27 March 2013 Term 1 Week 9

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL …

HARMONY DAY
It was good that so many parents were able to make our Harmony Day celebration assembly last week. It was a terrific show and I would like to thank the many people who worked with the children to make it possible. Sylvia Siskamanis, our Science Teacher, got the Greek children dancing and taught us a few words in Greek – Opa! Mr Wayne Lo, from the Chung Wah Society organized a great group of our very own Chinese students to show us the Dragon and Lion Dance and the percussionists were excellent. Ms Ros (Year 3 Teacher) and Mrs Gabrielle (English as a Second Language Teacher) organized the Filipino dancers for their first performance. They were fantastic and we would also like to thank the Filipino parents for their support, especially Zarah Dizon who somehow organised the costumes in such short time and Cheryll Siat and Marilyn Benisano who helped with the dance. Of course we must mention our great school choir who also had their first performance of the year. Once again, they are very impressive under the guidance of Miss Streader.

Term two is always such a busy but terrific term. Because it is mostly in the Dry Season, lots of outdoor activities occur, we all feel better after a few months of sweating and everyone wants to visit us to get away from the cold down south. You can see from the calendar at the end of this newsletter that school life gets busy too. I am sure there are many more events that will pop up and I will continue to add to the calendar as soon as I can.

For teachers it will be a time of planning to implement the Australian Curriculum in History. Last year saw the Australian Curriculum Mathematics and English being implemented and this year it is Science and History. This school is already into Science as we have Mrs. Siskamanis and Mrs. Crompton teaching Science to all classes and they are well ahead and have been using the Australian Curriculum for quite some time.

Another focus for teachers will be the teaching of reading and we will all be involved in some professional development around approaches to teaching reading. So, lots of fun for all during term two.

I hope you all have a happy and relaxing Easter and that everyone returns refreshed and with stories of good times with family and friends, perhaps even camping or fishing if the weather co-operates.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
You should have received information about your child’s parent teacher interview and hopefully you have returned the slip letting us know when you are available. If not, please call the office and book a time. Confirmed times have been sent home today.
EASTER ACTIVITIES TOMORROW

- **EASTER HAT PARADE**
  Tomorrow, Thursday 28th March at 9.30am, students from all year levels will participate in our annual Easter Hat Parade. **Students make their hats at home** and bring them into school in the morning. It is always a lively and colourful event and a great opportunity for families to work together in creating their Easter Hat. We look forward to seeing you there to cheer students on as they parade past in their marvelous creations.

- **EGG DECORATING COMPETITION**
  Let’s Decorate! Boil an egg! Decorate your Egg! Bring it to school tomorrow and you could win a prize! We are giving a prize to the best decorated egg in each class in the school. Let your imagination run wild! Eggs will be judged by the school captains and house leaders.

- **THE GREAT EASTER EGG ROLLING COMPETITION**
  It’s Fun! Be Creative!
  **Upper Primary students only** are invited to be part of the Great Easter Egg Roll competition and have a chance to win a great prize. Your job is to design and build a ramp that will help a little, solid Easter egg roll the greatest distance.

  **You may only use the following materials:**
  12 straws, 1 A4 sheet of cardboard and 1 metre of sticky tape.
  One clever person from each upper primary class will win a prize! Good luck!

**PRE SCHOOL EASTER RAFFLE**
A BIG thank you to all the families that sold raffle tickets and donated Easter goodies for our Raffle. Your support is much appreciated by us. The Raffle will be drawn tomorrow morning and winners will be notified. Good luck to everyone.

**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:

- Cordelia Richards, Shane Cai, Rosalie Pazos,
- Dani Toldi, Paulo de Jesus Augusto, Tahlia D’Souza,
- Emma Rowe, Emma Lines, and Matilda McCullough.

What a pleasure it was to award another **Stuart Park flag**. This time to Marcus Lee for earning 4 Principal’s Awards. Well done Marcus. What a great role model you are and we are so proud to have you in our school.
**FUNDRAISING**

*Woolworths Earn and Learn*

Yes, it is back again! Last year we were able to redeem collected points to the monetary value of around $15,000. This money was used to renew Early Childhood furniture and resources. Woolworths are continuing with the campaign this year and once again we are looking to collect points. The campaign is scheduled to run from April 8th to June 9th. We are again asking the support of our school community in collecting points. Last year we collected 140,000 points. This year let’s aim to collect 150,000 points.

