

Dora Creek Public School

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Creekside News

November 16, 2018

Term 4 Week 5

Upcoming Events

- 19/ 11 3-6 Camp Morisset (2 nights)
- 22/ 11 K Orientation Picnic Day
- 23/ 11 K-2 Reptile Park Excursion
- 24/ 11 Smart Start Banking Presentation
- 28/ 11 GOLD Reward Day
Maitland Public School School Band Performance
- 29/ 11 Scripture Christmas Performance
- 30/ 11 SAPPHIRE Movie Reward
- 3/ 12 Swim School begins
- 4/ 12 Morisset High Orientation Day
- 9/ 12 K-2 Christmas Performance
- 14/ 12 Final day of Swim School
- 17/ 12 Presentation Day Year 6 Farewell
- 18/ 12 Year 6 Excursion
- 19/ 12 Final Day of School Year Party Day

NOTES SENT HOME

- 3-6 Camp Medical Forms
- 3-6 Camp Student Agreements
- Crazy Hair/ Clothes Day
- P and C Celebration Disco
- P and C Christmas Raffle Donations
- SAPPHIRE Reward (where applicable)

Change is Coming

The staff and students of Dora Creek Public School are quite conscious of our impact upon the environment and, as a result, we have decided to make a few changes to the way we do things. You may have noticed over the past few weeks the increase in bin numbers and, in particular, bin types at the school; which have been established to support our students' understanding of just where our rubbish goes, and how we can take steps to lessen our *environmental footprint*. The school bins have now been allocated a particular method of waste disposal; those being **Food Waste**, **Soft Plastic Waste**, **Recyclable Waste** and **Return and Earn Waste**. Our students are currently in the process of being educated as to how these operate at school, and also in how you can support this initiative at home. One of the most important things that you, our families, can do to enhance our efforts in minimising waste is to firstly decrease the amount of packaged food that comes to school. This is easily achieved in the following ways:

- Remove wrappers from products such as muesli bars, popcorn and cakes/ muffins- or better still, make your own treats with your kids. Studies have shown that kids are more likely to eat *raw and/ or healthy* if they have had input into the food preparation process. Not only this, you get to spend some quality time with your kids while educating them at the same time. If you don't know where to start, there are some great recipes available on the *Healthy Kids Website*; many of which are created from products that have little or no packaging.
- We have also encouraged students to take rubbish home with them that has food attached to it, e.g. cupcake wrappers, cling wrap from sandwiches or other products; and/ or "dip" products such as Le Snaks. There is no place for this type of rubbish in any of our new bins due to the fact that the attached food interferes with the recycling process.
- There is a hierarchy to waste management. Avoidance sits at the top and is the **best** way to reduce waste in schools. Avoiding waste generation also saves energy, resources and over-manufacturing of commonly used goods. So, before you whack a packet of chips, or other pre-packaged food into your child's lunchbox, ask yourself if there is a container around that it can be emptied into and returned home each day instead; or choose a healthier raw treat in its place, such as carrot sticks, apple pieces or watermelon.



One other aspect of waste reduction that our school is going to look to put in place is the way in which we communicate the school's newsletter. As you are aware, the latest edition of our newsletter is available on both the *Schoolstream* App and the school's website, at <http://www.doracreek-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>, which means that this will be the last mass-distribution newsletter that comes home in paper form. Whilst the school will continue to distribute a newsletter fortnightly, it will now only be published in the app and on the website, unless you specifically wish to have a paper copy. Overleaf is an opt-in form for those of you who still wish to continue to receive a paper newsletter. Eventually, we envisage that there will be no formal newsletter day; instead, news and events at the school will be communicated as part of a fluid digital document.

CRAZY Day

Please note that the final P and C meeting for 2018 is the AGM, where committee positions will be declared open and are available to be filled by enthusiastic volunteers. Are you one of these people? Do you have some great ideas that you believe will help support our school and its students? If so, then **we need you!!!**

No previous experience is necessary and the only things we require from you are:

- Time and Enthusiasm
- A heart that is in the right place
- An ability to hear the ideas of others, and;
- An ability to provide support for the P and C and our students

Nomination forms for executive positions are available at, and may be returned to, the school office. Anyone wishing to vote at the A.G.M. is required to be a financial member of the P & C (\$1.00 to join), which can be taken on the night of the AGM. As some of our new parents to the school may not sight this newsletter, if you or someone you know are acquaintances of our new families, we would appreciate it if you would also forward this information on to them as well.

