Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

We’ve moved into the season of Spring – the bulbs are out and there’s blossom on lots of trees. We are noticing more daylight at the end of the day! There are around 30 black swans on the dam at my family’s farm that are very busy taking care of their new cygnets! Warmer weather is on its way.

Overnight Stay at Hagley Farm School for SOSE Burnie students

Students who attend the three classes at the Acton campus have the opportunity to enjoy an overnight stay at Hagley on Monday, 19th September. This is a great opportunity for students to gain further independence by staying a night away from home. Parents can enjoy a break also.

Please ensure that the signed permission slips are returned to school as soon as possible to assist us with planning for this event. Students who do not attend the overnight stay will attend SOSE Acton where their classes will continue normally on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th November.

Photo exhibition (Burnie Campus only) I’ve been so fortunate to preview the family photos that have already been taken in our school and playground setting. I think the parents and students who took part in this initiative will be extremely impressed by the imaginative photography that has been produced. I’m honoured to be formally invited to view these photographs in an exhibition at the Cradle Coast Campus!
Thermomix Raffle to support the purchase of a new bus at SOSE Devonport

The raffle tickets are selling quite well and we’re at the halfway mark!! Our target is to sell every ticket – all 400!!!! The Lions Club members have been so supportive of our need for a new bus and several Lions members will be present to witness the drawing of the lucky ticket on Friday, 23rd September at 11am (last day of Term 3). Who will be the winner?

Professional Learning Opportunity in Outer Melbourne

Michelle Williams, Michelle Cooney, Allison Hardstaff, Lynda Cameron and Darlene Kumar have enjoyed sharing and reflecting upon the new information and learning they collectively gained from attending the 2 day workshop entitled Developing Communication and Access Skills for Children Who Face Severe Physical and Multiple Challenges led by Linda Burkhart. These teachers have shared at this week’s staff meetings at SOSE D’port and SOSE Burnie and are incorporating new ideas into their daily class programs with a focus on trialling new strategies with individual students. Whilst the two day workshop was intensive, our staff members mingled with other practitioners from mainland schools. Professional networking can be forged in this way and it strengthens our school’s capacity to further develop best teaching practices.

The whole day visit to the Warringa School situated at Hopper’s Crossing was also a valuable experience for our teachers. The access to and extensive use of technology in every classroom at Warringa is very impressive, however our teachers were quite convinced that our school’s framework of promoting individualised assessment and resourcing of communication supports for every student along with our whole school focus on literacy planning and development that is fully implemented across all SOSE classrooms compared highly against the Warringa class structures.

Our school’s Speech & Language Pathologist, Felicity Lovatt also attended a series of workshops led by Linda Burkhart last week in Melbourne.

Kind regards,

Grace