**DEFENCE NEWS**

A reminder to call the Defence Family Helpline for anything associated with DCO. One of our parents recently called the helpline regarding returning to work. The parent was surprised and delighted by their assistance with this matter. The Defence Family Helpline operates 24/7 and is staffed by qualified human services professionals. The number is **1800624608**

Phillipa Cosgrove  DSTA

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**CALENDAR**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Easter activities at school</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>Easter Monday Public Holiday</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>
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<td>15th April</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>First day Term Two</td>
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<td>24th April</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Anzac Day ceremony at school</td>
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<td>25th April</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>May Day holiday</td>
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<td>14-17th May</td>
<td>Tuesday - Friday</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>27-28th May</td>
<td>Monday - Tuesday</td>
<td>School photos</td>
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<td>10th June</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday holiday</td>
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<td>20th June</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>School Twilight Sports</td>
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<td>21st June</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Last day of term two</td>
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<td>23rd July</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>First day of term three</td>
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**Healthy Kids  a School Council Initiative**

**Keep it Cool:** place a small bottle of frozen water in the lunch box. Water is the best drink for hot, thirsty kids.

**Tempt tiny tastes:** Lunch does not have to be a sandwich. Child friendly meals can be served in a small container with a fork or spoon. Savoury mince, sweet corn fritters, pasta, meatballs with sauce will all provide a filling and healthy lunchbox alternative to sandwiches.

**A Note on Nuts:** our school has a Nut-Aware policy. This means parents should be aware there are children attending school with allergies to nuts. Please keep sandwiches or snacks containing nuts for when children come home.

Here is a healthy and yummy lunchbox idea for you to try:
Crunchy Nuggets
2 cups (150g) quinoa flakes
2 cup (160g) finely crushed cornflakes
500g chicken mince
2 eggs, beaten lightly
2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley
1/3 cup (80ml) olive oil
1. Combine quinoa & cornflakes in a medium bowl and stir to combine.
2. In another bowl, combine mince, eggs, parsley and 2/3 cup of the quinoa/cornflake mixture.
3. Roll the chicken mixture into small nugget shapes and coat with the remainder of the cornflake mixture.
4. Refrigerate the crumbed nuggets for 15 minutes to allow them to become firm.
5. Heat oil in a non-stick flying pan and cook nuggets, in batches, over a medium heat for 5 minutes, turning once, or until golden brown and cooked through. Drain on paper towels.

Suitable to freeze. Serve with carrot / celery / cucumber sticks and your favourite sauce. ** I add a couple of teaspoons of chicken stock powder for extra seasoning. **

The following advertisements are 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.

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION.
Fr John Kelliher and the St Mary’s Cathedral Parish Community invite parents to enrol their Catholic children in preparation for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation and Baptism for 2013. Registrations forms are available from this weekend at all Masses from St Mary’s Cathedral and by return email from the Parish Secretary ph 8981 2863 or email cathedral@darwin.catholic.org.au. Please return completed forms to the Parish Office as soon as you are able.

DARWIN CRICKET CLUB
Junior training has started at Kahlin Oval, Larrakeyah
Season starts Sat April 13  U11, U13 and U15 Wednesdays from 4.30 to 6.00
U17 Tues and Thurs from 4.30 to 6.00
Milo in2cricket for 5-8 Year Olds – starts Friday May 3 at 5pm.
Cricket Aust qualified coaches in all junior grades
Contact Simon Dring  0437 230123 – simon.dring@coateshire.com.au

NRL HOLIDAY CAMP
Tuesday 9th April from 9am to 2 pm. Cost: $20 per child from 6 to 12 years. Includes lunch, Rugby League Ball, Rugby League certificate. Register at www.ntdevelopment.leaguenet.com.au or phone Trent Gorrie on 0409180038

DIABOLO’S FOR SALE
Contact Fairy Jill on 0422506723