



# Dural Public School Newsletter



20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 ~ TERM 3, WEEK 5

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

THIS  
WEEK  
AT DURAL

FRI 21 AUG

MON 24 AUG

TUE 25 AUG

WED 26 AUG

THU 27 AUG

FRI 28 AUG

**Premier's  
Reading  
Challenge  
Ends**

**TUE 1 SEP  
Father's  
Day Stall**

## Principal's Report ~ Milly Stone

Thank you for taking the time to read the 'Updated Information for Parents' - Department of Education - that was sent home on Monday. The complete document was emailed out to all families on Monday and it is also on our school website. It is really important to read all the changes, especially health related matters.

### Kindergarten Enrolments

Applications to enrol for Kindergarten at Dural Public School in 2021 are now open. If you, or someone that you know, is looking to enrol a child into Kindergarten next year, enrolment forms can be lodged online.

If possible, parents are asked to use the online enrolment system. At this stage, the online system will only accept enrolment applications from 'in-area' families. Paper applications are also available, and can be lodged, at the front office.

### Special Family Circumstances

Any changes to your child's family situation can impact on their emotional, social and academic well-being. It is always a good idea to inform your child's teacher, an Assistant Principal, and/or me about any changed circumstances so that the child can be supported if necessary. Examples of special circumstances include the birth of a sibling, family illness, separation and divorce or the death of a loved one and especially for primary aged children, illness of a pet.

### Update Your Emergency Contact Details

Please notify the office staff if there has been any change in your contact details. This includes address details, email address and telephone numbers. If we need to contact you urgently it is important that we have the correct details. This is especially important as often we have sick children who need to go home.

### Year 4 Excursion to Brewongle Environmental Education Centre

The students in Year 4 attended the Brewongle Environmental Education Centre on Wednesday. They had the most amazing learning day. Please read the article and view the photos. Well done Year 4!

### We want your feedback!

Parent involvement and engagement is a crucial partnership in ensuring student success at school. We would love to hear your thoughts about how we can communicate our new school plan to you! If you haven't had a chance yet, please complete the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RVJLMLR>

The survey will only take 3 minutes to complete. Thank you in advance, we value your thoughts and feedback!



# - Strive for Success -



## The Dural Diamonds

Respect Responsibility Success

**Congratulations**  
to our Diamond Pin Students

BLUE		RED		GREEN	
Jonathan L	5B	Lourdes N	1P	Wade B	3R
Joshua H	KN	Misha H	5B	Isabella M	3A
Edric F	5B				
Arani M	5B				
Collin H	5B				
Stephanie L	5B				
PINK		ORANGE		YELLOW	
Finn K	3A	Makayla B	4F	Lucinda T	3R
Lotus G	4F			Caitlyn C	3R
				Melody Y	4F
WHITE		DOUBLE BLUE		DOUBLE RED	
		Mark R	4F		
DOUBLE GREEN		DOUBLE PINK		DOUBLE ORANGE	
TRIPLE BLUE					

## YEAR 5 Students

Please remember to bring in your headphones as they will be needed for various activities in the next couple of weeks.

## All Students K-6

If you have not brought in your roll of masking tape for Art, please do so. It is needed for projects towards our Art Show. Thank you.



Dural Public School



## SAVE THE DATE Father's Day Gift Stall 2020

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

We are excited to let you know that a Father's Day stall will be held in the hall on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Children will attend in class groups; hand sanitiser will be provided and social distancing adhered to.

A range of \$10 gift bags and the very popular car wash buckets are back

A range of \$5 gifts, including keep cups, photo frames, socks, hats, key rings, torch key rings, can coolers, and more.



The Father's Day stall is filled with loads of gifts to give on Father's Day.

## CLASS LINES

Respect Responsibility Success



We expect you to:



Walk sensibly in two lines:  
"No talking while walking."



Keep to the left on stairs and pathways.



Allow others to exit before you enter.



Sit in two lines outside your classroom when the bell goes.



## The *Tell Them From Me* student survey (Term 3, 2020)

### *Information for parents and carers*

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

This term our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. Students in years 4, 5 and 6 will complete the voluntary survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 3 last year. Asking students to complete this survey yearly allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across grades.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school and will inform the direction we head in for our new School Improvement Plan for 2021-2024.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

We want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 10 August and 23 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/~~carers~~ about the survey is being sent home with students and is available on our school website. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020**.

For further information you can read Frequently asked questions here:

[https://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/FAQs/TTFM\\_Student\\_Survey\\_FAQs\\_Parent\\_and\\_Carers\\_T12019e.pdf](https://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/FAQs/TTFM_Student_Survey_FAQs_Parent_and_Carers_T12019e.pdf)



## Year 4 Excursion to Brewongle

By Melody, Audrey & Gabrielle

The musty grey rocks crunched under our feet as the class scrambled out of the bus, aware of the learning adventure that awaited us. A spark of excitement suddenly hit us.....

