17 April, 2013
Term 2 Week 1

The season is Bangkerreng - The Knock‘em Down Season. The wind begins to blow from the South-East. This is the season when green turns to gold as the rains ease and the spear grass turns to gold before being knocked to the ground by the last storms and heavy rains – the Wet’s last hurrah!

Rain blows hard,
And knocks the grass down.
Speargrass seeds fall to the ground...
Sharp pointy seeds spin and spiral.
Ants say thank you,
We’ll store them well.
Goodbye to Gudjeuk days,
Good morning Bangkerreng,
Good morning everyone!

Author unknown

Have you noticed a slight change in the air? The seasons are definitely moving along. This is such a wonderful time of year. Most of us are now looking forward to the dry, less humid weather. Bangkerreng is still part of the Wet Season cycle but it is the grand finale. This is when the last big storms sweep across the Top End, knocking down the now gloriously tall spear grass, sending their seeds spiralling deep into the earth safe from the fires yet to come.

As the land starts to dry out, grasses start to form seed heads. This in turn brings out the seed eaters like the little finches to feast and grow fat. Dragonflies and butterflies are now starting to appear, announcing the coming of the Dry. Billygoat plums are starting to fruit and yams are ready to dig up while the ground is still soft.

(written by Ros Coggan, Preschool Teacher, 2006)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL …

DRY SEASON UNIFORM
This may seem impossible to those of you who are new to Darwin, but Term Two can be quite a cool (dare I say cold) term. This can bring out many strange clothes as Darwinites dive deep into their wardrobes to see what still fits and what is warm. Please remember that the school uniform is still an essential part of this dress standard. While clothing may be worn underneath or over the top, the uniform must be there and it will make its appearance by recess. It is usually about 30C by then so we can live through that.
**PUPIL FREE DAY**

We will be having a Pupil Free Day on Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} May. This gives the whole staff the opportunity to work on the new Australian Curriculum History materials and also to engage in professional development relating to our school Reading approach. While I recognise that this is not always ideal for parents, the benefits that we gain are enormous.

The school will provide child care at the school for the day and these children can then stay on in the regular After School Care service. Next week we will ask for names of children who will attend the school care during this day as we will need to organise our carers.

**ANZAC DAY CEREMONY**

Stuart Park Primary School will celebrate ANZAC Day with a Commemorative Ceremony next **Wednesday, 24 April, at 8.30am** in the school assembly area. This is a very special event for our school community, as many of our families have members who are presently serving or have served in the Australian Defence Force. Through this ceremony we commemorate Australia’s veterans and recognise and reflect upon Australia’s wartime history and peacekeeping operations.

**Parents and members of the wider community are invited to attend.** It would be appreciated if parents who are members of the Defence Force could come to the Ceremony in uniform. Students who are members of service organisations such as Scouts, Guides or St Johns are encouraged to wear their uniforms to school on Wednesday. **All students** are asked to participate in the proceedings by bringing flowers to the Ceremony which they will lay underneath the flag in remembrance of the men and women who have given their lives in the service of our nation.

The Ceremony this year will include a catafalque party from the Australian Air Force Cadets, a performance by the Stuart Park Senior Choir and poetry recital by our School Captains and House Leaders.

There will be ANZAC biscuits and tea in the school staffroom after the Ceremony for those parents and visitors who are able to stay.

**CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24\textsuperscript{th} April</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Anzac Day ceremony at school 8:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>25\textsuperscript{th} April</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th} May</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>May Day holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-17\textsuperscript{th} May</td>
<td>Tuesday - Friday</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-28\textsuperscript{th} May</td>
<td>Monday - Tuesday</td>
<td>School photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>10\textsuperscript{th} June</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>20\textsuperscript{th} June</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>School Twilight Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>21\textsuperscript{st} June</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Last day of term two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23\textsuperscript{rd} July</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>First day of term three</td>
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STUDENT AWARD …
At our last Whole School Assembly we awarded a Principal’s award to Sofronia Mostris for earning 4 merit awards. Well done Sofronia.

ANZAC BISCUITS FOR SALE
Our wonderful canteen staff are busily baking, and taking orders for, delicious Anzac biscuits. They are for sale for 60cent each or $6.00 per dozen.

DEFENCE NEWS
I hope you had a relaxing break and are ready to enjoy Term 2.

The first important date for your diary is Wednesday 24th April. This is the date of our ANZAC Day assembly. If you haven’t attended this assembly at Stuart Park then make this your year. This is one of the most historically important dates on our national calendar. The assembly gives us an opportunity to commemorate the valiant soldiers who fought the Battle of Gallipoli in our country’s first war experience and also pay tribute to soldiers who have lost their lives in the line of duty since. The assembly begins at 8:30am and we invite you to attend in uniform.

Phillipa Cosgrove DSTA

FUNDRAISING
• WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN PROGRAM
Last year we were able to purchase around $15000 worth of furniture, and resources with the credits we earned in the Earn and Learn program. This year we aim to do more furniture and resource refurbishment with the points we earn from the Woolworths Earn and Learn program.

It’s simple to participate - when shopping at Woolworths you will be able to collect the stickers for Earn & Learn Points from the checkout operator. Place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet. There’ll be 1 Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent*. Once completed, please send them into school.
*excludes liquor, cigarettes and gift cards.

• MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE
Thank you to those families who have made donations so far. We are still looking for more donations for the raffle. Raffle tickets will go out shortly.

DARWIN HIGH SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY
Darwin High will be hosting an open event for the community to showcase the school and its talent on Thursday 8th August from 4:30pm to sunset.

On Saturday the 10th of August, a black tie ball at Skycity Darwin will be held. Tickets for the ball will be available soon.

Persons interested in receiving more information are requested to register their interest at http://www.darwinhigh.nt.edu.au/
ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY 2013

Introduction
Bernie Bree

Greater Love Than This
Written by Ted Egan
Recited by Sevasti Diamandopoulos, Eric Kitazato-Mu,
Andriana Kokkinidis, and Jaimee Murphy

The Address
Captain Lachlan Griffin, Australian Army

Laying of Flowers

Lest We Forget
Performed by the Stuart Park Primary School Choir
conducted by Ms Katie Streader

The Ode
Recited by Nathan Lee

The Last Post
Bugler - Mr Mark Bleakley

One minute of silence in remembrance

Reveille

National Anthem

Catafalque Party - Australian Air Force Cadets
Training Officer, Mr David Lines