**Last Newsletter for 2015.**
This is the final newsletter for 2015. We wish all families and community members a very Merry Christmas, safe holidays and a Happy New Year. **Students return to school on Thursday 28 January, 2016.**

**A message from Mrs Keough**
Can you believe the 2015 school year is drawing to a close already? This year we’ve had a wonderful time at Dundurrabin PS with all students engaging in quality learning opportunities and achieving across all academic pursuits.

As you are aware, I will be taking maternity leave next year and plan on returning to school in Semester Two. Mrs Sangster will be the Relieving Principal, teaching the K-2 class and we will welcome Mrs Parkin as the 3-6 class teacher. Melissa will continue to work on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week.

Next year we will welcome several new families to our school community and already have a number of exciting learning opportunities planned for all students. Please take care and enjoy the upcoming festive season and school holiday with family and friends and thank you for the continued support of our small school this year.

**An Excellent Display at the Dorrigo Show.**
Student’s artwork, cooking and vegetables from our school garden looked fabulous at the Dorrigo Show. We were awarded twelve first places, five second places, two most outstanding awards for salad dressing and dried herbs, most outstanding exhibitor in children section and most successful exhibitor for our vegetables and cooking entries. Congratulations to everyone. Prize money is attached for those students who received a prize.

### WHAT’S ON FOR TERM 4

#### WEEK 10 - SWIMMING WEEK

| Monday, December 7 | Kindergarten Orientation 12noon-3.20pm |
| Monday, December 7 to Friday, December 11 | Swimming Scheme – Dorrigo Pool |
| Wednesday, December 9 | Helpers High Tea – 2.30pm |

#### WEEK 11 - LAST WEEK OF TERM 4

| Monday, December 14 | End of Year Presentation Assembly 5.30pm |
| Wednesday, December 16 | Last Day of Term 4 for Students |

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**Merry Christmas, safe holidays and a Happy New Year**

2016

| Wednesday, January 27 | Staff Development Day |
| Thursday, January 28 | Students Return to school for 2016 |
Farewell Year 6
Next week we farewell and say goodbye to our year six school captains, Jazmin, Emily and Jadon. We wish you all the best as you move onto high school next year.

Fizzics Education Slime Video Conference
On Thursday K-6 participated in a video conference with Fizzics Education and four other schools. It was an interactive presentation with students conducting experiments in the classroom to make slime using cornflour, psyllium and soapflakes. The desks and floor were a mess and hands were coloured by food dye but it was great fun squeezing the three different types of slime. Fizzics Education explained that our bodies are full of slime - good slime! Slime stops the lining of our lungs from sticking together, allows food to slide down our oesophagus and flush bugs and dust out of nose.
Kindergarten Transition

Last transition our four boys participated in classroom activities around an Eric Carle novel “The Mixed Up Chameleon”. They made their own mixed up chameleons, painted some beautiful pictures, joined in maths activities and combined with the rest of the school for sport. Today was our last visit and the boys actively engaged in water safety fun and a craft activity in the short time they were at school. We are looking forward to seeing them at school next year as our kindergarten students.

SAKG Gardening & Cooking Week 8
Students planted a variety of beans, snow peas, zucchinis, three sorts of cucumbers, eggplants, corn and shallots all ready to harvest when we return to school in 2016. We harvested lettuce, parsnips, shallots, spinach and herbs. In the kitchen we cooked Moroccan meatballs, tabbouleh, mango and carmelised parsnip salad and orange cardamom muffins. Thank you to Gail who volunteered in the garden and kitchen and donated mince.

Week 9
There was no gardening last week due to swimming. We used our winning vegetables from the show as well as rhubarb from the freezer and fresh herbs. In the kitchen we cooked scotch eggs and chutney, carrot and beetroot salad with orange dressing, herbed vegetable side dish and rhubarb and berry open tart. Thank you to Bev Miller for her show zucchinis and Gail for the sausage mince used in our scotch eggs. Thank you to Julie who volunteered in the kitchen.

