Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

We've all been waiting with excitement for Heather Munro's visit to both campuses on Thursday, 12th August. Heather visited both campuses in 2008 and we are so fortunate that she agreed to again visit both campuses to share her action songs, percussion and entertaining rhythms with staff and students. 'It was great fun'!

**Respite Activity Program**

Have you heard of this program which is funded by the State Govt. through Baptcare Family Services? This week, Bronwyn West, the SOSE NW Transition Co-ordinator, Di Ewingiton representing ACD and I met with Yvette Dawe who is the newly appointed Co-ordinator of RAP. The program is currently being set up to service families on the NW coast with a child who has a disability.

**Who is eligible?**
- Young child and adolescents aged between 5 to 18 years.
- These people must be eligible for disability services.
- They need to meet the RAP eligibility criteria.
- These people and their families require some respite.

**How does a family access RAP?**

Contact the local Gateway service on 1800 171 233 and ask to be referred to the RAP. An assessment will be made around eligibility. Families will then be contacted and told of the outcome. If families are eligible for support through the program then the co-ordinator will make a time to meet and discuss your child's needs.

**When does RAP operate?**

RAP will offer 25 school holiday days + one Saturday each month and occasional weekend camps. It is a non-centre based program i.e. children and adolescents will be engaged in activities out in their local community. A maximum of 8 participants will be taken on each activity with 3 support staff as supervisors.

**How will families know what activities are available?**

Once your eligibility has been met and your son/daughter is a registered RAP participant then parents receive newsletters each quarter. One month prior to school term

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**School Contact Details**

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

Phone:  64 333870  
Fax:  64 344011

113 Middle Road  
Devonport  7310

Phone:  64 245554  
Fax:  64 242992

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**Dates to Remember**

**Wednesday 18th August** - Circus Challenge at SOSE Devonport

**Saturday 21st August** - Election Day fundraiser

**Monday 30th August** - School Association Meeting at 10:30 am

**Tuesday 31st August** - NW Dance Event at Ulverstone on foreshore

**Public Holidays**

**Monday 1st November** - Recreation Day  
**Friday 26th November** - Devonport Show

**Term Dates**

Term 2 - 15th June - 3rd Sept  
Term 3 - 20th Sept - 16th Dec

**Student Free Days**

Friday 29th October
holidays the holiday program will be available for you to select offerings.

**What are the costs?**

A fee of $15 per day activity will be charged with the exception of higher costs for special events, e.g. festivals, concerts or sporting events.

Camp costs will be advised when camp dates are notified.

At the meeting with Yvette we discussed the need for further respite services right across the NW coast and particularly for families who reside on the West coast and in Smithton. RAP will give children and adolescents the opportunity to participate in a variety of outdoor activities and excursions in a supported environment. Baptcare Family Services is situated on Level 1, 8 Boland Street Launceston. Please refer your queries about RAP to Gateway on 1800 171 233.

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**Special Recognition**

Our music teacher, Jacqui Astley, has received special recognition from our school community for her dedication to the student’s education. She has been nominated for an ASG Inspirational Teaching Award through NEITA (National Education Teaching Awards). Jacqui is now eligible for consideration for a national ASG (Australian Scholarships Group) Inspirational Teaching Award and grant for our school. Jacqui says she feels very humbled by this nomination.

Well done Jacqui !!

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**Upcoming Events**

Staff and students across both campuses will be involved with the following events before the end of Term 2 –

**Wednesday 18th August** – Circus Challenge at SOSE Devonport

**Saturday 21st August** – Election Day fundraiser - sausage sizzle etc. You have to go out and vote so why not head our way and support our little fundraiser.

**Tuesday 31st August** – NW Dance Event at Ulverstone on foreshore

Kind regards to you all,

Grace