

# ◆ THE DONBURNIAN ◆

**DONBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**DONBURN'S GOAL**

**To provide a vibrant, attractive and safe teaching and learning environment, growing and evolving in harmony with the community.**

**"LEARNING FOR LIVING"**

**Principal: Kevin Sertori**

**Telephone: (03) 9841 8099**

20 December 2007



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Thursday	20 December	End of Term Assembly 2:45 pm
Friday	21 December	Planning Day 2008 (Pupil Free Day)
Friday	25 January	Stationery Collection 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Tuesday	29 January	Teachers Resume
Wednesday	30 January	Students Resume School 9:00 am

Dear Parents

The Christmas Concert, held on Friday evening, was a wonderful community event! Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and friends of Donburn Primary who gathered together to celebrate this annual event. Thank you to Anthea Keep and Jeanette Breen who co-ordinated this event and to our enthusiastic students who all enjoyed their performances. Thank you also to Greg and Penny Hill for their assistance with our audio equipment.

Each year our school fields a team in the APSMD (Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads). Schools from Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, Christmas Islands and Indonesia compete in the competition. The annual Olympiads consisted of five separate contests spread across the year. Questions are set at a standard suitable to students at a level equivalent to Year 5 or 6. Our team has consisted of students from Grade 3 to Grade 6 and all students found the problems to be particularly challenging but enjoyable. Four of our students scored in the top 25% of candidates and top honours went to David X (Grade 6), runner up was Grant L (Grade 6) and third place was Matthew C (Grade 6). Fourth place and winner of the 2007 Encouragement Award was Grant L (Grade 4). Congratulations to all participants!

For the first time our senior students competed in a weekly general knowledge competition "Auzquiz 2007". Students from Grade 3 - 6 participated in this program with many students sharing the quiz at home with their families. Thanks to all parents who supported their students' interest in this event. The winners and 2007 finalists are listed as follows—

Grade 3	Jack S (winner), Ryan T, Sachi R
Grade 4	Lucy K (winner), Tim C, Grant L, Claire A
Grade 5	Jayden M (winner), Robert P, Stuart Y
Grade 6	Gary L (winner), Philip S

The winners of the audience participation books were: Brendan G (Grade 6), Adam C (Grade 3) and Spiros V (Grade 4)! Congratulations to all students and we look forward to another top contest in 2008!

Today our students were informed of their 2008 class teacher. Next year the students will be grouped into thirteen classes, with our prep enrolment a very healthy 63 students. A summary of the class structure is as follows.

Prep	Chris Taylor	Amy Thompson	Nicole Ramsay
Grade 1	Fay Davidson	Kris Pepper	
Grade 2	Rachel Morrall	Charlotte Selim	
Grade 3/4	Rosanna Bagnato	Julie Hoskin	Anne Valkenburg
Grade 5	Michael Bourke		
Grade 5/6	Robyn Fraser		
Grade 6	Lynette Hookey		



One of the strengths of our school is the wonderful people that love to work at Donburn. I would like to thank all staff (teaching and non-teaching) for their outstanding commitment to the welfare of our students.

Hilary Salmon has been an outstanding staff member at Donburn and she has decided to take a break from teaching. Hilary has been a very effective Reading Recovery teacher during the previous seven years and her encouraging, warm and skilful approach has made a very positive difference to the literacy development of many of our Donburn students. Thank you Hilary and good luck for further success in 2008!

Lucas Fleming will not be returning to Donburn in 2008. Lucas has accepted a position at Xavier College. Lucas enjoyed his teaching experiences in London in 2007 and I wish him a very rewarding year in 2008!

Sue O'Neill has worked at Donburn during 2007 as Grade 4/5 teacher and in 2008 she will transfer to Kerrimuir Primary School. Thank you Sue and good luck in your new position!

Anthea Keep will not be returning to our music program in 2008. Thank you Anthea and our best wishes for 2008!

Next year we welcome a group of very talented teachers to our team. I'm sure you will enjoy getting to know them. Bob Hook worked with us during 2007 in co-ordinating the Senior school Musical production. Bob will join Jeanette Breen as our Music teacher (part time 0.4).

Michael Bourke is an experienced young teacher, currently teaching Grade 6 at Tyabb Primary School. Prior to this Michael worked in schools in Scotland. Michael will be teaching Grade 5 and I'm sure he will greatly enrich the Grade 5/6 team.

