## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday to Friday</th>
<th>Lunch orders and Student Banking</th>
<th>February 11th to 15th</th>
<th>Grade 5/6 Camp to Coonawarra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Stop Work. Classes for the following grades will be cancelled: 0/1A, 2/3A, 3/4A, 4/5/6A.</td>
<td>February 14th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Western Bulldogs AFL Clinic grades 3 to 6 12.30pm to 2.50pm</td>
<td>February 18th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>District Swimming Sports School Council 7.30pm</td>
<td>February 19th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Tea Under the Oaks—Starting at 6.00pm</td>
<td>February 22nd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Parent Information Sessions Prep &amp; Prep/1 @ 6pm to 6.30pm 1/2A &amp; 2/3A @ 6.30pm to 7pm 3/4A, 4/5A &amp; 5/6A @ 7pm to 7.30pm</td>
<td>February 26th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Division Swimming</td>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>School Fair 11am to 3pm see the last page of the newsletter for further information.</td>
<td>March 17th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Student Banking Prize redemption day.</td>
<td>March 18th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Senior school athletics grades 3 to 6</td>
<td>March 19th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO REMEMBER:

**Education Maintenance Allowance applications close on February 28th. If you haven’t returned your form please do so as soon as possible.**

**Please could all change of details forms be returned to the office as soon as possible. This will ensure we have all contact details correct and up to date.**
From The Principal’s Office

**Ficifolia Festival**
What a fantastic opportunity our children had to represent our school in the Drouin Ficifolia Festival Parade on Saturday. The number of representatives for Drouin West P.S. was fantastic. A big THANKYOU to all our staff and the family members who came along to supervise our children and assist with our walk through the streets of Drouin.

Thanks again to Anne Cope who worked with the children to create our scarecrow and painted mural during the week. Thankyou to parents and extended family members who came along to watch the parade and enthusiastically applaud the children as they walked passed. These extra curricula activities are a great fun and provide enriching experiences for our students.

**International Competitions and Assessments for Schools**
Each year children in Year 3-6 are given an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. The competitions will cover Science, Computer Skills, Mathematics, English, Writing and Spelling. Further information will be included in next week’s newsletter for families who are interested in entering these competitions.

**Tea Under the Oaks**
Drouin West School Council invites all school families to “Tea Under the Oaks” on Friday February 22th from 6.00pm. “Tea Under the Oaks” is an informal get together for our school families held in the school grounds. I would encourage all families to come along with their picnic tea (some families organise a take-away meal); camp chairs, outdoor games and meet some staff and catch up with each other. Bring along sports equipment and start a game on the oval or simply relax or wander around the school grounds and explore our school gardens. We will provide free icy poles for the children attending this event!

**School Stationery and Curriculum costs and voluntary contributions.**
Thank you to those families who have already paid the $120 for stationary items and materials used in our specialist programs.

Prompt payment is always appreciated enabling the full implementation of our curriculum programs across the school.

Parents are welcome to contact the school and arrange to come and speak with me if they need further information regarding school materials and curriculum costs and voluntary contributions.

Families who are eligible for a Health Care card receive financial assistance through Education Maintenance Allowance and will need to ensure they apply before the closing date.

**Head Lice Alert**
Keep up the great effort in checking your child/children’s hair!

We have only had a few cases of lice/eggs detected yesterday.

Parents are expected to regularly check and treat their child for headlice. In this way we can prevent an outbreak at school.

**Coonawarra Camp**
Our year 5 and 6 students have headed off to camp this week and had a fantastic start to the week. We look forward to hearing about their experiences in more detail when they arrive back to school on Friday afternoon.

**Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**
Nominations for members of the School Council of Drouin West Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00 pm Wednesday February 20. The ballot should nominations exceed vacancies, will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday March 7, 2013.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be displayed at the school office. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From March 9th, 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 (Two Years)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From March 9th, 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 (Two Years)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**School Assemblies**
It is great to have parents and visitors join us at assemblies on Friday’s. We aim to start at 3.00pm however this depends on how many items and announcements we have on a particular week.

In term 1, we have decided to reward all students in the class who are the most “Respectful” during assembly with an icypole!
Super ‘B’ Award Winners
Super ‘B’ award winners for week 1, term 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PrepA</th>
<th>Cailean Thomas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1A</td>
<td>Zane Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Leah Boxall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3A</td>
<td>Ruby Hansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Jasmine Zelley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Josh Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Indiana Petrov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Super ‘B’ award winners for week 1, term 1:

Joke of the Week
What do you get when you cross a kangaroo with a sheep?

