COMING EVENTS

Thursday 19 February
Year 3 excursion Perth Writer's Expo

Friday 20 February
Music Assembly

Tuesday 24 February
P&C Meeting 7:30pm

Wednesday 25 February
Café Dalkeith

Monday 2 March
Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 4 March
Board Meeting 3:30pm

Friday 6 March
Year 6 excursion Young Leaders Day

Friday 13 March
Japanese Assembly

Friday 20 March
House Swimming Carnival

Dalkeith Families 2015
Dear Parents and Caregivers

What a fantastic start to the year it has been at Dalkeith Primary School! The staff and students have hit the ground running and are well and truly into their planned curriculum. It has been very busy with swimming lessons both at our pool and at the beach and we are looking forward to a return to normality next week! I would like to thank the Dalkeith staff, students and swimming instructors for their diligence and organisation in ensuring the swimming program ran smoothly.

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening last Thursday. It was a great success and I congratulate the teaching staff on their excellent presentations to parents. From my perspective it was a fantastic opportunity to meet you all. We have a lot to be thankful for at Dalkeith Primary School, and it is evenings like this that really remind us of that.

Another successful and enjoyable experience was our ‘Welcome to New Parent Morning Tea’ on Monday morning this week. Many thanks to Helen Pedersen for this brilliant suggestion and of course many thanks to the P&C for catering. The Dalkeith Admin team, School Board and P&C are here to support you, so please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have a query. It was lovely to meet you all and I am sure you will have a very happy and successful time with your children at our wonderful school.

I also had the pleasure of attending the ‘Meet the Teacher’ afternoon last Friday at the Kindy. This was a very informative session that provided parents with a forum for asking questions about their child’s very important start to school life. Thanks to Marie, Toni, Rhoda and Billie for a great afternoon.

Our students are given many opportunities to experience learning outside Dalkeith Primary School. Last week the Year 6 class were very fortunate to visit the ‘Giants’ in Perth city. Many thanks to Miss Hughes for organising this very exciting excursion. The students came back very enthused about what they experienced. On Thursday this week, the Year 3 students will be visiting UWA and the Writers Festival with Mrs Doig. There will be opportunities for the students to interact with famous authors and get some great insights into the world of creative writing. I am looking forward to reading some of their writing after this event.

I have met a lot of wonderful people and children over the past three weeks. Dalkeith Primary School is a welcoming and friendly school with highly aspirational teachers and high achieving students. I look forward to an excellent term working with you all.

SUZANNE PEKIN
Principal
Congratulations to Candice Wholohan on achieving Senior Teacher status.

Last Tuesday a number of staff members took part in the Bronze Medallion requalification. Congratulations to Candice Wholohan, Peter McSkimming, Tamara Doig, Libby Dyde, Aoife McCabe, Shauni Redmond, Alessia Princi and Nicole Hughes who all requalified.

No doubt many of you will have heard that an accident occurred in Leon Road last night resulting in a child being hit by a car. Thankfully, the child has not suffered life threatening injuries but has been admitted to hospital. This seems a good time to reinforce the road safety message amongst our school community.

Please be constantly aware of the propensity of children to run or walk onto a road without checking for traffic first. This occurs around our school frequently so we ask parents and carers to be mindful of the following when dropping or collecting your children:

- Drive in an anti-clockwise direction around the school
- Do not double park – even to let children in or out of the car
- Do not park on the no stopping yellow lines near School Road - even to let children in or out of the car
- Park in marked bays only – keep off verges, footpaths and corners
- Please consider parking a few blocks away and walking your children to and from school

Please share this information with partners, grandparents and any carer’s who may be involved in dropping or collecting your children. Let’s all help keep our kids safe!

Dalkeith Primary School will be celebrating active travel day on Friday 13 March. We encourage students and their families to leave the car at home on this day and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in choosing to walk and wheel to school. Students that drive to school are encouraged to park two blocks from the school and walk down to the school grounds.

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:
- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day
- There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom

Parents can join in the fun by walking or wheeling with the students

Students that walk, ride or scoot are able to wear casual clothes to school that day!
Although it seems too early to be thinking about winter sport, netball team sign-up sheets have been placed outside classrooms of years 2-6. If your child would like to play in a team this year, please put their name on the list before Friday 13 February.