Special Lunches –Thank you
We would all like to say a big thank you to Susan and Dianne Freeman and Gigi and Leonie Pankhurst for all their wonderful and yummy lunches they have provided this year. Students and staff appreciate all your hard work and any donations of food throughout the year. We look forward to continuing special lunches next year.
Thank you to the Don Dorrigo Gazette for publishing our inserts from our newsletter in the paper throughout the year. They do this at no cost to the school and it is wonderful to read all about our school and the students' achievements each fortnight.

School Swimming and Water Safety Program 2015 in Weeks 9 & 10
Student progress and enjoyment was impressive at the pool last week and we look forward to continuing our lessons this week to further develop swimming and water safety concepts. Thank you to Suzie, Michelle and Gigi for helping out with equipment organisation and record keeping to ensure the days run smoothly.

The School Swimming Scheme will finish this Friday 11 December.

Bus Times will be as follows:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursdays – leave school at 8.45am sharp and return to school by 11.30am (morning bus run as normal)
Tuesdays & Fridays – leave by 9.45am sharp each day and return to school by 12.30pm (morning bus run as normal)

Times and dates:
- Tuesday 8 December – 10.30am to 11.30am
- Wednesday 9 December - 9.30am to 10.30am
- Thursday 10 December - 9.30am to 10.30am
- Friday 11 December – 10.30am to 11.30am

Students may come to school dressed in their swimmers (rash shirt and hat) and either sandals or thongs. They must have a packed uniform (shirt/shorts/trousers/jumper/underwear/socks & shoes) to change into, as well as a towel (or 2) to dry themselves with. The school will provide sunscreen each day. Students will need to pack a big recess, lunch and plenty of water as swimming can make students extra hungry. Students will only be able to buy from the shop on the last day of swimming, Friday 11 December.

Helper's High Tea
THIS Wednesday 9 December
Please join us for our Helper's High Tea to say thank you for supporting us throughout 2015. It will be held under the COLA on Wednesday 9 December at 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Dress Rehearsal – Play Costumes – TOMORROW
Tuesday 8 December
We will be having a dress rehearsal on tomorrow. All students will need their dress requirements.

Presentation Evening – NEXT Monday 14 December at 5.30pm
Please come along and help celebrate the achievements of our students this year by joining us for our 2015 Presentation Evening on Monday 14 December at 5.30pm. Students are to go home after school and then return with parents/carers at 5pm in full school uniform (sport shirt) ready for the presentation to begin at 5.30pm. Our students will be performing a number of theatrical items and receiving awards for their ongoing efforts and achievements.
P&C will be providing a BBQ dinner. We are asking everyone to please bring a plate of finger food/salad/dessert to share after the presentation. Please be aware that we have students with food allergies and will need to know ingredients in dishes to allow for no reactions. Please indicate on the attached note what your family will bring on the night. Thank you.

Non Uniform Day – Monday 14 December
Students may come to school on Monday 14 December in non-uniform for the day, this way uniforms will be clean for presentation night.

Semester 2 Portfolio and Reports
Student progress reports and portfolios will be sent home on Monday 14 December.

Wednesday 16 December – Last Day of Term
Wednesday 16 December will be the students last day of school for 2015. On this day students may come in non-uniform. If the weather permits, we will all enjoy a water fight at school.
(no water guns or balloons allowed). Your child may wish to bring their swimmers to school and get changed just before the water fight. Please ensure your child/ren has a towel to dry off with. Students will also watch the new “Minions” movie which is rated PG, if you do not wish for your child/ren to watch the movie, please ring the school and let us know.

Year 6 Library Books to be Returned
If any Year 6 students have books borrowed, please return them before leaving us.

Holiday Readers
If families wish to organise home readers for the school holidays, please contact your child’s teacher.

P&C News and Community News.
P&C Christmas Raffle
Our P&C Christmas raffle will be drawn on Presentation night, Monday 14 December. Prizes are a homemade Christmas cake kindly cooked and donated by Marj Scott and a beautiful handmade wooden candle holder reflective mirror kindly made and donated by Abby Not. Tickets are $1.00 each and were sent home last newsletter. Could all families have their tickets (sold or unsold) and money returned to school by Wednesday 9 December please.
From all of us at

Dundurrabin Public School

Have a Merry Christmas

and a very Happy New Year