

### **From the Principal**

2015 enrolment numbers are 20 students in the ECDP, 7 Prep students and 52 in the main school. We have 59 in our initial count and 98 subsequent disabilities in our other count. Prep students are only counted once despite other disability areas. A small number of students are yet to return due to poor health and this has been recorded for our Day 8 data download.

Staffing should be finalised by the end of February.

### **Facilities:**

The focus for 2015 will be the removal of current materials and upgrade of the toilet facilities in the 2 classrooms used by the ECDP and Prep students. The Junior playgroup will also be upgraded and Karen, Michaela & Angela H are engaged in discussions around re-designing this area for the younger students. Total costings for both jobs is expected to be around \$100 000. Start date is expected sometime in 2nd Term.



### **Back Care for Families**

Long term care of a child with a disability creates ongoing wear and tear on people's backs. It is important that a few simple rules are followed to avoid problems in the future.

1. Get as close to your child as possible
2. Have your feet wide apart
3. Bend your knees and push hips backwards and down in to a semi -squat
4. Tighten your lower abdominal and pelvic floor muscles
5. Take a breath in before lifting
6. Breath out as you lift – DO NOT HOLD YOUR BREATH
7. Avoid twisting and turn using your feet and not your back
8. If lifting equipment is available it is much safer in the long term for your back to use this

Even though lifting your child may seem quicker, the long term risks for your back are great. Taking that little extra time now using equipment will save your back.

### **Narbethong State Special School Trivia Night**

Thankyou to families who have ordered tickets via the office. These will be sent home by the end of the week. Families may contact the office if they would like to pre-purchase raffle tickets.

To avoid disappointment please contact the office on 3823 0777 to book and organise payment for your tickets, it is not necessary to have a full table of 10 we can place you on a table with other people to make up a table of 10.

Parents who are not able to attend are able to still participate and support the school via the purchase of raffle tickets. These are being sold at 5 tickets for \$5, 12 tickets for \$10 or 25 tickets for \$20. There will be multiple raffle draws on the night. Please use the enclosed ticket ordering sheet and return to the office by the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

We are also grateful for any donations of suitable items for our raffle draws and these can be left at the school office.

### **Director-General's visit**

We were fortunate to have the DG visit here on Thursday 5th Feb. The main purpose of his visit was to gain a greater understanding and awareness of the state-wide service I am also responsible for however I took the opportunity to have him visit 3 classrooms and speak with teachers and meet some of the students. I believe the visit was well worthwhile and received some very positive feedback from the DG regarding both the state-wide services and Narbethong.

### **Narbethong P&C**

The P&C AGM will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March commencing at 9.30am. All members of the school community are welcome and encouraged to come along and join the Narbethong P&C.



## Narbethong Open Day

To assist us with our organisation for this day, please complete and return the enclosed flyer to your child's class teacher by this Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.



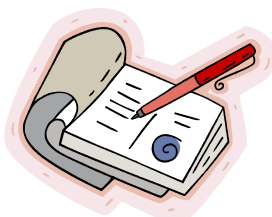
## Professional Development:

We have negotiated for the 2nd section of our postponed PD to occur on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. The majority of our staff are available to participate in this PD.

I am attending the state-wide Principal's conference on the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> February held at the Convention Centre. In my absence Angela will manage all school concerns.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Narbethong Open Day	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
Narbethong Trivia Night	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March
Last Day Term 2	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
Good Friday	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
Easter Monday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April
1 <sup>st</sup> Day Term 2	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April



## BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following students who are celebrating their birthdays in the next fortnight.

- 🕯 Paisley
- 🕯 Will



# Rocking Out With Rhythm – Music News

Drum roll please!!

Narby is excited to announce another year of fun and exciting song, rhythm, dance and creativity in our 2015 Music program. Students started their Music lessons in Week One and have been enjoying being back into our musical environment! This year, in addition to weekly classes, we have a small choir group that meet once per week as well as a small percussion based group that also meet once a week. Both Choir and Percussion will rotate with different students throughout the year. These extra-curricular classes are a great way for students to have the opportunity to participate in small groups and explore the world of rhythm. Drumming is beneficial for communication and self-expression, physical movement and autonomy, coordination and creativity, just to name a few.

Narbethong want to give a very big THANK YOU to St Laurence's College for donating handmade guitars and a xylophone! Under the guidance of Manual Arts teachers John Roberts and Marcus Brown, the Year 12 Technology Studies students designed and manufactured these wonderful instruments. Part of the focus for making these instruments was to get creative and use unconventional materials. Some of the guitars include pieces such as forks, chocolate tins, picture frame hooks, nails and even kitchen sink strainers! The Year 12 Technology Studies students have completed a wonderful project and have shown great generosity by donating the guitars to our students. Narbethong would again like to express our sincere appreciation to St Laurence's College for all your efforts with this project! The donation of these guitars have been a success during music lessons and have made our students very happy!

Lee 😊



Anne Nystrom

Principal