6 February 2013
Term 1 Week 2

“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 ...
Below is a description of the season we should be having. Perhaps it is will arrive soon!
At present we are seeing tremendous lush growth covering everything, lots of frogs, lots of spiders and insects and the exciting weather patterns which bring torrential rain and some amazing thunder and lightning storms. Waterways fill and flood onto the flood plains. It is a season of growth.

BARBARA BRANN PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Monday, 11th February at 5:30pm to 6.30pm
Next week we will welcome Barbara Brann back to our school to work with our teachers in the classroom on how we teach spelling. This is the third time Barbara has been to our school to provide professional development to our teaching staff from preschool through to Year 6 on developing a whole school approach to teaching spelling. Barbara is an experienced public speaker and educator and is widely recognized throughout Australia and New Zealand for the work she does with both teachers and children.

This visit we would like to extend an invitation to interested parents to come along to a parent session with Barbara to learn more about how children learn to spell and how we can assist them. We hope you will join us in the library next Monday.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Straight after the Barbara Brann session, we will hold our Annual General Meeting for the School Council. This meeting does not take long and we would appreciate it if you could stay around. You may want to just listen, or ask questions or even run for the Council in the elections. Whatever your purpose, we would love to see you stay. Contact the school if you would like more information on what you need to do in order to be on the School Council.

MEET THE TEACHER  Wednesday, 13th February, from 5:30-6:30pm
You are invited to come along to school next Wednesday and meet your child’s teacher. While here we hope your child will:
- Introduce you to their teacher;
- Show you around their room and explain any significant parts or displays;
- Show you some of their early work for the year;
- Take you on a walk around the grounds;
- Show you other rooms and teachers that they see throughout the week. E.g. Science Room, Performing Arts Room, library.

There will not be time to have a discussion regarding your child’s progress, it is just to meet and have a look at your child’s school environment. You are more than welcome to make a time to sit and talk with the teacher should you wish to.
STUDENT ELECTIONS
Here at Stuart Park Primary School we conduct elections to determine School Captains and House Leaders for the year. We encourage willing students to write a speech, make posters and even give out ‘how to vote cards’ as part of their campaign.

On **Friday 15th February** at 8:30am, students from year 3-6 will gather in the Dragonfly Room to listen to the speeches by the candidates for School Captain. The candidates must be in year 6. The students will then proceed to their own classroom to vote for their favourite candidate. Two boy and two girl Captains will be elected.

On **Wednesday 27th February** at 1:40pm, students from years 3-6 will gather in their House Groups to hear the speeches by the candidates for the House Leaders. Voting will take place in the House groups immediately after the speeches. A boy and girl captain will be elected from each House and can be either a year 5 or 6 student. We encourage parents to come along and listen to the speeches. Good luck to all the candidates.

BIRTHDAYS, CAKES AND ALLERGIES
At Stuart Park, in both the preschool and primary school, we have students who suffer from allergic reactions. For these students the reaction to nut or other products can be fatal. The classroom teacher and office staff are trained to treat the allergic reactions but we are asking parents to talk to their children about what they can do as a preventative. Students will be asked to wash their hands after eating, not share food, be aware of children in their class with allergies and understand just how certain products can affect others.

The school has an “Allergy Awareness Policy” as we recognise that we cannot completely rule out nut products entering the school. We do, however, request that you do not pack food in your child’s lunchbox that could cause allergic reactions in others and this means no nuts.

In some classes you may also be informed of other allergy issues and asked not to pack specific food items.

Thank you for your understanding and thoughtfulness regarding this issue.

ROAD MESSAGE
New child restraint laws in the NT, effective 1 February 2013, mean that all children under 7 years of age must be secured in an approved child restraint or booster seat when travelling in a vehicle. The type of restraint depends on the age of the child. Penalties and demerit points per child apply.

UNIFORMS
New stocks of shorts and shirt uniforms have finally arrived, but we are still waiting for dresses and socks. Thank you for your patience while waiting for these.

SCHOOL BANKING
Banking day is Friday. If you would like information on participating in this, please contact the school office.
**DARWIN LANGUAGES CENTRE FREE VOUCHER**

Darwin Languages Centre provides after school Language classes to students in all phases of learning.

They are now on a new campus in Nemarluk Drive (old Nemarluk School site) and have been able to increase student numbers and language options.

Darwin Languages Centre is offering Government Schools a free voucher (valued at $400) for one student from each school to attend after school Language classes throughout 2013.

If you would like your son/daughter to be considered for this opportunity, enrol in the Language course and contact our front office by close of business on Monday next week (11th February). A random draw will then take place and the successful student’s family will be notified.

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**CALENDAR**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th February</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>All school assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th February</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Barbara Brann Parent Information Evening 5:30 – 6:30pm&lt;br&gt;School Council AGM 6:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th February</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Evening at 5:30-6:30pm</td>
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<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<td>29th March</td>
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<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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**LIBRARY NEWS**

Your child will visit the library each week with their class. Students in Preschool to Year 2 can borrow up to 2 books and keep them for 2 weeks. Students need a library bag to protect their books. These are available from the front office, however, students could use their own library bags, shopping bags or even an old pillow slip. Students in Year 3 – 5 can borrow 4 books for 4 weeks. They are strongly encouraged to renew their loans instead of having overdue books. The library is open every lunch time.

**HELP NEEDED: Do you have some time to volunteer?** We always need help in the library, shelving and covering books. This could be done at school or home with flexible times. Please contact Kerrie Crowfoot in the library if you can help.

**PS** I have lent many students library bags over the last couple of weeks. You are welcome to keep the bag if your child doesn’t own a library bag. If they do, can you please send the bags back to the library. I think I am down to my last box of spare bags!
INSTRUMENT TUITION
Instrument tuition with instructors from the NT Music School begins this week. Places in the program have filled up quickly. There are still very limited vacancies for students from Years 4 to 6 to learn clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone or percussion. Expression of Interest forms are available from the school office. For those already accepted into the program, instruments are available for hire from the school. Guitar - $20 per semester. Saxophone, clarinet and flute - $90 per semester

DEFENCE NEWS
There is a welcome morning tea this Friday 8th February (9am – 10:30am) straight after the school assembly. It will be held in The Dragonfly Room, the large room used for After School Care. No need to RSVP. Non school-aged children welcome and catered for. I look forward to seeing you there.
Phillipa Cosgrove  DSTA

The following advertisement  not necessarily endorsed by this school

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.

LIFE SAVING
Royal Life Saving Society Northern Territory will be recommencing its 2013 pool lifesaving season on Wednesday 6th February 2013. Training will be held at the Casuarina Pool every Wednesday from 6pm – 7pm. Pool. Lifesaving provides a fun and exciting environment for children with developed swimming abilities, so come down and have a go! For future enquires phone 08 8981 5036 or email sportnt@rlssa.org.au

FOR SALE
2 x Tae Kwon Do uniforms in brand new condition with all the fighting pads, head gear, shin guards ETC. Sizes would suit 7-12 year olds. $100 each. Contact Sharon on 0458620009

KRYSTALS CALISTHENICS CLASSES
Calisthenics is a team sport consisting of several different types of routines or disciplines. It incorporates elements of dance, gymnastics, ballet, marching, apparatus technique (rods and clubs), acting and singing. Calisthenics improves coordination, mobility, balance, strength, grace, flexibility and deportment; as well as fostering self-esteem and team spirit.

Classes are held Saturdays at the Casuarina Baptist Church Hall on Dripstone Rd (next door to St Johns Ambulance).
For more information please email krystals.calisthenics@gmail.com