Year 2 Net Set Go will be run at school, on Tuesday mornings for 10 weeks (not school holidays), starting 12 May. This is an excellent all-round ball skills program designed for both boys and girls. The skills are directly transferable to netball, but they are great generic skills, and it’s just a super fun program. Although there are no formal games, players will play against each other and/or against the year 3 team at the end of the program for a fun scratch-match. This year the program will be run by two very experienced coaches – Lisa Piggott and Fiona Doig, and they will be ably assisted by Sadie Purser and Karen Turner.

Year 3 and 4 Net Set Go season runs from 16 May until 15 August on Saturday mornings at Matthew’s Netball Centre in Wembley. No matches are played on long weekends or the school holidays. Games times are yet to be set, and team fees will be advised shortly. Children wear their school sports uniform to games (white sports short and maroon shorts). Karen Alcaron and Jo Chalmers are looking after the year 3 team, and Lisa Piggott and Jacqui Miller the year 4 team again.

Year 5 and 6 Junior competition runs from 9 May until 29 August (excluding public holidays and school holidays). Uniforms and venue are the same as the year 3 and 4 teams. This year Fi Doig will again coach the year 6 team, and we are currently seeking volunteers to take up the roles of coach and administrator for the year 5 team.

If you have any queries or would like to volunteer for a role, please contact Jules Allan on 0419 969 675 or julesallan2@bigpond.com.

It may seem a long way off but the commencement of winter sport is approaching fast. Minkey is a modified hockey game played by girls and boys from years 1 to 4 & has been played by teams from Dalkeith for many years through Westside Wolves. Games are played at College Park on Saturday mornings with the first game commencing 2 May through to 8 August. Games aren't played on long weekends or during school holidays.

Dalkeith Primary is currently without a co-ordinator for this coming season. This position is mainly "pre season" with collating registration forms & teams and you will be supported by the administrators at Westside Wolves.

If you would like to volunteer as the school coordinator, please contact Jacqui Miller at miller.pj@hotmail.com as soon as possible.

The Crunch&Sip program is an easy way to help kids stay healthy and happy! Crunch&Sip is a set break to eat fruit or salad vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Students re-fuel with fruit or vegetables during the morning or afternoon, assisting physical and mental performance and concentration in the classroom. This gives kids a chance to refuel, a bit like putting petrol in a car.
The attraction for the Perth International Arts Festival attracted people from all over the world to see The Giants. This show, previously seen only 3 times before, was done by the French Company Royal de Luxe.

The Giants were an international sensation as they walked along Perth streets. The Giants were touring Perth from the 13-15th February. The Little Giant set off on her trek while The Diver was delivered to the train station. On the 13th she woke up, had a shower and went for a walk before settling down for a nap in Wellington Square. On the 14th she and the diver walked separate paths and on the 15th they found each other before sailing away down the Swan River, leaving Perth. It was a brilliant event.

Sophie and Sophia

I was lucky enough to spend my birthday with 33 year 6 students, 9 parents, 2 staff (Miss I and Mrs S) and 1 Little Giant Girl. We witnessed the giant (nicknamed Juliet by the year 6s) wake up, shower, dress and jump on a boat and go for a ride around Langley Park. Clever detective work saw us up close and personal when the giant was lifted off the boat and began walking towards the Bell Tower.

After lunch in Supreme Court Gardens we trekked up to Wellington Square to see Juliet read a story to some lucky school students and then have a siesta.

We were all mesmerised by the sheer enormity of the marionette and the event. Precise movements, a creative background story, groovy music and an electric atmosphere made this an event to remember.

Nicole Hughes

PS Check out our post on the school’s new Facebook page.
We request that students no longer bring sports equipment to school. One reason behind this decision is the management and loss of personal belongings. The school has an adequate supply of sports equipment to use during school time.

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**AFTER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION**

Parents are reminded that their parents must supervise students who use the school facilities after school hours, including the oval and playgrounds. There has recently been a number of concerns raised by parents about the unsafe behaviour of some students, particularly immediately after school. Please ensure your children are supervised when playing in the school out of school hours.

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**IT UPDATE**

Dalkeith has a Facebook Page!

Keep updated with what is going on at Dalkeith Primary School. After scanning the QR code below it will take you to our page so you can ‘like’ it.