



Darra State School

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NEWS FROM THE HUB...

Friday 27 January 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS AT DARRA SS:-

Date	Details
P&C Meetings	Second Wednesday of every month 7pm in the P&C Room First Meeting – Wed 8 February
Uniform Shop in 2012	At Administration Office - Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings from 8.00am.
Mon, Wed & Fri mornings from 8am	Uniforms available from the office 8.00am-9.00am See Ms Phuong in the office
Thursdays in 2012	Active School Travel – Starting Tues 16 Feb - TERRIFIC TRAVEL THURSDAYS
Tue 31 Jan	Teacher Aides Professional Development Day #1
Mon 13 Feb	National Apology Day
Tue 14 Feb	Swimming starts for 5 weeks. Finishes Tue 13 March.
Thur 16 Feb	Terrific Travel Thursdays 2012 Re-launch FREE Breakfast from 8.15am
Fri 17 Feb	Friday sports begins for Term 1 – Years 1-7
Thur 15 Mar	LOTE Day of Excellence at Centenary SHS
Fri 16 Mar	Darra Cross Country, Yrs 4-7, 1.45pm-3pm
Mon 19 Mar	HARMONY DAY - Activity morning 9am-11am – shared morning tea afterwards. ALL Parents invited!!
Tue 20 Mar	Teacher Aides Professional Development Day #2
Fri 23 Mar	National Ride to School Day
Tue 27 Mar	School Photos
Fri 30 Mar	Last day of Term 1 2012
Mon 16 April	First day of Term 2 2012
Wed 25 April	ANZAC DAY - NO SCHOOL
Thur 26 April	Inala District Cross Country event
Fri 27 April	Friday sports begins for Term 2 – Years 1-7
Mon 7 May	LABOUR DAY – NO SCHOOL
Fri 25 May	Inala Gala Sports Day
Mon 11 June	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY – NO SCHOOL
Tue 12 June	Darra SS Junior Sports Day 9am

Fri 15 June	Darra SS Senior Sports Day 9am
Mon 18 June	Pre-Year 3 Parent Teacher Interviews
Tue 19 June	Year 4-7 Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 22 June	Last day of Term 2 2012
Mon 9 July	First day of Term 3 2012
Fri 20 July	Friday sports begins for Term 3 – Years 1-7
Fri 21 Sept	Last day of Term 3 2012
Thur 9 & Fri 10 Aug	Inala District Athletics
Fri 31 Aug	Darra SS Fun Run
Mon 8 Oct	First day of Term 4 2012
Fri 19 Oct	Friday sports begins for Term 4 – Years 1-7
Mon 22 Oct	STUDENT FREE DAY
Fri 26 Oct	Inala Gala Sports Day
Tue 30 Oct	Swimming begins for 5 weeks. Finishes Tue 27 Nov.
Mon 3 Dec	Pre-Year 3 Parent Teacher Interviews
Tue 4 Dec	Swimming Carnival
Wed 5 Dec	12.00pm-3.00pm – CONCERT 7.00pm-9.00pm – Year 7 Graduation Dinner
Tue 11 Dec	Year 4-7 Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 14 Dec	Last day of Term 4 2012

WELCOME BACK TO DARRA SS

We are looking forward to a spectacular year ahead in 2012. Our staff will be as follows:

- Prep – Mrs Nguyen (Prep Building)
- Year 1 – Ms Gallagher (E Block Room 13)
- Year 2 – Ms Brennan (E Block Room 14)
- Year 3 – Mr Barnett (C Block Room 5)
- Year 4 – Ms Hicks (B Block Room 16)
- Year 5/6 – Ms Ryan & Ms Barff (B Block Room 18)
- Year 6/7 – Ms Byrne (Sem 1) & Ms Saunderson (Sem 2) (B Block Room 25)
- Year 7 – Mr Orford (Sem 1) (B Block Room 23)

QUEENSLAND STUDENT-FREE DAYS FOR 2012

This year's student-free days have been set.

