



14 July 2015

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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- 12-17 July** Year 6 Canberra snow trip
  - 20 July** Spellathon cards handed out
  - 20 July** P & C Meeting
  - 21 July** Yr 4-6 Sports trials
  - 27 July** Yr 4-6 Sports trials
  - 3 Aug** Return Spellathon cards
  - 10 Aug** Spellathon testing
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Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 3!

This term commenced a little earlier than anticipated for many of our Year 6 students and staff. On Sunday we all had the opportunity to farewell our older students as they departed for their annual Sydney/ Canberra Excursion. With 48 students and four teachers away our school is certainly a lot quieter! Yesterday's highlights included visiting Darling Harbour and the world famous Taronga Zoo. Last night our students left Sydney and headed for our Nation's Capital. I am confident they will all enjoy the Parliament House and many attractions on offer in Canberra. Families of participating students are encouraged to stay up to date by joining the official Sydney / Canberra Excursion Facebook page. We are all looking forward to hearing about the many wonderful camp experiences when the students return on Friday morning.

#### Staffing Update

Since commencing the 2015 school year we have been extremely fortunate to have experienced enrolment growth in a number of our year levels. In keeping with our school's strong plan for all students to achieve excellence, I recently wrote to our South East Regional office requesting a review of our staffing allocation.

I was extremely pleased to announce yesterday that William Duncan State School has been successful in gaining an additional teacher for the remainder of the 2015 school year. Although this position is allocated to the school and is not attached to any one particular year level, I believe it is critical that we provide our students in the early years every chance of achieving their personal best. I therefore have decided to allocate this additional resource to our Prep year level.

This decision will significantly reduce the number of children in each of our Prep classes. It will also assist us to personalise our approach to your child's learning. During Semester One, I have been delighted to witness first hand just how well our 2015 Prep classes are progressing. Over the next few days our Prep team will be working closely with Miss Nesrin Aydozir (our new Prep Teacher) to ensure the students have a seamless transition into their new Prep classroom.

#### Master Teacher Welcome

From 2015, 300 new Master Teacher positions were created to ensure quality teachers are working where they can make the greatest difference – in classrooms. Not every school received a Master Teacher allocation and this week we saw our school's Master Teacher commence work at our school. I welcome Ms Sue Bowen to our curriculum team as our school's Master Teacher.



Ms Bowen has recently completed a six month period at our partner school (Mudgeeraba Creek State School). During this time she has worked closely with teachers to ensure their numeracy pedagogy and differentiation was of the highest quality. During the next six months we are looking forward to Ms Bowen supporting teachers and students by:

- Prioritising the teaching of literacy and numeracy within the school's curriculum and pedagogical framework
- Improving and enhancing teaching for all staff by researching and modelling quality teaching across all year levels
- Providing coaching and guidance to teachers and other staff in delivering quality teaching
- Supporting our school's Inclusive Support Teachers to use an evidence-based assessment process to inform future teaching and learning
- Supporting all staff in the analysis of, and response to, systemic and student data

I look forward to working with all of our teaching staff to make a positive difference to our school community. I welcome Susan to our school and look forward to improving my own learning about how to best support our students to achieve excellence.

### **P and C Association Meeting**

All parents are cordially invited to attend our school's next Parents' and Citizens' Association meeting. This meeting will be conducted in the meeting room that adjoins the school hall. The meeting will commence at 4:30pm and should be completed by no later than 6:00pm. Please come along and support the hard work that this dedicated group of volunteers do for each and every child in our school.

### **Wildlife**

Since returning after the break we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of kangaroos moving throughout the school. Parents should be aware that we strongly encourage all students to remain calm around these animals, move closely together and wait for the animal to move away. Students have been encouraged to advise a staff member if they see a kangaroo around the buildings. We are working closely with Eco-Sure to relocate the male kangaroos however so far they have evaded being captured. I anticipate that these males will be captured in the near future. In the meantime I sincerely thank all of the parents who assist us to keep our students safe.

### **Student Attendance**

Each Friday of last term our school celebrated those students who attended school each day by providing them with a Subway Gift Voucher. The names of the students who attended school above our school's target of 92% went into the draw today for a chance to win a family pass to the movies. While on parade this morning Ms Buhner conducted this draw. With more than 200 students in the draw for the pass we decided to also offer a few Subway vouchers to 5 runners-up. I wish to acknowledge and congratulate Ned Sweatman for winning the family movie pass. This initiative will continue during Term 3.



*Centre of Musical Excellence*

### **MUSIC REPORT – Mrs Melissa Cole**

Welcome back to what will be another busy and productive term for our young musicians! This term we will be competing at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod, beginning 2016 recruitment for our band and strings programs and our beginner ensembles are performing on the school assembly....please check dates and times on the calendar of events below.

