Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,

Our first newsletter for Term 3! Staff members and students have settled down to enjoy the planned special activities along with the educational experiences that are offered each day. There is a sense of purpose and positive energy as I move around each campus.

**Bowls Skills Day with Bowls Tasmania**

Special Olympics Tasmania organized this activity day on Tuesday, 26th September and a large group of students from both campuses attended at the Burnie Bowls Club. The focus of the skills day was to encourage participation, fun and lasting memories. Staff members who accompanied the students were asked to encourage each student to do their best by cheering them on or assisting them with the required performance skills.

It is hoped that several students may demonstrate an interest in wanting to become involved more with opportunities to take part in weekly activities.

It was a perfect day!

**Recent School Association Meetings**

Both campuses held their School Association Meetings recently. I would like to share some information which was included in my report.

**Changes that are in motion...............**

Principals have been briefed that a new network structure across Tasmania will be set up. There will be 3 networks within the NW and 3 network Leader positions will be advertised shortly. It is expected that highly experienced Principals will be eligible to apply for these positions. The senior position will continue to be a Manager across the Learning Service NW and this position has recently been advertised.

**SASP** (Schools Administration System Project) is currently in the implementation phase to replace the current system. SASP will be completely centralised and closely networked with Department of Education staff located in Hobart. Every school will be issued with their School Resource Package however there will be one centralised banking system which will mean that schools will no longer be issuing signed cheques to pay tax invoices.
With the new system - SASP - schools will be able to receive cash, cheques and will offer BPAY to assist parents with payments. All schools will be turning over to the new system via a prescribed timetable. SOSE Burnie and Devonport will convert to SASP during December. Office staff from both campuses have been involved in training and familiarisation of the new project.

School Viability Reference Group
A nine member Reference Group chaired by Mr Royce Fairbrother, NW businessman and Learning Services NW School Improvement Board has been established to investigate the viability of Tasmanian Government schools. The Minister for Education and Skills, Nick McKim stated ‘the fact is that Government school enrolments are declining significantly every year and we need to address this challenge’. The Reference Group will consult widely in preparing recommendations for Mr McKim with the consultation period ending by 1st December 2011 and the Reference Group reporting on or before 31st January, 2012.

Learn to Swim at the East Ulverstone Pool commences on 4th October – 14th October. Please check the information sheet sent home this week for further details.

Burnie Show Holiday TOMORROW (Friday) Many of the students have entries in the art/craft section in the pavilion and some students visited the animal nursery today. I hope you enjoy the extended long weekend with the student free day on Monday.

Student Free - Professional Learning Day – for Burnie Campus 3rd October.

TAS-Bash visits to both campuses – Monday 17th October

Cocktail Party – Fundraising Event – Saturday, 22nd October

I will be attending the AASE conference in Surfers Paradise from September 27 – 30th. Cathy Bester (Teacher-in-Charge Burnie Campus) will be available to attend to any urgent matters in my absence.

Yours sincerely,
Grace

COCKTAIL PARTY – Saturday 22nd October. Help is required to prepare or make savouries for this major fund-raiser for the school. This is the 10th year an amazing group of people have been working hard to raise money for our school. If you can assist on the day please advise the office.

VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATION AFTERNOON TEA:
A warm invitation is extended to all volunteers who have given their time to the Burnie Shines Cocktail Party over the past ten years.

Emu Bay Rhododendron Gardens
Sunday 30th October - 2pm.
RSVP: Diane Ewington - 64316349 or Wendy Cumming – 64324482.
**A Baby Shower for Laurie**

Tuesday afternoon staff held a baby shower for teacher Laurie White who has now gone on Maternity Leave. Laurie who is from Canada, was extremely grateful and excited to receive the many gifts from staff.

*We all wish Laurie and Gary well as they await the arrival of their first child.*

**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.*

*Australian Mobile Recycling was founded September 2011.*

http://www.australianmobilerecycling.com.au