The dates are:

- Tuesday 10 April 2012
- Monday 9 July 2012
- Monday 22 October 2012

Queensland State school term dates are available from the Department of Education and Training's website at www.education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calendar/holidays.html. The student-free days for 2013 are also on the website.

DARRA SS PARADE

This year we are holding our Parades on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30pm until 3.00pm. We would love to see as many parents possible come along to our Parades and hear all about our achievements throughout this year.

CHAPPIE FELICITY

Chappie Felicity visited the students on Monday to welcome them all back to school for the 2012 school year. She will be here again this year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. She will be starting Breakfast Club next week on these mornings from 8.00am. All welcome!!

SWIMMING STARTS WEEK 4

Swimming begins on Tuesday 14 February and will continue for 5 weeks in total. Notes will come home before hand to advise the cost for lessons. All lessons are taken by trained and accredited swimming instructors. On this note, we also ask that parents advise us if students have been having lessons and their current capabilities regarding swimming and its associated skills.

REMEMBER TO BE SUN SMART

Sun protection is very important at this time of year. All students should be encouraged to wear hats and SPF 30+ broad spectrum sunscreen to school every day. Students should also wear hats and sunscreen during school outdoor activities. A great resource is the Queensland Government's Sun Safety website. It has lots of helpful information about how to protect your family at <http://www.sunsafety.qld.gov.au/> The website is split into helpful categories including at childcare, at school, at home, at work and at play. Also on the Sun Safety website is the Falon's Quest game, a fun and engaging way to teach primary school aged children about sun safety. Your child can play Falon's Quest at <http://www.sunsafety.qld.gov.au/atschool/game.aspx> The Department and Darra State School takes the health and wellbeing of school students very seriously and is strongly committed to protecting school students from the harmful effects of the sun.

The Department recognises that there can be particularly hot days during November - March and has developed guidelines for state school Principals during high temperature or heatwave conditions, which include:

- modifying some school activities during the excessive heat
- postponing any outdoor or sporting activities where appropriate
- allowing increased access to the coolest areas of the school grounds or facilities
- ensuring school lunch boxes are stored in cool areas
- encouraging students to drink plenty of water and to stay out of the sun.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC INSTRUMENT REPAIRS

Last year we spent over \$3000 repairing and servicing our instruments for those students who take part in the instrumental music program here at Darra. This year we will be spending another \$1150 for repairs and servicing. Servicing must be done every year so that the instruments are in top condition for students to learn on.

The Instrumental music levy helps us to cover these costs but with only 10 or so students each year participating in the program it is easy to see that the costs are predominantly covered by the school. We also purchase the music for students to play while they are in the program. Therefore, we encourage all families who have students participating in the instrumental program to contribute with the levy to help us cover the costs and provide the best instruments and music to our students.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the Department of Education and Training does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students. Therefore, if your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibilities of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if they choose to take out student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

STUDENTS ARRIVING EARLY AND STAYING LATE

We wish to advise parents that we have safe facilities for the care of students who arrive early to school and stay late after school.

Students who are at school before 8.15am or stay later than 3.30pm will be sent to the PCYC School Aged Care Service in our school Hall.

Please be aware that this service will incur a charge for parents for the time the student/s attend the service. Students are not able to come to school early or stay late and be unsupervised. The program offers supervised homework, breakfast and afternoon tea, games and activities. If you do not wish to use the service at the school please ensure that your child/ren do not come to school before



8.15am, and stay no later than 3.30pm. Many thanks in helping to keep our students safe and healthy.

PCYC SCHOOL AGE CARE

Before School Care - 6.30—9.00am

(Breakfast Provided)

After School Care – 3.00– 6.00pm

(Afternoon Tea Provided)

Enrolment Packs from office

Enquiries contact: 3372 2222



ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL - TERRIFIC TRAVEL

THURSDAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

Thursdays at Darra State School are not the same as other schools!!!

