**Principal’s Report**

As this is my final report for the year I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all the staff on an outstanding job in educating the children throughout the year.

The year has had many highlights, with many wonderful educational memories. All of this could only be achieved by the strong partnerships that we maintain throughout the year.

I would like to thank and acknowledge a number of groups; all the members of School Council for their work, all the parent volunteers, all the KG volunteers, the children and the staff.

Our transition day for 2014 went extremely well. We welcomed 18 new students and we moved into 13 classes across the school, where we reinforced how important it is to be respectful and to action on our school values on a daily basis. We will be welcoming four new staff members to our schools next year, which I will do in the very first newsletter of 2014.

But for now, we say goodbye to Jo Manning and thank her for her work with 5/6M, we also say goodbye to Francis Comber and thank him for his work with 5/6C, we also say goodbye to Meg Cox and thank her for her work at Drummond. Frances Glasson, after some Long Service Leave will retire at the end of term 1 next year. We look forward to acknowledging her teaching career next year. We farewell Annemarie and thank her for her work as a teacher aide and we say farewell to Mr T after thirteen years at Daylesford Primary. A BIG thank you to Chris and we wish him all the best in retirement. Can I refer you to Chris’ article on page 3.

After 12 years as our cleaner Paula Dewhurst is retiring. On behalf of the school a huge thank you to Paula for her dedication to the school for over a decade.

Our Grade 5/6 presentation evening was outstanding and we wished all the Graduating students well.
Congratulations to all the award winners on the night:
Graham Dux Award – Sophie John & Marlon Toner-McLachlan
J Richards Award – Antigone Jonas
E E Leggo Award – Michael Pasahidis
Terry Brooker Award – Holly Armstrong
Murray Stewart Sports Award – Tom Henderson
Stella Armstrong Award - (Performing Arts) Chloe Wilkinson, and (Visual Arts) Alicia Rae
LOTE Italian Award – Ava Nance
Principal’s Award – Hannah Melen & Santino D’Onghia
Shire of Hepburn Citizenship Award – Max Anderson
Zetland Lodge Citizenship Award – Georgia Primmer and Zoe Turner.
DSC Bursary awards - Wyatt Cronin, Santino D’Onghia, Katie Dwyer, Hannah Melen, Alicia Rae & Chloe Wilkinson

Our Family groups presented Christmas gifts to Daylesford Family services. It was wonderful to see the time and effort that went into this lovely gesture of good will.

The Grade 6 Dinner was a great success due to a dedicated band of parents.

Finally, at our last assembly Trefor John (our School Council President) presented the 2014 Cultural Awards. We also announced the 2014 School and House Captains and we said goodbye to our grade 6 students.

The Catherine King Award was presented to Chris Tsiplakis for his outstanding contribution to Daylesford Primary School.

I would like to wish everyone all the best for Christmas and the New Year and I will once again look to the new year for new and wonderful opportunities in education.

Peter Burke

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**Farewell**

It is with an element of sadness that I write this, my final communication to you, the Daylesford and Annex Primary School communities. At the same time, I feel an immense pride in the achievements of the school during my thirteen years as Assistant Principal at Daylesford, Drummond and Yandoit Primary Schools.

We have persisted to become a nurturing and socially aware school that conducts its core business of educating young students within a community that is supportive of classroom programs and the values that are embedded in the school. I have been privy to the support of all community members in my Wellbeing role which has endeavoured to ensure that all students are given every opportunity to achieve personal and academic goals.

It has been a privilege for me to work with students, staff, parents and community members in a myriad of contexts. I have enjoyed every facet of life at our schools and will take fond memories with me as I embark on the next phase of my life. It is my hope that community members will continue to support the staff and school council in their efforts to provide the best opportunities for students. I look forward to farewelling some of you in person, at the school’s last assembly on Tuesday, December 17th which will also be my last day at Daylesford Primary School!

Mr T

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**Grade 6 Dinner**

An enjoyable night was had by all the Grade 6’s. The success was due to many helpers and support of donations. We would like to also acknowledge the kind donation of pizza’s from Ruben’s @ Hepburn.

*Grade 6 Dinner Committee.*

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**Fancy Dress Party Day**

Many thanks to our parents for providing plates of share food and assisting with dress up costumes at such a busy time.

It was a lovely way to celebrate Meg’s last day at Drummond.

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In week 4 of Term 1, we shall begin our swimming program at The Kyneton Aquatic Swimming Centre. We shall be participating in 6 sessions over 3 weeks – February 20, 21, 27, 28 and March 6, 7. We will once again be calling on parent volunteers to drive and all children under 145cm will need the correct booster seats. The cost of the program will be approximately $50.00 per student. This will be partly subsidised by our Drought Relief Funds.

Daylesford Blue Light Inc.

I am Leading Senior Constable Wallace from the Daylesford Police.

Over the past 10 years or so I have been responsible for the running of the Daylesford Junior Blue Light.

This has involved running disco’s, outings to movies and other events for primary school aged children in the Hepburn Shire area.

Due to increased operational requirements it has become increasingly difficult to find time to organise vents for the Junior Blue Light.
I am proposing to raise a Daylesford Junior Blue Light committee in 2014 to assist me in organising these events for the children.

This committee would be made up of adults and consist of the usual President, Treasurer, Secretary etc. and committee members.

Preference would be that committee members be either a teacher of primary school children or have a child who is a primary school child in our area. A current working with children check would also be required.

It would be great if we could organise at least 1 function per school term and a final function for year 6 students at the end of each year.

If you are interested please contact me by either calling the Daylesford Police Station 03 5348 2342 and ask for Wally, or email me on ian.wallace@police.vic.gov.au

This is a non-profit organisation and all the money that we raise goes back into the local kids.

KITCHEN GARDEN - SUMMER WATERING TREE
anyone who is able to help out with kitchen garden watering during the holidays (don't have to be available for the whole time) please contact Dianne

STUDENT / COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

AUSSIE HOOPS PROGRAM - 2014
Aussie Hoops entry level program for children aged 5-9 yrs, in conjunction with Basketball Victoria Country Basketball Australia. It's a great way to learn and develop new skills. Most important make new friends and have FUN.

COME AND JOIN NOW.
Venue: ARC, Smith St. Daylesford. Cost $25 which covers 2 terms. Money is needed to cover court hire costs only

Register for Terms 1 & 2, 2014: for further info contact Jan-Maree Yanner 5348 3446.

DAYLESFORD & HEPBURN SOCCER CLUB
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. (Inquiries John Mayger 0412230536)

What's on in January @ Daylesford Library

Tuesday 11.30 am
Baby Rhyme Time
Ages 0-2

Tuesday 2-4 pm
Board games
Ages 8+

Thursday 11.30 am
Storytime
Ages 2-6

Thursday 2-4 pm
Craftsmoons
Ages 6+

Samuel Johnson Raises Over $1,000,000. Help Us Welcome A Local Hero:
We’re planning a big event and we want you to help us! Come along, wear crazy pink outfits, and celebrate the fantastic and amazing achievement by our local lad. Sam so far has raised well over $1,000,000 for cancer research. He’s pedalled his unicycle nearly 13,000 kilometres. On January 8 he’ll ride back into his home town and we want to show him just how proud of him we are. So we’re planning a welcome event at The Savoia Hotel from 6pm. We plan a huge welcome as Sam and the Love Your Sister Team rides in from the roundabout near the IGA down the bike path to the Savoia Hotel. The fundraising extravaganza will include bands, performances, charity auctions, friends and much more.