Dunoon PSSA District Swimming Carnival Leader’s Report by Gabriella Hill

Last Friday, Years 2 to 6 went to Alstonville for the PSSA District Swimming Carnival. Everybody did really well and had lots of fun.

Congratulations to Paddy who was Junior Boy Champion, Zeke who was Junior Boys runner up, and Darcy, who was Junior Girl Champion. Wow! What a great effort. These three will be competing at zone along with Flynn, Sam, Phillipa, Indigo and Gabriella. Good luck to all these competitors!

### Assemblies

Our first assembly will be held this Friday from 2.40-3.10pm. The Year 4/5/6 class will be hosting this assembly.

The senior students will be organising the assembly roster shortly.

### Student Attendances

At a principals’ meeting last Thursday, we were asked to notify all families about the school attendance policy and procedures.

Under the guidelines, an explanation for an absence must be provided to the school within 7 days. I would like to ask all families to provide the school with a written absentee note on your child’s return to school. Thank you.

### Birthdays!

This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to Magnolia, Emil and Indigo L.

We hope you all enjoy a very special day!
News in brief from K/1

Home Learning Activities:
Last Friday children were given their Home Learning Activities folder to take home. Parents are asked to let me know their thoughts about the activities enclosed. If possible, children are asked to return these each Friday. This week, however, I will be away on Friday and would love to see as many of the folders returned on Thursday, if possible. Thanks!

Conflict Resolution:
The K/1 children showed a great sense of responsibility in working towards resolving a few issues with the sand pit. The senior students were fantastic role models for the discussion as they worked with small groups to suggest solutions. The K/1 class has devised some rules for the sandpit and we’re looking forward to seeing the children playing cooperatively once again.

Wish List: We’re in the process of reorganising our classroom. It will take us a little while to get this done well. If you pop into the classroom you’ll see what I mean!

In the meantime, there are a few resources I thought I’d run by parents in case there are any families who may have any of the following they wish to donate:

- Dress up clothes and accessories
- A dress up box or trunk

If any parents have particular skills or a willingness to sew or make small items of furniture, please get in touch. I’m keen to get the K/1 room into a wonderful space for learning.

Cheers Genevieve

News from 2/3
We have been having a fabulous time in class and out of class! Today, we split up into small groups with our Japanese visitors and they were able to show us how to make paper cranes, cups and boxes. Students had an opportunity to practise their Japanese and learn more about Japanese culture. The Japanese students learned about Dunoon school and our favourite sports.

Parents of Yr 7 Students 2016

The Rivers Secondary College Year 7 2016 Transition Information Evening

Stage 3 students and parents are invited to come along to the Lismore Workers Club Auditorium on Wednesday 25 February from 6pm-7pm to find out more about The Rivers Secondary College, how it works and the benefits for students as they move into high school. You will hear from John Baker, Executive Principal of The Rivers Secondary College and have the opportunity to meet, hear from and speak to students and other key personnel from each high school.

This evening is designed to give an overview of The Rivers Secondary College prior to each high school holding its individual session in coming weeks:
- Kadina HS on Wednesday 11 March;
- Lismore HS on Tuesday 10 March; and
- Richmond River HS on Thursday 5 March.

Bike Safety
It has come to our attention that there are some Dunoon school students who need to be more careful when riding around the village.

Several students in school uniform have been seen riding their pushbikes on the incorrect side of the road or down the middle of the road, oblivious to other vehicles on the road.

All families are asked to please remind their children about wearing bike helmets and the importance of road safety.

Thank you.
Dear parents and carers of our fabulous class!

School Parliament
In library time, our class is studying Australia’s parliament system and last week saw the beginnings of our “School Parliament”. So far, the whole school has voted for their Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (this was an incredibly close result with very few votes between the 5 candidates). In the end, Jason and Gabriella both received equal highest points and they decided to share the top job of Prime Minister. They then went about choosing their “cabinet” and we now have Ministers for various portfolios including: Sport, Arts and Culture, Technology, Entertainment, and Health. Already, there have been some fantastic ideas and, from time-to-time, Ministers will be reporting these ideas and achievements in the school bulletin and at school assemblies.

Under the direction of the Prime Ministers, the Sports Ministers and their helpers did an AMAZING job at Friday’s swimming carnival. Not only did they organise all the swimmers into correct races but they worked out junior and senior relay teams and ensured that all students knew when their races were coming up. Teachers and parents from other schools praised Dunoon for having excellent organisation in terms of having students in the correct race for their age (this was a great help for the judges who have to ensure that every student who competes is in the right race!). This success was solely due to the fantastic work all the students put in. Well done!

Soccer
I was very impressed with the mature way students in my class have dealt with issues on the soccer oval. They conducted a whole-class discussion and worked out exactly what the causes of their problems were. They then looked for real solutions and, as a result, have installed a second set of goals, had the lines marked out, appointed a referee (with whistle and yellow and red cards!), agreed on rules, equalised the abilities of the teams, and started wearing coloured bibs. This has provided a real life example of how collaboration can produce positive outcomes for the majority.

Project Based Learning
Mrs Currie and I have been very impressed with the learning that is coming out of the PBL unit. In a few weeks, we will be sending out invitations for the final presentation and would love as many parents and friends as possible to come.

Maths
We have moved on to studying angles and addition in maths. The students have been given their targets in these 2 areas. During our maths sessions, we are always revisiting previously taught concepts and ensuring that we continue to consolidate the learning.

Literacy
We have finished reading “Danny Champion of the World” – what a great book! We are about to start on our new short novel, “To the Light”.

We are always a busy class with lots of opportunities for students to shine! It is an absolute pleasure to work with them all. Until next week, Heather

PARENT AND COMMUNITY NOTICE

The Dunoon Diggers group is planning for an exciting year in 2015.
For all new parents, we are a group of parents working with the school to develop a kitchen/garden program. We made a start last year and got a few aspects of the program underway - a compost system, a new garden bed and revitalised the back garden beds.

This year we have bigger plans! We received a $3500 grant from NSW Environment Trust to move the plan along further.

We are a small group at present and welcome more support. At our first meeting for the year we’ll map out a plan, so please come and join us - no gardening experience required. Tuesday 24th at 6pm at Dunoon Sports Club. Regards, Nick
MESSAGE FROM THE DUNOON SHOP

Yes we are still delivering sandwiches to the school. We have had a great response from parents and teachers taking advantage of this easy service! It’s SIMPLE just ring or drop into the shop BEFORE 10:00 to place your order then we will deliver it to the school at 1:15. Just remember that orders can’t be placed when school canteen is open.

Thanks again
Shane & Kristin @ the Shop
6689 5225

$5000 Classroom Makeover

Dunoon Public School is taking part in this competition. Collect tokens in The Northern Star from 14th February to 16th March. Ask your family and friends to help collect as many tokens as you can. At the end when all your tokens have been gathered, please bring them in to the front office at school to be processed. Thank you.