Hello parents, carers and friends,

This week has been a particularly busy one with several events occurring over successive days.

**Building Education Revolution Celebratory Morning Tea**

This event was held at the Devonport Campus with both campuses meeting to celebrate the completion of the projects which were funded by the Rudd Federal Government. With an allocation of $300,000 pledged last year, the bulk of the funds was spent at the Devonport Campus.

The Federal funding also provided upgrades in the disabled toilet facility at both campuses. Extra strengthening was done in the walls and roof cavities, ceiling tracking and ceiling hoists have been fitted. This improvement will ensure greater comfort for students who are lifted from their wheelchairs when being toileted. A ‘no lift’ policy for all support staff is now fully in place to alleviate further OH & S issues.

Reverse cycle air conditioners were also purchased from the BER funding for the foyer area and all classrooms at the Burnie Campus.

During the ceremony, I was able to formally thank Mr Andrew Gurr, the Project Manager of Fairbrother Pty Ltd who coordinated and supervised his works gang at both campuses. Mr Sid Sidebottom, the Federal member of Braddon in the House of Representatives attended the celebratory morning tea along with Mr Michael Gaffney, State member of Mersey in the Legislative Council and the Mayor of Devonport, Ms Lyn Laycock.

There were a large number of local community friends who came along to also celebrate the completion of the project. Members of The Zonta Club of Devonport, the Masonic Lodge and the Mad Hatters from Wesley Vale joined with parents and School Association members to watch the dance and musical items presented by the students and staff from both campuses.

I must express my thanks to Mrs Jacqui Astley for her choice of items - they were extremely entertaining, with Sid caught on camera joining in singing with Andrew Foster. Visitors were also able to take some time to check out the displays of children’s work and photos of students engaged in various programs that are offered at both campuses.

Thanks also to Mrs Lindy Parker and Mr Ron Davey who assisted with setting up and serving the food.

It was a great day!!!!
Parent-Teacher Conversations
Many parents and carers organised appointments with class teachers this week to discuss their child’s progress and to identify learning goals both short and long term. Having a two-way conversation gives parents an opportunity to talk about their child and to share what they know about their child - likes/dislikes/strengths and weaknesses. This information is so important when building a ‘big picture’. It identifies the uniqueness of every child and assists every teacher to creatively plan learning opportunities for them at school. If by chance you were unable to make an appointment please contact the school to arrange an alternative time and date with your child’s teacher/s. It is an opportunity not to be missed!

Communication Books
Every student has a communication book that is written in every day by the class teacher. This book is set up in order for messages and information to be confidentially shared between home and school. It is important that parents/carers take a few minutes each day to read through the messages from school. If your child receives an injury or experiences health issues then it is extremely important that parents and carers write in a short explanation or explain a follow up that a teacher may have enquired about. As DoE employees, teachers are required to follow through with Duty of Care procedures.

June Holiday Program
As many parents and carers will remember, the holiday program that was organised in January for students aged 12 years and over was only of one week’s duration due to the building modifications that were occurring both inside and outside in the playground. Ability Employment who usually funds the holiday program has alerted Wendy Cumming that some funding is still available. Let’s use it!!!
Who is interested in their child participating in a holiday program during the June holidays? The June school holidays will be from Monday, 31st May until Friday, 11th June. Please contact SOSE Burnie on 64 333870 to register your interest by Monday, 3rd May. Your interest will determine how many days the holiday program can run.

School Association Meeting
The School Association held their Annual General Meetings this week. The Chairman, Mrs Sandra French welcomed Ms Cathy Bester, Teacher in Charge who will take over the position of Secretary. Mrs Sandra French thanked Ms Patsy Cairns for her commitment and support over the last two years. Mr Gordon Patchin resigned as a Parent representative. Gordon has spent many years on the School Council, providing thoughtful advice and comment on new initiatives and supporting all fundraising events. Mrs Meg Collidge has been elected as the new Parent representative for the next 2 years. We welcome Meg to this position and hope she will find the role an interesting and fulfilling one.

Kind regards to all,
Grace

Horse Riding:
If your child participates in this program, please ensure you send a warm coat and appropriate boots. Especially now with the wet weather upon us, we do not want muddy shoes worn in the classroom.