2019 Enrolments Now Being Taken

If you are aware of any students in the community who are intending to enrol for Kindergarten in 2019, or you know of people who are seeking a change regarding their child's education in 2019, please suggest that their parents contact the school office as soon as possible. **IMPORTANT:** Whilst there will **always** be places available for local students at DCPS, a change in a number of circumstances within the school has meant that there may be places available for students who might not be within the confines of our local zoning area. We are proud of what we offer our students at Dora Creek Public School and we encourage anybody who seeks a holistic education for their child- along with kind, caring, compassionate and talented staff who value every child we teach- to come along and

Assistance Requested

In order to support your child's learning while in the computer lab, they are invited, where practical, to provide their own headphones for use during learning tasks where audio is required. In the interests of hygiene, your child will be reminded not to share or loan their headphones to others, and they are strongly encouraged to bring headphones or earbuds to school in a zip-lock bag with their name written on both the bag and the headphones. Almost all of our programs and activities require students to follow audio directions and we believe that students bringing their own headsets is the best course of action in terms of cleanliness and cost effectiveness. However, if you are unable to provide a headset or earphones/ earbuds, there are limited sets that will remain available for your child to use while in the lab.

What a great success our CRAZY Day MUFTI turned out to be! We really appreciate the effort made, and the lengths that our families have gone to in order to support this great P and C initiative. Our students have been asking for something like this for a long time and it was great to see some of the creativity on display; which certainly helped to add to the spirit of the occasion. We would like to thank you all for your tremendous support in raising a total of around \$110.00. Well done Dora Creek! Check out some of the shots taken on the day.



Remembrance Day Service

11am on Sunday, November 11, 2018 marked 100 years since the guns fell silent on the Western Front in France and Belgium to signal the end of World War One; otherwise known as The Great War, or *The War* (which was meant) to *End all Wars*. Whilst we know that this war did *not* resolve all of the world's conflicts, it was an honour and a privilege to mark this event with our student leaders, as we shared the commemoration of the occasion, and the opportunity to remember the lives that have been lost in all wars before and since World War 1, by laying a tribute wreath. Conducted by South Lake Macquarie RSL, a moving service was held at Morisset Country Club on this day, and I would like to express my gratitude to the following students for their attendance at this solemn, extremely important occasion; Ella, Josaiiah, Deanna, Jackie, Jason, Meika, Tara, Charlie and Bailey. These students proudly represented Dora Creek Public School, as students from the only local public school, at the Remembrance Day service. Congratulations, we are very proud of you, and grateful to you and your families for giving up your Sunday to show your respect for the fallen.



News From the Fishing Group

Interest Groups continued this week and, after a break due to the poor weather the previous week, the Fishing Group returned to the jetty to chase that elusive "Catch of their Lives". In what was a perfect day for fishing, with the barometer up and the cloud cover cloaking the sun like a blanket, the day started off on a great note for Regan; who managed to hook a beast of a longtom on his very first cast. Not long after, when she finally plucked up the courage to squeeze a smelly, sticky prawn onto her hook, Ella caught herself her very first leatherjacket. Although quite unwilling to unhook the beautifully patterned creature from her line, she took the opportunity to pose for a pretty cool photo and also jumped at the chance to stroke the unique texture of its skin; which helped her to understand just why this particular fish is named as such. Kayne also got in on the action, catching a number of fish in quick succession, all while wishing that the glut of herring that he plucked from the creek were available for him to use as bait for something WAY bigger. Unfortunately for Kayne, yet great for sustainability, all of the fish we catch while at the creek are returned to the water in order to allow the fish to continue to grow and breed, thereby ensuring that our kids' own kids, and perhaps even theirs, will have the opportunity to engage in this great recreational pastime with plenty of fish stock still available in the future. Towards the end of the session, Meika was stunned when she hooked herself a beautiful looking, well-fed whiting, which she initially thought was a stick. Like all others caught on the day, this fish was also returned to the water, safe, lively and unharmed.



Newsletter Changes

*Dora Creek Public School is aiming to reduce our environmental footprint. As a result, the school newsletter will now be published primarily on the school website and within the **Schoolstream** app. These changes mean that paper copies will only be printed for families who request them. Please return this slip to the school office if you wish to continue receiving paper copies of the newsletter.*

I wish to continue to receive a paper copy of the DCPS Newsletter

Family Name: _____

Signed: _____