Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

Now that the end of November is almost here, I guess you’ve noticed the Christmas decorations beginning to emerge in shop window and along the streets. It’s certainly scary that the Christmas break is quickly approaching.

At both schools, there is a hum of activity with student’s end of year reports being finalized before copies will be sent out to parents and carers. Teachers have spent many hours compiling the evidence to present a clear record of information on each student’s learning levels and skill development across a range of curriculum areas. Teachers are focusing on reporting ‘achievements’ in relation to the goals set out in a student’s individual education plan.

Music Camp

The music camp which was held last week at Camp Clayton on Monday, 14th and 15th November was a resounding success. All staff members have since debriefed and discussed the highlights of the camp. Certainly, the overall organization undertaken by Jacqui Astley, Ted Barrance and Cathy Bester was continually refined on the previous days before the 14th to ensure that students gained maximum participation in small groups and supported by their regular class teacher assistants to enjoy a variety of artistic and musical sessions. What great fun we had!

Staying overnight provides students, teachers and TA’s a unique experience to get to know each other on a personal and homely level.

Michelle Cooney took many photos over the two days to capture the enthusiasm of individual students and support personnel working alongside the musicians. Hence, many photos that were taken over the two days are displayed in this edition of the newsletter to share with you and your families.

I have already written to sincerely thank Mr Geoff Winder, the harpist, Mr Daryl Metcalf, Didgeridoo player, Ms Jera Bester, drummer and the Bright Stars Dance team for their concentrated efforts to engage with our students with enthusiasm and encouragement. The concert to celebrate our creative and musical work was warmly received by the audience.

Once again, I must highlight the camp planning undertaken by Jacqui which was flawless and of course, the funding provided by Ability Employment to make a ‘dream’ become a reality. In conclusion, we’ve tentatively booked at Camp Clayton for another camp experience in 2012.
Commonwealth Community Grant

Mr Anthony White, Manager of the Burnie Commonwealth Bank was accompanied by Gillian, a bank employee with a camera in her hand, to the Burnie Campus on Tuesday, 22nd November to present me with a $5,000 grant to assist with funding the Healthglo swimming program for students from both campuses in 2012.

How lucky we were to be a successful recipient of such a grant! $100 was also presented by the Commonwealth Bank to purchase food for a celebratory barbecue which was enjoyed by staff, students, several parents and Mrs Sandra French, President of the School Association from 12.15pm onwards. Mr Garry Ewington manned the barbecue and the senior students assisted by their teacher, Mrs Wendy Bennell and teacher assistants prepared salads.

Thanks to all staff members who assisted to make this event a smooth, well-organised occasion.

Holiday Program for SOSE Burnie students

An initial planning meeting was held on Friday, 18th November and I wish to share that Mr Devin Cullis who teaches mainly in the Wattle Room will co-ordinate the holiday program during January 2012. To date, only one parent has returned the permission form.

The proposed dates for the program are 9th - 13th January inclusive and 23rd - 27th January with Thursday 26th January being a public holiday for Australia Day.

Please read through the extra information accompanying this newsletter and secure a place for your child to be included in the holiday program by signing and returning the attached form as soon as possible.

Please keep the front page of the Newsletter handy to refer to all the events leading up to the end of term.

Final Assembly & Presentation of Awards is on Tuesday 20th December at 1 p.m.

Yours in partnership,

Grace
Australian Mobile Recycling

We are collecting unwanted mobile phones to raise money. They will be sent away for recycling and our school will receive $3 for each one. Please send any old mobile phones lying around the house to school with your child. Also, talk to your friends, colleagues, neighbours and other family members and encourage them to clean out that bottom drawer and finally get rid of the old phones that have been doing nothing but collecting dust.

http://www.australianmobilerecycling.com.au

Holiday Program for January 2012

Ability Employment will again be funding a “Holiday Program” for students 12 years and over in January 2012 (specific dates to be confirmed) Mr Devin Cullis, teacher from our primary class will co-ordinate the program. Parents who are wishing to take advantage of this activity program over the long summer break need to fill out the information details below and return to the office as soon as possible so definite dates and arrangements can be finalised.

I am interested in my child ..............................................................taking part in the Holiday Program for January 2012.

SIGNED:........................................

NAME:........................................

Phone No: ......................