IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Lunch orders and Student Banking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Assembly will be held at 3pm in the multi-purpose room. Parents/guardians/carers and interested community members are most welcome to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 23rd Years 3 to 6 Athletics Day.—information in this newsletter. Rescheduled District swimming sports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 26th ‘Tea Under the Oaks”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 2nd Fundraising Meeting 9:15am. Please come and share your enthusiasm and ideas. Everyone is welcome to attend. Parents are able to bring toddlers with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 14th Labour Day public holiday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 17th Orders close for Hot Cross buns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 24th Last day of term 1. Students finish at 2:30pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>April 19th Whole School Photos — Please note the change of date to term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent handbooks are available online or as a hard copy from the office

Free Money—see Financial Assistance Information on page 7

PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA
YUM YUM YUM

If you love Pizza then start writing. Each week we will publish a story written by one of our students in our newsletter. At the end of each term all the students who have been published will be able to have a Pizza lunch with Mrs. Ware.

Things to remember when you are writing your story:
- You will need to write at least three paragraphs. An introduction, the main topic of the story and a conclusion.
- Use your neatest hand writing
- Have the written story to the office by 4pm on Tuesdays.
- Plan the topping you would like on your Pizza.

We look forward to sharing some wonderful stories with families and friends over the coming weeks.
From The Principal’s Office

Ficifolia Festival Parade
What a great time we had as part of the parade this year! Thank you to all the families who came along to show support and represent the school. This year we believe there were 52 students representing our school as well as the many parents who came along to assist the children. It was lovely to see how excited the children were to be part of the parade even though it was quite warm.

Students really enjoyed being in the parade and were so excited to be waving to the crowds.

Thank you also to Cara Templeton who coordinated the bowler hats, bow ties and handlebar moustaches for our students to wear. Thank you to Joy Barson, Courtney Heath, and Cara Templeton who assisted with supervising students in the parade.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
Each year children in Year 3-6 are given an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. The competitions in 2016 cover Science, Digital Technologies, Mathematics, English, Writing and Spelling. Please read the information attached with this newsletter for further information. Please ensure the reply slip and payment is returned to school by the last day of term 1 should you wish for your child to participate in 2016.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to schools
Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by parents/guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is also not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Tea Under the Oaks
Drouin West School Council invites all school families to “Tea Under the Oaks” on Friday February 26th 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 takeaway meal); camp chairs, outdoor games, insect repellent, meet staff and catch up with other families. Bring along sports equipment and start a game on the oval, play a game in the Maths garden or simply relax or wander around the school grounds and explore our school gardens.

We will be inviting our local CFA volunteers to say thank you for the work they do in our community. We will provide free icy poles at this event!

School Stationery and Curriculum costs and voluntary contributions.
Thank you to those families who have already paid the $120 for stationary items for the classroom 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.

Parent Teacher Conferences
Thank you to those families who have come into school to organise a time to meet up with their child/ren teachers. This assists students/teachers/parents with smooth transitions between the 2015 and 2016 school year.

MUSIC TUITION
With JOE PATRICK
Now taking enrolments for 2016

DRUMS, GUITAR & UKULELE

$18 / 20 min weekly lesson
Lessons will be held at school during school hours.

Please contact 0498 742 381

Limited places are available.
## Super ‘B’ Award Winners

Super ‘B’ award winners for week 2, term 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F/1A</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/1B</td>
<td>Holly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Siobhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Lachie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Whole Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Alex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Trent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Super ‘B’ Award Winners

Super ‘B’ award winners for week 3, term 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F/1A</td>
<td>Corban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/1B</td>
<td>Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Sophie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Brock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Keira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Holly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Jamie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

Each year children in **year 3-6** at Drouin West are given the chance to enter competitions conducted by the University of New South Wales. The competitions cover Science, Mathematics, English, Digital Technologies, Spelling and Writing.

The entry fee for Science, Mathematics, English and Digital Technologies is $8.00. Writing which is individually marked by teachers is $17.00. The Spelling assessment is also hand marked and the entry fee is $11.00.

Students are awarded a certificate as follows:
- High Distinction to the top 1%,
- Distinction to the next 10%,
- Credit to the next 25%
- Participation to all other participating students.

Students also receive a report with diagnostic information which highlights strengths and weaknesses.

If you would like your child to enter one or more of these competitions, please complete the form below and return it with the correct payment by Thursday March 24 (last day of term 1).

Kerry Ware  
Principal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I would like my child/children to enter the following competitions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of child: ..................................................  Grade: ......................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths $8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies $8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enclosed is $............ to cover the entry fee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Name of child: ..................................................  Grade: ...................... |
| Maths $8.00  | English $8.00  | Science $8.00  |
| Digital Technologies $8.00  | Writing $17.00  | Spelling $11.00  |
| Enclosed is $............ to cover the entry fee. |

Signed: .................................................. (Parent/Guardian)
Our Chaplain

Hi everyone! Trust your week is going well and the children are settling into the new school routines.

