**Current Focus**

*Celebrate Community*

56B

My favourite time of year is New Year’s Eve. I like meeting up with friends and family and having a good time. We get to strengthen our relationships.

**Tom Henderson**

I think that the Daylesford Show is a community celebration because everybody gets together and has fun, like school, family, friends and local services.

**Max Anderson**

At the Daylesford Football Club, we celebrate every one moving up to the U15’s and we have a Presentation night. We celebrate when we win by singing our club song.

**Aaron Cox**

I think for me the Swiss Italian Festa is a great way of celebrating community. There is always schools, clubs, classes and friends there. And you always seem to know people there. I was just walking around and people were saying hello to me. Just little things like that shows the type of community we are.

**Sophie John**

**LIBRARY** – Please remember that any students who have item/s not returned in 2013 will have their borrowing suspended for 2014, until item/s are returned or paid for. Item/s not returned will be invoiced in the last few weeks of school. Please check with Gill before paying to see if item/s have been recovered or returned since overdue notice was printed.

As of this date, the total number of books borrowed is 242, with the number of overdue books 113. Please check at home and return as soon as possible.

**Thanks, Gill Pearce**

**ALL BOOKS DUE BACK BEFORE NEXT THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER.**
Parent Newsletter Week 8

- Mr T retires
- Open Garden at Musk
- EY Swimming Program
- Premier’s Reading Challenge
- Prep Transition
- Grade 2-3 Transition Evening
- Daylesford Show
- Preps performance
- Reminder – Pupil Free Day next Friday 6th

After thirteen years at this school and over 30 years in education, Mr T has announced his retirement. A small function was held last week to acknowledge Chris’ contribution to education. As DPS Assistant Principal he has worked tirelessly supporting staff, students and families. He will be remembered for many things such as his excellent teaching ability, starting the circus elective, working with special needs students and reading recovery, but one of his greatest contributions has been his leadership around our Social Competency Program, including the focus of the fortnight and our Family Groups program. On behalf of our School Council, staff, families and students of DPS and Annexes, I would like to say thank you to Chris. Thank you for your passion, your patience and professionalism. We wish you and your family all the very best now and into the future.

A BIG thank you to the parents, students and staff for assisting with KG recipe book sales, at the Open Garden Event at Musk over the weekend. Sales of the recipe book are not what we need them to be, so please continue to get behind this fund raiser by promoting the book to all your friends and neighbours.

The EY swimming program is going splendidly, with two qualified swim teachers reporting to me that the children are advanced in the confidence and swimming techniques. We are very fortunate as a school to be able to offer this program. I would like to acknowledge Bendigo Community Bank who is sponsoring the program which is off setting some of the large overheads.

Gill Pearce has been around to all the classrooms and presented the Premier’s Reading Challenge certificates to all the students who participated.

Our third and final Prep transition session was successfully completed this week. The Grade 5 students met with their buddies for next year and I have received excellent feedback from our new parents about the lovely letters of welcome that were written by the students.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended our Grade 2-3 transition evening. It was a worthwhile evening talking to the parents and children about what Grade 3 will look like and feel like. I would also like to acknowledge the staff who put time and effort into the evening.

We cleaned up in the Daylesford Show with many first prizes for our outstanding vegies and herbs. Well done to all the students who have been involved the KG program and congratulations to Sandra our garden specialist.

The Preps performance at assembly was marvellous, they certainly know how to draw a crowd.

Finally, a reminder that next Friday is a Pupil Free Day. Staff will be attending a Maths Conference in Melbourne. This will build on teacher capacity to teach Mathematics, which has been a significant focus in our school for the past two years. Our Maths Specialists, Frances Glasson, Karen McHugh and Melissa Stevens have done a terrific job in supporting the learning of staff in the area of maths. This initiative comes to an end this year and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the excellent work by this team.

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**ABSENCES**
If your child is absent please notify the office by telephone, and we will let the teacher know, or send a written note with your child on their return. These written records are required for audit purposes.

**LATE ARRIVALS/EARLY LEAVERS**
If arriving after 9.00am or leaving prior to 3.20pm can parents please sign students in/out at the office.
Thank you.

**STUDENT / COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Inside Out Dance Showcase Performance**
Inside Out Dance studio presents a showcase of creative dance and drama from Pre-school, Primary, Secondary and Adult classes inspired by the theme "Black and White". A Theatrical Extravaganza not to be missed!
**Saturday 30 November, 7pm**
Daylesford Town Hall
Tickets at the Door

**TENNIS IS FINALLY HERE…**
At last winter is over and the grass tennis courts at West St Daylesford are ready for the start of junior tennis. Daylesford junior tennis is for all ages and abilities and happens every Saturday morning. Tennis is a great summer sport and a fun way to get fit and learn new skills. For primary aged children, the club hosts a special beginner clinic to assist children to develop the necessary tennis skills to join the junior competition. The clinic starts promptly at 10.00am – 11.00am and it’s OK if you can’t make it every week. Membership for beginner players is $50 and includes the use of the courts over the whole season. For further information visit the website www.daylesfordtennis.com or call Vicki Horrigan on 5348 3894 or just come along before 10.00am on Saturdays.
Tennis is also for adults and there are lots of opportunities at the tennis club to have either a social or competitive hit of tennis -so don’t just let your kids have all the fun… visit the website for further details.

**AUSSIE HOOPS PROGRAM - 2014**
Aussie Hoops entry level program for children aged 5-9 yrs. In conjunction with Basketball Victoria Country Basketball Australia.
A great way to learn and develop new skills. Most important make new friends and have FUN.
**CAN COME AND JOIN NOW.**
**Venue: ARC, Smith St, Daylesford.** Cost $25 which covers 2 terms. Money is needed to cover court hire costs only
**Dates to register on now, for Terms 1 & 2, 2014 are:**
21/11, 28/11, 5/12, 12/12 between 4.00-.500pm.
Further info contact Jan-Maree Yanner 5348 3446.

**Soccer clinics for any kids under 12**
(club members or not) continue at Victoria Park, Saturday Mornings 10am – noon. If it’s wet we move to the Arc (if it’s available on the day)
This is a great introduction to the game for girls and boys – they will receive skilled coaching and will enjoy it immensely.
On wet mornings check on Facebook at 9am.
Cost $5 per player. Bring trainers, sports shirt and shorts, boots (if you have them) sweater and water bottle. Turn up 10 minutes early so we can start on time. Clinics include skill training, team strategy and a game. Enquiries John Mayger 0412230536

**Ballet classes for boys and girls aged 3 and up.** Classes held Mon, Wed, & Thurs after school. For information please contact Glenn Harwood or Sue Davis 5348 4532 or 0400 669 200
info@daylesforddance.com.au

![Ballet classes](image1)

**DUNEIRA'S ANNUAL XMAS CAROLS IN THE GARDEN**
**SAT. 14 DECEMBER 5PM - 6PM**
**BYO Picnic**
Gates open 3.30pm
Bookings
www.duneira.com.au