Dear Families

I hope you have had a relaxing break with family and friends. The rain was wonderful as was that glorious autumn sunshine that followed. I hope you had the chance to enjoy it.

We have had a busy few weeks! Congratulations to all involved in our recent inaugural Hills Education Community (HEC) INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL. It was an excellent achievement for our swimmers to be rewarded with the winning shield. Your behaviour and sportsmanship was exemplary also. Thanks to all parents for your support, to Magda for your early morning training sessions and to Ms Adam and Mr Scott for your coordination.

Our inaugural HARMONY DAY ASSEMBLY last Monday was a wonderful celebration of our cultural diversity. We certainly demonstrated that “everyone belongs” at Darlington Primary. The children learnt a lot about their family heritage and that of their classmates in the weeks leading up to this assembly. It was a great privilege to have Dr Noel Nannup open the assembly and address the students. Thanks also to Kaia Dunne, one of our students, Mr Steinwandel, one of our parents, and Mr Sherpa, one of our staff, for sharing their personal stories of life in the Bahamas, Bermuda, Germany and Nepal. Thanks also to our choir for their first public performance and lovely singing of “We are Australian”.

What a fantastic community event and an outstanding array of creative talent we saw last Thursday at the annual EASTER BONNET/SPECIAL HAT PARADE! It was great to see everyone involved! Special thanks to Jane Bigelow and her team of helpers from the P & C for preparing the assembly area and providing the prizes for each class, acknowledging the wondrous creativity of our students and parents.

Well done to everyone for being so well organised for our IN TERM SWIMMING PP - Year 6 which started today. It is very important that our students are involved in this activity, learning essential water safety skills and improving personal fitness. As you know the Department of Education meets the cost of instruction at these classes. The $31 payment covers transport and entry costs to the pool. Final payment is required by tomorrow please.

Term 1 will close with the ANZAC CEREMONY on the final FRIDAY 8th APRIL at 8.50am on the top basketball courts. This is an opportunity for the school community to come together to acknowledge and reflect on the contributions past and present of our armed service men and women. Students are asked to wear their full school uniform (including hats). The ceremony will finish in time for students to get ready for swimming. Donations of flowers for wreaths are most welcome.

TERM 2 will commence for students on WEDNESDAY APRIL 27th. The Term 2 calendar is attached to this newsletter.

An OPEN COMMUNITY FORUM is planned for Week 4 of Term 2 as part of the consultation process for INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL status. More information will be provided once a date is finalised.

Thanks for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful vacation. Enjoy time with family and friends.

Maree James,
Principal
School Contributions and Charges
Thank you to all the parents who have already made payments.

If you have not already paid for your students Voluntary Contributions and Subscriptions, you are encouraged to do so.

Payments can be made in the office, on flexischools or via your child’s class teacher.

Payments can be made by; cash, cheque or EFTPOS.

(Payment by flexi schools will incur a 1.82% fee)

PETER COMBE – Tuesday May 17 2016

School Incursion

Coming Soon

Kindy to Year 6

Swimming Lesson Times

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<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>Group 3</th>
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| Rm 1 | Rm 2 | Rm 3 | Rm 4 | Rm 5 | Rm 6 | Rm 7 | Rm 8 | Rm 11 | Rm 10 | Rm 9 | Rm 12 |

Canteen Note for Swimming Lessons

The Canteen has a big favour to ask to assist us during swimming lessons for the remaining 2wks of term. As there are staggered lunch times this year, it would be greatly appreciated if you could order something cold from the menu ie. sandwich, wrap, salad box. This way if there are any delays with transport back to school, etc. your child’s lunch will remain chilled in the fridge ready for his/her return. Please also note that commencing Friday, 1st April there will be a limited menu whilst swimming lessons are being held.

Thanks for your assistance in this regard.
Tracy Roache, Canteen Lady :)
0412 800 985 or 9299 6888

Initiative, Trust, Tolerance
New Veggie Gardens
Our grounds improvement project is underway! You may have seen in the senior school we now have a fabulous veggie garden ready for the children to start using.

Thank you to the Chittleborough family from Nutrarich for donating the beautiful soil and to the team of parents who picked up the beds and installed them (in the pouring rain!).

Also many thanks to:
- Rebecca Morton-Stephens - who did a fabulous job co-coordinating the volunteers
- Melissa Oliver
- David Stephens
- Belinda Foster
- Pauline de Haan
- Norm Brinfield and Bonnie MacKay

Keep a look out for more opportunities to help with our grounds improvement project – volunteer days are a great opportunity to get to know other families, lots of fun and satisfying to know we are building a fabulous environment for our children to learn and play...and we can’t do it without you! Grounds project brochure attached with this newsletter.

Kylie Brinfield

Vacancy – P&C Treasurer
Are you good at accounts or have some sort of bookkeeping background? Your talents are needed by your P & C as our new treasurer.

MYOB understanding would be helpful, but not essential.

Please contact Janine on 0419 851 427, 9299 7773 or janine@daisypoolcovers.com.au if you are willing to join our fantastic volunteer P & C team!

P&C's MOTHER's and OTHER's DAY STALL
Our School chaplain Tracey and Michelle Terranova have volunteered their time and organised this event. Our Mothers Day stall will be on Thursday 5th MAY – next term. There will also be a stall for our Kindy 1 group on Tuesday the 3rd of May. Gifts will be $5/gift/child. Please see Tracey or Michelle or leave your name at the office if you can help cut paper, attach cards and wrap.

Children will be invited to come up with their classroom during school hours to purchase gifts.