

From the Principal

The physiotherapy and nurse vacancies currently within our school have been advertised and short-listed for interviews as part of the department process for filling these positions. In the meantime we have the support each Monday of a physio from Nursery Road Special School and staff are able to email her with any queries during the week. All of the staff working in classrooms are trained in First Aid, CPR and in the relevant classrooms staff have further training in the administration of medications and student specific requirements. When necessary all staff are aware to call an ambulance for additional assistance.

It is with sadness that I inform our community of the recent passing of one of our students who was attending the ECDP (Early Child Development Program). Nicholas Gomes passed away on the 3rd of March. Our deepest condolences and heartfelt thoughts go out to his parents, Simone & Serge, at the tragic loss of their beloved little boy.

Narbethong State Special School Trivia Night

Thank you 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 as we can place you on a table with other people to make up a table.

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 13th March.

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

REMINDER

SENIOR SCHOOLING TRANSITION MEETING THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2015 From 10.00-12.00am

In the MEETING ROOM (2A) at NARBETHONG

Anne Nystrom, Annett Wellard and guest speakers from Disabilities Services will be discussing various issues, including:

- ❖ Queensland Studies Authority requirements
- ❖ QCIA
- ❖ SET plans
- ❖ Centrelink
- ❖ Post school funding
- ❖ Extension of school semesters

We look forward to seeing you there!

Harmony Day at Narbethong

Harmony Day is on Saturday 21 March and is the United Nations International Day to support the elimination of racial discrimination and a celebration of differences and similarities. The day encourages community participation, respect and a sense of belonging for *all* Australians and promotes the message that everyone belongs. Approximately 45% of Australians were born overseas or have a least one parent born overseas. Harmony Day is a great opportunity to celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. At Narbethong staff and students will celebrate on Monday the 23rd with a morning tea and some reflections from individuals on their personal journey to call Australia 'home'. This will foster a greater understanding and appreciation of our diverse backgrounds.

School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities Temporary Residential Accommodation

I would like to draw the attention of all parents whose children access temporary residential accommodation to the Parent Carer Responsibilities identified in the School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities.

"Requests for transport assistance should be made to the school transport assessor as early as possible. ONLY the student is transported between school and the accommodation centre.

Parents / caregivers are responsible for:

- *the delivery and collection of medication and belongings to the accommodation centre*
- *transport of your child between home and the accommodation centre.*

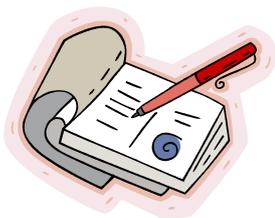
The current practice of transporting medication and belongings of the students to and from school and the accommodation centre contravenes the School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities Policy and will be discontinued from the beginning of Term 2 2015. Only emergency medication that may be required to be administered during the transport of students to and from school and the accommodation centre will accompany the students. I am aware strict adherence to the policy will cause significant inconvenience to many of our families particularly when students access temporary residential accommodation that is a considerable distance from their homes. However, as a school community, there is no other option but to respond appropriately to the advice that has been received from senior transport officers and comply with the policy. Transport providers will be advised of the change in practice and will be requested not to transport medication and belongings under any circumstances.

From Sue's class

Hi and welcome to Sue's class with teacher aides Barb, Kim B and Fran and our 5 boys - Ayden, Eamonn, Ethan, Isa and Jarrod. We have a busy weekly programme and begin each day with group communication where we choose how we would like to say Hello to each other; smiles, hand waves or verbal Hi/Hello. Working through our literacy lessons we are also practising active listening, turn taking and choice making. The boys are active participants in learning balanced sitting, standing, rolling, sit to stand and assisted stepping between activities. We all love the Tuesday swim session and improving our skills of floating, kicking, hand splashing, pushing off from the wall, sitting or standing grasping handrails and even beginning to achieve a sitting dive pool entry. Then we meet the Churchie students for a social wheelchair dance and game during our lunch break. We end our week with Fun Fridays include drum banging, guitar strumming and percussion shaking to the beat during music with Lee and outdoor play on the swings, tricycle and astro-turf in the Junior playground.

IMPORTANT DATES

Narbethong Trivia Night	Saturday 21 st March
Last Day Term 2	Thursday 2 nd April
Good Friday	Friday 3 rd April
Easter Monday	Monday 6 th April
1 st Day Term 2	Monday 20 th April



BIRTHDAYS

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

🕒 Jarrod 🕒 Isabelle 🕒 Eden

🕒 William 🕒 Dylan



Rocking Out With Rhythm – Music News

Communication is the key! Our music sessions weave strongly with communication and self-expression to encourage and empower students' voice. Through the assistance of PODD books, auditory scanning, body signing, vocal sentence building, and chin to chest chin to shoulder 'yes/no' responses, all staff provide modelling and opportunities for students to better develop their communication, both receptive and expressive.

This fortnight Rocking Out with Rhythm Awards go to Edie Gay and Annie Muller from the ECDP. Both Edie and Annie were star students in their music session showing superb listening skills, following directions and helping others. Edie has been practising drumming the syllables of words and sentences on her bongo drums and rocked out in style. Annie graced her classmates with her beautiful singing voice and loved playing different instruments. Before the lesson started, both Edie and Annie independently climbed onto the piano stool and shared their music in an improvised piano and singing duet. This was priceless! Well done Edie and Annie.

Lee ☺

Annie & Edie's Duet



Edie



Annie



Anne Nystrom

Principal