In 2012, we are again asking everyone to really think about how we travel to and from school as we again launch into our Terrific Travel Thursdays as part of our Active School Travel program. We will be re-launching Terrific Travel Thursdays on Thursday the 16th February with a healthy breakfast.

All students will receive an Active School Travel passport. Students who actively travel to schools on Thursdays will collect stamps and earn lots of great rewards again throughout 2012. We know that everyone is different, so there are lots of ways you can actively travel to school. How will you actively travel to school?



Walk - leave the car at home and walk your kids to school. If you live too far away, drive part of the way and walk the rest. We call that "Park and Stride".

Cycle - Ride with your children to school. It's legal to ride on the footpath and remember to always have your helmet secured.

Public Transport - Public transport is easy once you know how. For bus, train and ferry timetables, visit www.translink.com.au, phone 13 12 30 or visit the Transport Information Centre located on the corner of Ann and Roma Streets.

Carpool - Find a friend and carpool to school. It's an easy way to save money and time. Talk to other parents in your child's class or at music and sport to see who is going your way. Carpoolers can also Park & Stride their way to school (see above).

So get started on **Thursday the 16th February** and remember that EVERY Thursday is **TERRIFIC TRAVEL THURSDAY**.

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL- DECEMBER PRIZE!!!!

The 2011 December criterion for the Golden Boot was the "Encouragement Award". This is awarded to a school that consistently achieved high results but has just missed out winning the Golden Boot during the year. Congratulations go to all of us at **Darra State School** who won this prize for December.

Darra SS came a close second to winning the Golden Boot on three separate occasions in 2011 in April, May and June for the categories of highest percentage and highest walking percentage. Darra achieved an overall average of 80% of active travel in 2011. Well done Darra!

We will have a visitor on Parade to award our students the prize for the Golden Boot for December 2011!! We will keep you posted when this is occurring.

DARRA SS P&C

The first meeting for the year will be on Wednesday 8 February at 7pm in the P&C Room. The AGM (Annual General Meeting) is on Wednesday 14 March at 7pm in the P&C Room. The AGM is where all roles are declared open for new/old people to take a role in the P&C. It will be followed by a General Meeting.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be run out of the Admin on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8.00am. Ms Phuong will be in the office to take and fill orders for uniforms.

SCHOOL TEXTS & SUPPLIES

It is vitally important to our students learning that they have all the supplies they need to ensure the very best learning outcomes possible.

However, we do understand that sometimes at the beginning of a year book orders may be late in being filled. Please let your child's teacher know when they can expect your child to have the resources they need for learning. This will enable better planning to ensure that your child does not miss out on valuable learning. Many thanks!!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will be taken in the last week of this term on Tuesday 27 March. The photographic company will contact us in the next few weeks to arrange payments envelopes to be sent home. These will need to be returned with the correct money so that the photos can be taken and orders for parents filled.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTENARY STORMERS SOCCER CLUB 2012 SIGN-ON - BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 4 – 16

- 28/01/12 - Atthrow Park – Monier Road, Darra (9.00am to Noon)
- 29/01/12 - Atthrow Park, Monier Road, Darra (2.00pm to 4.00pm)

If you unable to attend the sign on days you can still register. Please contact secretary@centenarystormers.org.au or visit our website www.centenarystormers.org. President - Alan Wilkins on 0407 038565

POSITIONS VACANT

Darra SS has 2 Teacher Aide positions available. Part of the National Partnership initiative. Positions will be for 1 year with possible extension to 3 years maximum when National Partnership programs ends. Probationary period of 3 months applies.

25 hours per week. Experience required.

Application packs available at the Office from Monday 30 January 2012. Applications close Friday 10 February 2012 at 3.00pm. Attention applications to: The Principal, Mrs Bec McGuren-Nolan.

Applications should be left at the Office or mailed to Darra SS, Winslow Street, Darra, Q, 4076.

Phone Tracy Rice on 3375 4285 for details.