PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Last week we had an unexpected visit from an ex pupil. Mrs. Eunice Lambert attended the school in the late 1920’s. Her father also attended the school and is on the schools WW1 Honour Roll. It was extremely interesting to hear how the school was back then, such as having a horse paddock behind the school, as everyone including the teacher rode a horse to school! It is wonderful that ex students have such pleasant memories of Duranbah School. We hope our current students have such pleasant memories that they will want to return in years to come.

Surfing

Our final surfing session was held last Tuesday. All our students had such a great time we have tentatively booked for the same period next year. It was fantastic to see the growth in skills and confidence of the children throughout the program. Our sincere thanks to the parents who have provided transport during the program.

Food

We are becoming increasingly concerned at the number of children who are arriving at school and eating chips and other packaged snack foods before the bell. These foods are often high in sugar, salt and preservatives which does not help concentration. A simple sandwich or piece of fruit is a much healthier alternative. The reason we have a fruit break mid morning - ‘fruit is a brain food’. Next term we will be discouraging any packaged food before school.

As this is the last newsletter of Term 1 the staff and myself wish all a safe and happy holiday break. First Day T2 Tuesday 29 April.

Chris Pritchard, Relieving Principal
LIBRARY AND COMPUTER SKILLS
Each week students from both the Primary and Infants Classes have been involved in library and research skills as part of their weekly library session. All students have been learning about the correct care and handling of books and their responsibilities as a borrower. Older students have been learning about the organisation of resources including Dewey Decimals and alphabetical ordering of our fiction books.
The students have also been refining their note taking skills so that they can best make use of information and avoid copying or plagiarising the work of others. They have also refined their Internet search skills by focussing on keywords when searching.
Our younger students have been actively learning computer skills. This term they have used Microsoft Word to type their name and investigated changing the size, font and colour of their writing. The students have also had fun investigating Paint and Draw tools. Some students have also learned how to source, save and insert pictures into their work.

VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH AUTHOR PAUL STAFFORD
Did you know that our school has serious T-Rex issues? Well, we could have, if the Primary class has success with their plans to produce a T-Rex from a fertilised chicken egg injected with T-Rex DNA!
Seriously though, the Primary Class have been introduced to this idea as a stimulus to writing by author Paul Stafford. Our first session with the author, set in the Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum involved our students creating a persuasive letter directed to Mr Pritchard as to why our school should have a T-Rex! We can't wait to see his response.
Our second conference with this author last Tuesday involved the Primary Class brainstorming T-Rex story ideas with 3 other schools. The ideas created from this engaging experience will prompt our students to create their own stories this week. Our final session will be next Tuesday at 10am. Parents are welcome to attend.

SURFING - A number of parents are keen to continue with surfing next term, outside of school hours. Details are: 8 lessons at 90 minutes per lesson. If a group of 8 children sign up the cost will be $195.00 each.
We are looking at Saturday/Sunday morning 10am to 11.30am. Please contact Nadia on 0405 782 726 for further information.

UNIFORMS
Please note we now have plenty of stock of the new shirts. There are also a number of 2nd hand school shirts, black shorts and tracksuit pants and tops available. If you require any extra uniforms please see Lorraine. I will leave the majority in the second hand cupboard till the end of term, but will have a big clean up early next term.

COMMUNITY NEWS
WALKIN’ ON WATER SURF SCHOOL, is running our hugely successful and popular Vegemite SurfGroms programs over the Easter School holidays and also again throughout Term 2. These programs combine 5 progressive levels of surf instruction from beginner to high end surfing with progressive surf safety and surf awareness skills and competencies. The Vegemite SurfGroms Program was specifically designed for 5-12 years olds and is not only heaps of fun for them but teaches them important surf and ocean safety skills while introducing them into the fantastic sport of surfing! Also as a huge bonus, each Grom that is registered and booked into one of our Programs also receives a Quiksilver SurfGroms pack packed full of Quiksilver, Wahu and SurfGrom goodies valued at over $250 For more information please visit our website – www.walkinonwater.com, email us at surf@walkinonwater.com or call us on 0418 780 311
KIDS HOLIDAY ART WORKSHOP - Choose from 6 different artists and 12 creative workshops in drawing, street art, DIY Shoes etc. 3 hrs $35 or 3 sessions $90. Information at www.artable.com.au/workshops