Last week we looked at how Michael Grose suggests we instil confidence in our children. He suggested we model confident thinking. “I can have a go” or “If I don’t do well I can try again tomorrow!”

This week there is another strategy we can use:

Focus on effort & improvement

Current thinking shows that people who believe that they can increase their intelligence through effort and challenge actually get smarter and do better over time in school, work, and life. One way to develop this ‘growth mindset’ is to focus your language on effort and improvement rather than on the results of what kids do. By linking success with effort you are teaching them success comes from something other than pure ability, talents or smarts.

Michael is running a Cracking the Confidence Code online course that starts on February 26th. This course will teach you real, research-based strategies that will help you develop a lasting sense of confidence in your kids. Have a look at www.parentingideas.com.au for more information.

On another note I will be sending home a note today asking for interest in children wishing to participate in Seasons For Growth this year. At this stage this will only be open to students in grades 3-6. This is a wonderful program that equips students with skills to help them with change and loss in their lives. Places are limited. So returning forms promptly is important.

If you have any questions please contact me at the school on a Tuesday or Wednesday or email me on ronalds.wendy.w@edumail.vic.gov.au I do check emails regularly.

Take care! Wendy Ronalds School Chaplain-Tuesday and Wednesday

Acknowledgement: National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program have been funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Happy Birthday !!!!!!

Happy birthday to the following students who celebrate their special day during the week of Monday, 1st February to Sunday, 21st February. Sorry that I was looking at January and missed you in the last 2 newsletters.


Don’t forget to come to the office and collect a birthday sticker.
Tea Under the Oaks
&
National Red Balloon Day

FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2016 6PM

Help Drouin West Primary School Thank our local Drouin West CFA Volunteers

We will be placing Red Balloons around the school to show our appreciation

Bring the family along and get to know staff and other families in a relaxed, fun atmosphere

BYO Picnic Tea, drinks and rug or deck chairs.

Free Icy Poles

Drouin West Primary School
‘Nurture, Enrich, Inspire, Achieve’
CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Conveyance Allowance is payable to families who live 4.8 kilometres or more from their nearest school. The distance is measured from the families’ home gate to the school via the shortest possible route. This payment is provided by the Government for families where a bus is not available.

Forms are available from the office. A form only needs to be filled in once for the whole of time that the student attends their chosen school. If your circumstances change then a new form must be completed e.g. you have another child start at the school.

Forms must be completed and returned to the school no later than 29th February, 2016 for full year payment. Late forms will be held over to term 3 for payment.

If you have any questions please come to the office or phone Ann on 0356 251 971.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Sports News

Grade 3-6 school athletics Tuesday 23rd Feb
The sports will begin and 9.00am and finish at 1.30pm. Children are encouraged to wear their team colour.
Baw Baw – Yellow Strezlecki- Blue Tarago- Red

If you are unsure of which team your child is in please check with their classroom teacher. Children are to wear clothing and footwear suitable for running and jumping. Shirts must cover shoulders and midriff and school hats are to be worn. Children will also need sun screen to apply and a filled water bottle to carry with them throughout the activities.

For the day to run efficiently and for children to have the greatest opportunity to participate easily adult (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles) help is requested. All activities will be explained to you at the start of the day and school staff will be around to assist and help with activities. If you can help for all or part of the time please fill in the form below and return it to school by Tuesday 16th February.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.
Regards Marion Proctor

PIANO/ KEYBOARD TUITION

Hi everyone, my name is Karen Thomson and I would like to offer piano/keyboard lessons to all students within Drouin West Primary school. I have been teaching piano/keyboard lessons at Drouin West Primary School for many years. I have been teaching students for over 25 years and I am also qualified and registered with the Australian Guild of Education. Thus giving me the opportunity to take students through grade levels so they progress with grade examinations when they are ready to do so. These lessons are on offer to all grade levels in your school.

LESSONS ARE;
$10.00 PER 15 MIN LESSON (one lesson per week of term).
$ 20.00 PER MUSIC BOOK supplied by myself if required.
LESSON MONEY SHOULD BE PAID TO MYSELF ON THE DAY OR CASH OR CHEQUE CAN BE MADE OUT TO COVER THE FULL TERM AMOUNT IF PREFERRED. CHEQUES ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO KAREN THOMSON THANK YOU. TO BOOK IN YOUR LESSONS WITH ME PLEASE CONTACT ME ON 56 299 268.

PLEASE DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL TO MAKE BOOKINGS

THANKYOU Karen Thomson.

Years 3-6 School Athletics Tuesday 23rd February

For the day to run efficiently and for children to have the greatest opportunity to participate easily, adult (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles) help is requested. All activities will be explained to you at the start of the day and school staff will be around to assist and help with activities. If you can help for all or part of the time please fill in the form below and return it to school by Tuesday 16th February.

I can assist at the following times. Please circle the times you are available

9.00-10.00 10.00-11.00 11.30-12.30 12.30-1.30

Name: (please print) ____________________________________________

Contact number: _______________________________________________

Thank you for your offer of assistance.
You will be contacted before the day with which event and time you are required for.
Regards Marion Proctor