A woolly jumper

Extra curriculum opportunities.

Parents can contact individual musical teachers to arrange private lessons.

Drum & Guitar Lessons— Peter Brown. Monday afternoons. Phone: 0437 595 490 or email: monkeydrum@live.com.au

Piano Lessons— Karen Thomson. Mondays 11am onwards Phone: 0356 299 268

Singing Lessons— Tammy Patrick Thursdays 9.15am. Phone: 0356 233 948 or 0428 233 948

Flute Lessons - Anne Bridgeman Tuesdays 0418 356 020.

Student Banking News
Welcome to a new year of saving. Each time you make a deposit into your school savings account you will receive a token. Collect your tokens during the term and then redeem them for one of these prizes. We will have our prize order day for term 1 on Monday, March 18th.

Prizes available for term 1 are: Wallet, Ball, Knuckles Game and Money Boxes. You are able to look at these items at the office.
Hi everyone!
I found this article and thought you may find it helpful for children who would rather be at home than school!
Some tips for easier separation when you drop your children at school:

1. Be organized and allow time so you can start the day calmly
2. Allow your child to take a small family photo to school with them or let them pick something special from your handbag to keep with them for the day.
3. When it comes to drop off time;
   - Go into the classroom to settle your child to an activity.
   - When it is time to go, do not tell your child that you are leaving and then hang around as this has the potential to prolong the period of anxiety for your child.
   - Do not sneak away without saying goodbye.
   - Say goodbye and tell your child when you will be back.
If your child is upset, leave them with a staff member who will be trained in a myriad of techniques for supporting them through their anxiety once you are gone.
4. Help your child to make connections with other children by inviting children that your child enjoys spending time with to play out-of-school hours, if your child is not too tired.
5. If separation from one parent is the problem then consider making short term arrangements for the other parent or a grandparent to assume drop off responsibility. A short period with an alternative drop off person can work to break the anxiety cycle for some children.
6. Keep informed about classroom routines, events and happenings by reading any newsletters or other communication available. Use this information to talk to your child about the fun things they have been (or will be) doing in class.
7. Children need to attend regularly in order to have the opportunity to form the relationships necessary to help them overcome their separation anxiety. While it might seem easier to keep them home on occasion, this may also extend the amount of time a child takes to settle into the new environment.

Part of this article has been taken from Christie who is an Early Childhood teacher and editor of the following website. [http://childhood101.com](http://childhood101.com).

Take Care everyone!
Wendy Ronalds (Tuesday/Wednesday)
Hello everyone,

Term 1 is well and truly underway with lots of exciting events for the students at Drouin West. We have the Active After School Communities Program with Martial Arts and Swimming happening on Tuesday and Wednesday nights throughout term 1. Also, for students in grades 3-6 the Western Bulldogs Football Club is offering an AFL clinic on Monday the 18th of February, with a cost of $5 to cover the bus.

We have a group of ten students who were selected to represent Drouin West at the District Swimming Carnival. This will take place at the Warragul Leisure Centre on Tuesday the 19th of February. We wish all of the competitors the best of luck. To finish the term, the Senior School Athletics Day will take place on Tuesday 19th of March. This Athletics Day will be for all students in grades 3-6. It would be great if we could have some parent helpers available to assist in running the events and recording the results of the students. More details will follow in future weeks.

Finally, the specialist timetable has been finalised and all grades will know when their class participates in PE (Physical Education). It has been great to see all students participating, having a go and trying their best, despite the hot weather we have had. When your child has P.E. they are encouraged to bring along a water bottle and comfortable shoes.

PE Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Tuesday 12:30 – 1:30</th>
<th>Wednesday 11:30 – 12:30</th>
<th>Thursday 12:30 – 13:00</th>
<th>Thursday 11:30 – 12:30</th>
<th>PA Tuesday 2:15 – 3:15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Monday:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P / 1A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle School Sport (Grades 2 / 3A and 3 / 4A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 / 2A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior School Sport (Grades 4 / 5A and 5 / 6A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 / 3A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 / 4 A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Junior School Sport (Grades PA, P / 1A and 1 / 2A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 / 5A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 / 6A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Thanks