Nicole Ramsay has worked at Donburn during 2007 and she is very excited to be joining the Prep team. Another young teacher to join the Donburn staff is Charlotte Selim. Charlotte will be joining Rachel Morrall in the Grade 2 team. It's been wonderful to have Marg Hanna back at Donburn. Marg is looking forward to returning to Donburn on a full-time basis at the beginning of 2008! Great news Marg! We have been so lucky to have the very talented Wendy Farr as our Office Manager for three terms in 2007. Thank you for your excellent work Wendy and good luck in 2008!

Thank you to all our wonderful students! We often receive positive acknowledgements about the excellent behaviour of our students, they are a credit to their loving and supportive parents. It is such a pleasure and privilege to work at Donburn Primary School.

I would like to thank all our Grade 6 students for their fantastic school spirit and I wish them all a successful 2008 in their new schools. The work of our two School Captains has been outstanding! Congratulations Brianna and Matthew and my personal thanks for your excellent support and for providing all other students with role models of the highest order!

The Grade 6 students will graduate tonight and it is always one of the highlights of our school year. Good luck to everyone! You are all stars! Thank you to Celia McKeown and helpers for co-ordinating tonight's Graduation dinner! Goodbye to the families who will be leaving Donburn as their final student graduates from Donburn. Thank you for the wonderful contribution you have made to Donburn Primary. Goodbye and good luck to our students who are transferring to new schools in 2008!

- Thank you to Anne Valkenburg for co-ordinating our very enthusiastic Junior School Council.
- Thank you to the very dedicated team, led by Rosita Scott, who provide an excellent Out of Hours School Care Program. All OSHC students have really enjoyed the great variety of interesting activities provided! Take a bow Rosita, Sharon, Cheryl, Josephine and Kaitlyn!
- Thanks to our outstanding IT team, Chandradeep Chakravorty and John Truong.
- Thanks to our fantastic "Mr Fixit" team. Together they have provided hours of work and help us to present the school and grounds in such outstanding condition. Thanks heaps Barry, Ted and Max!
- Thanks to Barry Wyatt for providing Chaplaincy services across the school. His work (and that of Little Barry!) is greatly valued.
- We are very fortunate to have such a fantastic team of parents and staff who form our School Council. Thank you to Pam Sexton (President) and Tom Sammann (Treasurer) for their outstanding drive during the year. With Phil moving on to Year 7, Pam will retire in March from the Donburn School Council. Thank you for your wonderful support and for your commitment to providing an outstanding learning environment for all Donburn students. Jacqui Herd will also be retiring in March as Kate moves on to secondary school. Thank you Jacqui for your strong support during the previous seven years. Thank you to all other School Council members and I hope that your support will continue!
- Thank you to Peter Young and his very hard working team for organising a wonderfully successful School Fete. The event was a great event for the community and the \$10,000 surplus will provide for a richer learning environment for our students.
- Thanks to the Parents Association under the dynamic leadership of Cathy King. This groups organised a series of successful events throughout the school year. Cathy's hard work with the School Fete is acknowledged and I'm sure greatly appreciated by all members of the Donburn School Community. Thanks Cathy!
- Thank you to Chris Clark for co-ordinating the operation of our school canteen and to all the wonderful parents for enthusiastically staffing the canteen throughout the year.
- Thank you to the families who supported our Working Bees. Please note that our first working bee for 2008 will be held in Term 1 and we need lots of hands on deck to complete our first major project. Thank you in anticipation! Thanks also to Alistair Salmon and Ken Knight who have worked throughout the year to maintain our outdoor areas.
- Thank you to the parents who donated items for our second hand uniform sales and to Regina Gray for co-ordinating these days. Regina has been an outstanding Donburnian for many years and this is her final year at Donburn as Alex moves on to East Doncaster Secondary College. Thank you Regina (and Daryl!) for your outstanding commitment!
- Thank you to Gaynor Williams for her work with the school banking! Greatly valued!
- Thank you to Zahida for caring for our students at the Highfield school crossing.



- Grade 1-6 - Monday 4 February 2008 and Prep Monday 6 October 2008
- Final assembly **Thursday 20 December 2007** will commence at **2:45 pm** and all students will be dismissed at 3:30 pm.
- I especially acknowledge the hard work of all staff. We are so lucky to have such a vibrant team. Thanks to Julie Hoskin for being such a talented and supportive Assistant Principal.

I once again thank all parents for their high level of support and I hope that everyone will enjoy a very relaxing holiday with their family. I look forward to all students returning to school on Wednesday 30 January 2008 and staff return on Tuesday 29 January 2008.

If you need to contact me for any reason during the holidays you can reach me on my mobile 0419 448 065.

Regards

Kevin Sertori  
Principal