



Winslow St, Darra Qld 4076  
**Ph: 3716 6444**  
 Email: the.principal@darrass.eq.edu.au  
 admin@darrass.eq.edu.au, pandc@darrass.eq.edu.au  
 Website: www.darrass.eq.edu.au



# Darra State School

Steering a Course Together

Friday 8 September 2017

Diary Dates @ Darra State School	
Uniform Shop in 2017	Open Mon, Wed, Fri Morning 8.30 – 9.00am
Every Mon	Parade in the Hall – 2.30pm. Parents welcome.
Mon & Fri	Hooked on Books – 8.15am in Library
Fri 8 Sept	Father's Day Friday <b>*NEW*</b>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	P-6 Parade Footsteps Performance. Parents welcome
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Woolies Earn & Learn closes – keep your stickers coming in!
Fri 15 Sept	Last day of Term 3 2017
Mon 2 Oct	Queen's B'Day Public Holiday
Tue 3 Oct	First day of Term 4 2017
Wed 11 Oct	P&C Meeting 5.00pm library. All parents welcome.
Mon 16 Oct	Staff Professional Development Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tues 24 Oct	SWIMMING STARTS <b>*NEW*</b>
Fri 27 Oct	Day For Daniel (Red Shirt Day)
Fri 17 Nov	P&C Free Dress/ Sausage Sizzle
Tues 28 Nov	DSS Swimming Carnival <b>*NEW*</b>
Mon 30 Oct – Fri 3 Nov	Progressive Achievement Testing – whole school
Wed 6 Dec	Reports go home <b>*NEW*</b>
Fri 8 Dec	Last day of Term 4 2017

## Welcome to Week 9 and Week 10

What a full term of learning our students and teachers have had at Darra State School! We have really enjoyed this term with Book Week celebrations, Pizza Parties, Science opportunities, Adopt-A-Cop induction, improved grounds, DSS Athletics Day, SMS for absences, Footsteps dancing....and *learning in classrooms every single day.*

We really are fortunate to have such a great school community – thank you for the part you play.

### Father's Day Friday!

Darra State School P&C are behind this great family event to celebrate the Dad's (and special people) in our lives. They are very kindly running the BBQ so *your* attendance will be supporting the great work they do here at Darra State School.

**Kelly Sports** are also offering a free afternoon of soccer skills which we hope will result in a fun game between adults and students! Finally, our awesome **Adopt-A-Cop, Constable Damien** will also be there to support our great little school.



**DSS Student Absences** – please phone **3716 6444** and select **Option 1** to leave a message.  
 Thank you ☺

## Enrolments 2018 at Darra State School

It is important to continue to share the message regarding enrolments - any families who will be enrolling students in 2018 are reminded that we need to know of enrolment intentions as soon as possible. Enrolment forms for Prep and any other year levels are available from the office.

If your family is intending on leaving Darra State School in 2018, please notify Administration as soon as possible. This information does contribute towards staffing and class compositions for 2018.

## Day for Daniel – Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> – Darra State School has registered!

Next term, Darra State School along with support from the Darra State School P&C, will participate in Australia's **Biggest Child Safety Lesson**. Students will be encouraged to wear a red t-shirt for the day and bring a gold coin donation to support child safety through the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. We look forward to sharing with our community strong messages regarding the safety of *all* children and hope you will support this important national initiative.



## Teaching and Learning in Week 9

This week, all of our classroom teachers from Prep to Year 6 have committed to a full day of planning led by Michelle Preston our Pedagogical Coach and Dani Fairbairn our Head of Curriculum. This planning supports teachers to prepare for Term 4 teaching and learning, ensuring consistency of practice for both instruction and assessment via the Australian Curriculum. Michelle has been given the week off newsletter writing – instead, we'll share with you a snapshot of Michelle with Mrs Wenzel and Miss Wood deep in curriculum conversation!

## ....every day counts at Darra State School

Darra State School parents are notified by SMS at 10am if their child is away without notification. Thank you for contacting the office as soon as possible if your child is away.

All Queensland state schools are open for learning right up until the last day of Term 4, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that children attend school every day right up until the last day of school.



It is important to know that students who are absent from school for more than 10 school days (because of illness or family holidays) require an exemption from schooling. An appointment must be made with the Principal to discuss the reasons for the exemption from school before it is approved. Parents have a responsibility to make this appointment if considering overseas travel or anticipate extended time away from school.

If you have any questions or you'd like to make an appointment with me to discuss school exemption, please contact Kristy on 3716 6444.

## How are you getting ready for Swimming in Term 4?

**Thank you** to the families who have already committed to Swimming Lessons in readiness for next term. Attached to this edition of the newsletter is a copy of the permission note for swimming lessons. Please complete it and return with payment by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. We are providing our families with plenty of notice to plan for swimming – payments are welcomed now.



Families will need to pay *before* Swimming begins as opposed to paying week to week – notes will go home during Week 8.

If this is of concern to you and your family, I invite you to contact me via email ([principal@darrass.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@darrass.eq.edu.au)) or via the office on 3716 6444.

We will continue to remind students about Term 4 Swimming over the next few weeks so that they can be as prepared as possible. Thank you for your support here.

## Footsteps Dance Presentation



All students from Prep to Year 6 have been spending Friday mornings getting active and moving! On Parade, Week 10 (Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept), students will be sharing their moves on parade – we welcome all parents to come along and cheer our students on!

**Parade will start at 2.15pm.**

## Woolworths Earn and Learn

Darra State School will be participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn initiative until **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September at school**. Alternatively, you can drop your stickers in to Monier Woolies up until Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you for your support.



## Chappy's Champions Breakfast

Earlier this week, Lisa Dennis, our PBL Coach and I, joined Chappy Josh for the Chaplains Champion's Breakfast where Chaplains from the surrounding areas came together. This was a great opportunity to learn more about the significant impact Chaplains have in our schools and to also meet some up and coming Red's stars!

Thank you, Chappy Josh for inviting us along!



At this point in time, I have no updates on the return of Mrs Bec McGuren however will communicate with the school community as soon as I have notification and anticipate that this will be before the end of Term 3.

Wishing all families a wonderful and safe holiday break and we'll see you next term!

**Ms Julia Bailey**  
**Principal**

## THE KIDS CONNECT SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

**For children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Is your child experiencing difficulties connecting with other children and making and/or maintaining friendships?

The Kids Connect Program is a 10 week social skills program for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder at the Griffith University Psychology Clinic (Mt Gravatt Campus). The Kids Connect Program is designed for girls and boys aged 7-12 years and focuses on the following aspects of social interactions:

Understanding Friendship  
Repairing Friendships

Initiating and Maintaining Friendships  
Coping with Teasing and Bullying

There is one group for the child and one group for the parent(s). The parent group focuses on how to extend and further develop your child's social skills. The child group runs from 4pm-5pm and the parent group runs from 5pm-5:30pm. The total cost for this program is \$200.

A 7-9 year old group is commencing in Term 4, 2017 and there are some spaces still available.

You are also welcome to contact the clinic with expressions of interest for groups in 2018 for children aged 7-9 years and 10 – 12 years.

For more information please contact the  
Griffith University Psychology Clinic at Mt Gravatt

**(07) 3735 3301 or  
psych-clinic@griffith.edu.au**