27 February 2013
Term 1 Week 5

“The season is Gudjeuk - The Monsoon Season. The winds are blowing from the North-East, bringing the monsoon rains with them. Storms blow across the countryside and rain rejuvenates the land after months of being dry.”

FROM THE PRINCIPAL …
Over the past two weeks I have explained briefly two of the three key aspects of our school culture. The third is Building Strong Relationships.
This aspect promotes a class where all children know the names of other children; know something about them such as their favourite sport, hobby or activity; have some knowledge of their teacher’s favourite sport or hobby; and have a friendship group they are comfortable with. Children should feel comfortable in their setting and know that they are understood and liked.

Teachers work with their students to help them develop positive attitudes and perceptions about what is required of them as students. If students feel accepted and liked by their teacher and peers then they are more likely to engage in learning and to behave positively.

Things still go wrong but we hope that your child knows that we really do like them and they are always welcome in the class. Their teacher is there to support them in their learning.

SICK AT SCHOOL
We have had a few very sick children go home from school early this week and their parents have alerted us that doctors have told them it is a very strong virus which seems to start with a headache and quickly develops into high temperature. In two other cases croup has been mentioned.
This is just to let you know to be alert should your child show signs of sickness.

PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS
Though the school is funded by the NT Government, we have found that, by requesting an extra Contribution from families, we can provide a higher standard of resourcing. We ask families to contribute $130 per child per year. In the preschool we ask for $60 per term.

At this school we have in the past received over 90% of these Contributions and this shows the high level of support that we receive from our community. It should be noted that these Contributions are not compulsory and you will not receive an invoice, just this request from time to time.

You can make these Contributions at the school office by cash or card or by phoning the school and giving your payment details.
Thank you for your support.
STUDENT AWARDS
At last week’s Whole School Assembly we awarded Principal’s awards to the following students for earning 4 merit awards. Our congratulations to: Jonty Ross and Allyza Benisano.

What wonderful role models we have in our school. It makes us very proud.
Congratulations to you both.

BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION
Just a reminder that there is no supervision at the school for children who arrive before 7:50am. It has been noticed that many children are dropped off before this time, some much before. The school cannot offer supervision for these early arrivers and so we ask that an adult remain with them, especially the early childhood children.

ALLERGY AWARE
This school has an Allergy Awareness Policy. It is targeted at ensuring that we do not expose children with allergies to foods which are known to cause them issues. Typically this is nuts but there are other foods which cause allergic reactions.
The Policy is based on the following:
- Discouraging children bringing food to school which is known to cause allergic reactions in others. We therefore ask that nuts not make up any part of your lunchbox. In some classes the teacher may ask that other foods are avoided due to known reactions by children in the class.
- Knowing who is allergic and to what. It is important that staff and students are aware of students with allergies so that we can react if required.
- No sharing of food. Children must not share food as this may cause problems with other children.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
A message from the Australian Government
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?
If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.
The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.
Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.
OFFICE OPEN HOURS
The school office will be open from 7:45am to 4:00pm each day of the week for payments, purchases and any other business. It will also stay open until 5:30pm on every second Thursday.

LATE OR ABSENT
We ask that you keep us informed of any late arrivals or absences by calling the school as soon in the morning as you can. We have a policy of following up all unexplained absences so your phone call saves us time and is much appreciated.

Children arriving after the start of the school day must go to the office first as they will need to be marked late. Their teacher will have marked them absent and this can be changed at the office.

NEWSLETTER WITHOUT PAPER
We are working towards going digital and we have been collecting email addresses to send newsletters rather than a paper copy. Please ensure we have your current email address in the office. Thank you for the several hundred email addresses we have recently received. Keep them coming. We hope to send out our fully (or nearly) digital newsletter in the next few weeks. You can still opt for paper if you wish.

CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st March</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Upper Primary and Early Childhood assemblies</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th March</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>2nd April</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>5th April</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Last day Term One</td>
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<td>15th April</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>First day Term Two</td>
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DEFENCE NEWS
A reminder to call the Defence Family Helpline for matters previously associated with DCO. The Defence Family Helpline operates 24/7 and is staffed by qualified human services professionals including social workers and psychologists. The number is 1800624608.

Phillipa Cosgrove
DSTA
OTTWAYS TAE KWON DO AND SELF DEFENCE.
Classes are held at Stuart Park Primary School on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6.30 to 8 pm. Come and enjoy martial arts with a qualified instructor for self-defence, fitness and fun. Contact Peter on 0427991394. Come and Try.

DARWIN NETBALL ASSOCIATION
Junior Netball Clubs - Sign On Day – SATURDAY 2nd MARCH @ Sitzler Netball Courts, MARRARA. From 9am to 11am. Contact – darwin.netball@bigpond.com

DARWIN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Junior Hockey clubs – Sign On Day – SATURDAY 2nd MARCH @ Marrara Hockey Centre. From 9am into afternoon. This is a come and try day with equipment and coaches available to let kids have a go and see if they like it.

DARWIN CRICKET CLUB
Junior and Senior Sign On Day – Boys and Girls of any ability all welcome Saturday March 2 @ Kahlin Oval from 10am to midday. Come and register for U11, U13, U15 and U17 teams as well as for our Milo in2cricket program for 5-9 year olds Training for U11, U13 and U15 starts at Kahlin Wednesday March 13 and the season starts April 14 (May 3 for in2cricket) Contact Simon Dring on 0437 230123 (simon.dring@coateshire.com.au)

EMAIL INFORMATION
Please check my family's email details for newsletters etc:

Students Name / s.................................................................................................................Class ..............

Students Name / s.................................................................................................................Class ..............

Students Name / s.................................................................................................................Class ..............

Email address : .................................................................................................................................

OR

I still want to receive a printed newsletter each week  □