Dalay – Monsoon Season

“Dalay is the monsoon season. Monsoons replenish the thirsty land. Water gushes from rivers and creeks, and floodplains are buried under lakes of water. The water disperses seeds and new plants are sprouting. Manmanma (cyclones) seem more frequent and are a sign of a troubled planet.”


FROM THE PRINCIPAL …

Welcome to the 2014 school year at Stuart Park Primary School. I hope the start for your child was smooth and I am sure they will soon be well settled and into a new learning year. An important aspect of how we work together is our school culture and I have very briefly explained this below. More detail will follow over the next few weeks.

SCHOOL CULTURE

Over the first few weeks the teachers will work with your child to ensure we all have common understandings of how we work and learn together at Stuart Park School. The three important parts of our school culture are:

The Tribes Agreements – In every classroom you will see the five agreements on display. These apply to all of us, staff and students, and many families find that they are also a great way for them to operate at home. I will explain these in more detail over the next few weeks and will also send home a pamphlet for your reference. I also hope that your child will be able to explain these agreements to you. The agreements are: Do your personal best; Show mutual respect; Show attentive listening; We have the right to pass; Give appreciations, no put downs.

No Bullying – All students will do some work around how to identify bullying and what to do if it happens to them. Importantly, we know that bullies cannot exist if we all feel confident to tell someone who can help.

Relationships – In order to have a positive learning environment, it is important that all children have positive relationships with fellow students and their teachers. A lot of work is put into forming these relationships in these first few weeks.

I will expand on these over the next few weeks.
SOME QUICK POINTS:

MORNING SUPERVISION
There are teachers on duty to supervise children from 7:50am until the bell goes at 8:10am. Before this, children dropped off are unsupervised.

TRAFFIC
The start of the day can be hectic. Please remember that there is usually room in Verberg Street should your child be in Years 3 to 6. In all other areas, park safely so that our children are safe. Do not park in the drive through area.

In the afternoon, if you are picking up and don’t need to go to the classroom, we suggest children wait at the front of the office and get picked up on the drive through. Wait until about 2:45pm and the buses will have gone and it is a stress free pick up.

There is no parking at this time on the drive through

WET WEATHER PICK UP
If it is raining at 2:30pm or there is a storm close by, we keep children under cover so the idea is to be patient and get to the classroom to pick up if you can.

If you usually pick your child up from various arranged places around the school, please wait until buses have gone at about 2:45pm and pick them up out the front of the office. They will be safe there. Otherwise just wait out the storm knowing that we will keep your child safe and dry.

PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS
We ask for $130 per child per year in the primary school and $60 per child per term in the preschool. These provide very valuable additions to our programs and we thank parents greatly for this assistance to enhance our educational resources.

SCHOOL TIMES
School starts at 8:10am. Children should be at school before this time so that they can enter class and start the day with their class. If children arrive after the bell they are to go straight to the office to have the daily rolls adjusted correctly. School finishes at 2:30pm and children must be picked up or other arrangements made for this time. We have a large After School Care program and so children are not to remain at school after classes finish.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL
There are many times that parents contact teachers direct with information regarding attendance, early pick-ups, changes to after school arrangements etc. We request that copies of these details are also sent to the main school email address stuartpark.school@nt.schools.net as, at times, teachers are not on class due to professional development, non-contact times, or absences and the message may not get through.
**UNIFORMS AND YOUR VOUCHER**
Each preschool and primary school student has a voucher for $150 waiting for them at the school office. This can be used for such items as uniforms, camps, excursions and music equipment hire. If you come into the office, the staff can help you with this. They must be used by the end of term one.

**ABOUT SPORTS VOUCHER**
We have Sports Vouchers for the value of $75 which will be ready for you to collect at school next Monday. They have the student’s and parent’s name on them and these can be used at registered sports clubs for registration fees, equipment and uniform purchases. At present we will only have vouchers for those enrolled as at 1st December but the rest are on their way and we will keep you informed.

**MEET THE TEACHER**
While you are more than welcome to meet your child’s teacher at any time, on Monday 17th February (week 4) from 5:30pm to 6:30pm, we will have an opportunity here at school for all parents to drop in and see their child’s classroom, meet their child’s teacher and see some initial work the students have done. This is not a parent teacher interview and if you have any concerns about your child’s progress then you should make a separate time to meet the teacher.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
Immediately after the Meet the Teacher Evening, we will hold our School Council AGM and invite you to become a part of a very active and supportive group of parents. I assure you that this is a group who gets things done and our meetings are efficient, fun and productive.

Even if you feel that you are not ready to join us as a member at this stage, your attendance at the AGM would be greatly appreciated. Call me or email me at school if you would like to find out more.

**NEWSLETTER WITHOUT PAPER**
Last year we sent nearly all of our newsletters to you by email. They are also to be found on our website - www.schools.nt.edu.au/stuartpk/_.
This will again be the case this year once we have the new database set up. You can still opt for paper if you wish. Please make sure all changes to email addresses are notified to the school.

**SCHOOL BANKING**
Sorry there will not be any school banking this week.
CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31st January</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Early Childhood and Upper Primary Assemblies at 8.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th February</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Evening at 5:30-6:30pm School Council AGM 6:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th April</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Last day Term One</td>
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<td>14th April</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>First day Term Two</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th-21st April</td>
<td>Fri-Mon</td>
<td>Easter</td>
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**NT MUSIC SCHOOL**
Has moved from Nightcliff to a new home at Sanderson Middle School, Matthews Road, Wulagi. Visit their website at [www.ntms.net.au](http://www.ntms.net.au) or contact them on phone 89635550; fax 89635569; email [nt.musicschool@ntschools.net](mailto:nt.musicschool@ntschools.net)

The following advertisements are not necessarily endorsed by the school

**DARWIN CRICKET CLUB**
Sign on Day Saturday Feb 15 - 9am to midday
Kahlin Oval, Temira Cres, Larrakeyah
Season starts mid April and training starts early March
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 2nd at 5pm.
Cricket Aust qualified coaches in all junior grades
Contact Simon Dring (0437 230123 – [simon.dring@coateshire.com.au](mailto:simon.dring@coateshire.com.au))

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*Infants to Adults
*Nightcliff & Casuarina Pool

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