### **REHEARSALS THIS WEEK**

- Yr.4-6 Senior Strings: Thursday 16 July (Rehearsal 7.45am / lessons as timetabled)
- Choir: Wednesday 15 July (Rehearsal 8am)

### **REHEARSALS NEXT WEEK**

- Yr.3 Beginner Strings: Monday 20 July 8am
- Yr.4/5 Beginner Band: Monday 20 July 2.45pm – 3.30pm

Email: [admin@willduncss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@willduncss.eq.edu.au)

Website: [www.willduncss.eq.edu.au](http://www.willduncss.eq.edu.au)

Phone (7) 5581 4888 Fax (07) 5596 5947



William Duncan State School

- Choir: Wednesday 22 July 8am
- **NO SENIOR STRINGS REHEARSAL THIS WEEK!** (Miss Marten has commitments at another school on Thursday, however lessons will take place on Friday 24 July)
- **Yr.6 Senior Band: Friday 24 July 7.45am** (Miss Ponting has commitments on Tuesday, however lessons and Senior Band rehearsal will take place on Friday 24 July)
- **NO Yr.6 Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal this week!**

### Term 3 Music Calendar of Events

- Tuesday 28 July: Yr.4/5 Beginner Band performing on the school assembly 9am
- Tuesday 11 August: Choir Eisteddfod (GC Arts Centre) 6pm
- Monday 17 August: Yr. 6 Senior Band Eisteddfod (GC Arts Centre) 5.30pm
- Wednesday 19 August: Yr. 4/5 Beginner Band Eisteddfod (GC Arts Centre) 9am
- Monday 24 August: Yr. 4 – 6 Senior Strings Eisteddfod (GC Arts Centre) 5.30pm
- Tuesday 25 August: Yr. 3 Beginner Strings Eisteddfod (GC Arts Centre) 12pm
- Tuesday 15 September: Yr.3 Beginner Strings performing on the school assembly 9am
- Wednesday 16 September: Nerang SHS Yr.6 Arts Auditions 9.30am WDSS Hall

## FINANCE WINDOW

Term 3 payments are now due. The finance window is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am.

Please make sure all your contact details are up to date. Please send a note in with your child or contact the office with any changes.

## P & C NEWS

### Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books have arrived and will be sent home today. If you wish to purchase the book please send \$55 to the tuckshop. If you wish not to have the book, please return it to the school ASAP.

## SCHOOLPLUS

**schoolPLUS** bricks 4 kidz in conjunction with William Duncan OSHC is "over the moon" to offer **Lego Space Adventures!!**

Special Program for 8 weeks every Friday only during After School Care!!!  
 Friday 24th July to 11th September 2015  
 3.45 pm to 4.45 pm  
 Great for boys and girls!

**Places limited to the first 30 children booked in.**

**Only \$15 extra per session (\$7.50 after CCR non-means tested)**

**The full 8 week program must be committed to and no cancellations are possible after confirmation of the booking is made.**

Our one hour classes explore architecture, engineering and technology concepts.  
 Classes follow the Bricks 4 Kidz® motto: We Learn, We Build, We Play with... LEGO® Bricks.

**We Learn** - Teacher kicks starts a themed lesson  
**We Build** - Students build the model of the day with simple step by step instructions  
**We Play** - Students explore their own creativity through free play time

Inspired by NASA and Star Wars™, our Space Adventures program is packed full of models that will make your imagination and creativity blast off! Children will learn about real-life space exploration and build models related to the NASA space program.

In addition, the day includes LEGO® Star Wars™ themed models, group games, challenges and more.

Students who enrol in the full 8 week term will receive a Bricks 4 Kidz Shirt.  
 Any student who comes in after the first week (if places are available) will receive a different piece of Bricks 4 Kidz merchandise.

To book please complete the online form at [http://www.jotformpro.com/SchoolPlus/Lego\\_WD](http://www.jotformpro.com/SchoolPlus/Lego_WD)

**bricks 4 kidz**  
 we learn, we build, we play with LEGO® Bricks



## SCHOOL PLUS



Well vacation care is over with some very satisfied children! The **secret mystery Who Done It!** was fantastic with the children doing some awesome detective work solving clues and searching for the missing magic crystal. The activities such as the cold rock day, Bowling excursion, crazy chicken party and the bungy run were also really popular and the service filled with children over the two weeks. A big thank you to Mrs Cardow, Mr Dare, Ms Buhner and all the parents who took part in our who done it mystery, we kept the children guessing right to the end!

Don't forget to book in to our new <http://bricks4kidzaustralia.com.au/program-events/after-school-programs/>

Congratulations to Mia, Shikera, Sam and Te Maioha, Winners at the Mudgerabah show!



Bungy Run Incursion



Mudgerabah show winners



Chuck A Chook Incursion



Laser Tag



Excursion to Bowling

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