships with individual students and also their family members. Thank you for your sincerity and your ability to effectively communicate and advocate for students with severe disabilities.

Ted Barrance will stay at Penguin Primary as an AST which will ensure that Joanne Corvinus will continue as Teacher-in-Charge for Term 1 2013.
There are no other known changes in staffing.

I wish every member of the SOSE school community a relaxing holiday and a Prosperous 2013 New Year. I will be available after the Australia Day holiday if a parent/carer needs to contact me.

Merry Christmas to you all,

Grace
**Annual Picnic**

On Friday the 14th of December we headed to Penguin for our annual school picnic with the Burnie Campus. Although there were clouds in the sky a great time was had by all students and staff as everyone joined to play cricket and enjoy rides on the mini train. The day was finished with an ice cream and icy poles instead of rain.

**Paper Art from 2012 Music Camp**

**Bowen Therapy**

I would like to thank SOSE and the beautiful students who allow me to perform the Bowen moves. The treatments are always done with the individual student in mind on areas to assist with speech, seizures, bladder/bowel control, respiratory complaints, relaxation to name a few. Some great results have been seen in these areas.

For students that are on the Bowen program and would like to book a time in the school holidays please phone Bev Chell on 6432 2279 or 0400 846 650.

Any students who are not currently on the Bowen program can be included next year. In 2013 a special program can be done specifically for seizures, which takes 6 months. If any new students who have seizures would like to be included please contact the School office for a permission form.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all.

Bev Chell

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