We were at Brewongle to learn about the past origins of the original inhabitants of this land, the Aboriginals. It was an interesting experience that started with the two mesmerised classes sitting around a campfire, with Sue, our Aboriginal guide introducing us to the multi-purpose tools the Aboriginals sustainably made from traded, or gathered materials. Later, Steve and Kate took us on a fun educational bushwalk to explain what plants and resources the Aboriginals used.

Then we walked to the lookout near the Hawksbury River where our eyes could have been gazing on for days. Suddenly, we heard a scream. 'LUKE. LUKE!!! Stop it!' the quartet of boys fell backwards off the log. There was hysterical laughter. Sue even said that was nearly video worthy!

Sue showed the class how to use ochre (a combination of a special type of grinded rock mixed with water) to paint on their arms and legs to create their own Aboriginal Dreamtime Stories. After everyone had finished painting themselves, the girls took the clapsticks and the boys got up and started to dance the 'Bouncing Kangaroo'. There was laughter from every girl as the boys hopped about, hopelessly trying to imitate a kangaroo. Next, it was the girls' turn. They were acting as a mob of female emus as the boys used the clapsticks to tap out the beat. We had quick lunch stop and on to the next activity.

The Sand Art story was REALLY fun and the conclusion of our day. Steve told the story of the little boy who was looking for his true love💕. Every now and then, he would asked a question like: 'Who can tell me what two is in the native language?' or 'What do you think is number one thousand, seven hundred and forty five is.' Then he asked us who we thought the little boy was with a smug smile. (It was him! And he told us that his true love was Nessie the blue tongue lizard they kept at the education centre).

Now THAT, was the fantastically great Brewongle excursion.



## 6S TERRARIUM SCIENCE ACTIVITY

As an extension to their science unit and a special interest project 6S engaged in a lesson on terrariums. Within this lesson they learnt about how to make a self-sufficient eco-system and the needs of certain types of plants. They were then given the opportunity to create their very own terrarium in class and experience some of the challenges in the task and problem solving required to overcome them. Some of the feedback was –

“We are going to see the water evaporate and rain back onto the plant so you don’t have to water it. It also sometimes gets misty on the glass” – Megan

“My least favourite part was putting in the plant because it fell and landed in the jar upside down” – Giuliano

“Next time I would get a bigger jar” – Josh M

“The hardest part was when we had to put some water in it, because we have to put the right measurement in” – Binodh

“My favourite part was the end result because it was really cool to see it” – Emily

6S had a wonderful time learning the intricacies of creating an ecosystem and now have their very own terrarium sitting proudly on their desk!







## – Strive for Success –



### CANTEEN

This week's article is dedicated to our wonderful volunteers who help in the canteen every week!

Without this amazing group of parents, we would not be able to run the canteen week in week out. As you can appreciate, circumstances change all the time and when we need someone last minute to help out they are always happy to take on another shift.

We acknowledge their generosity in giving up their busy week to contribute to the school - their efforts are greatly appreciated by the P&C, teachers and students. They not only assist with the tasks required each shift (it can get crazy busy at times), but make themselves available to support younger students with menu selections, comforting those students who present to the canteen when Mum or Dad have forgotten to pack/order their lunch (we've all done that!) and encouraging students with manners and social etiquette when receiving purchases.

Consider these volunteers as an extension of yourselves during the school day, they will always ensure your child is looked after like their own and greeted with a friendly smile every recess and lunch.

A special shout out goes to Erica Daly for her invaluable assistance helping out in the canteen!!

Volunteers for the coming week:

Fri 21.8 - Linda Sammut, Rian-Lea Sheehan  
(Canteen Monitors - Charlotte & Mychelle)

Mon 24.8 - Danielle Vassallo

Wed 26.8 - Lisa Schilling, Greg Sworden

Fri 28.8 - Erica Daly, Clancy Cotterill-Smith  
(Canteen Monitors - Angelique & Cloris)

Shelley



Yesterday the children celebrated World Humanitarian Day 2020 and this year the day was dedicated to first responders regarding this year's pandemic. So many of the children were very proud that their parents worked in hospitals and doctors' surgeries and delivered babies and were the real life heroes. The children did a poster to honour these people.

On Tuesday, we had the Department of Education come to our centre to see how we operate and this was a great experience for staff and children. The children showcased their artworks and their gardens.

Our vacation care programme will be out soon so keep an eye out for this.

Have a lovely rest of the week.







## - Strive for Success -



### Children's foot & leg assessment

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