Key Dates for 2016

April 6th
School Association Meeting
7:00 pm

April 7th
Dove lake Excursion
Last day Term 1

April 26th
First day Term 2
ANZAC Service 10:45am

May 6th
Agfest Excursion – Senior Class

May 10th to 12th
NAPLAN Gd 3 & 5

May 13th
School Assembly & Supper

---

Issue No. 10: April 6th 2016

From the Principal

We have had a term filled with wonderful learning opportunities in a variety of different situations.

---

Ditto’s Keep Kids Safe Adventure Program

Accompanying this week’s newsletter is an information sheet about a Personal Safety session we have organised for all of our children on April the 27th. Parents are invited to come along to this Kinder to Grade 5 session. If you have any questions or concerns please get in touch with me.

Emma Langton
Principal

REMINDER DOVE LAKE EXCURSION TOMORROW

REMINDER STUDENT FREE DAY FRIDAY
SENIOR CLASS LEARNING

Working on the use of adjectives and describing with Mrs Hutt.

Harvesting herbs for our Easter posies.

Working together on our leadership tasks.
OUR FELTING PROJECT
The children spent a whole afternoon working in pairs to create felt from our carded wool. We are now ready for a second try after talking about the challenges of doing this for the first time.

Again this year the children have been involved in the Devonport Regional Gallery’s Sketchbook Project. The children have completed a number of pages in their own personal sketchbook that will be displayed on Friday in the Reclaim the Lane event in Devonport.

Reading strategies are important because they help us understand our world. We have worked on many reading strategies this term and Noticing is one we completed last week by looking at a very cute new book called, Sad, the Dog.
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2016

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) commenced in Australian schools in 2008. Each year, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in common national tests which assess:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy.

The scheduled dates for the tests in 2016 are Tuesday May 10th, Wednesday May 11th and Thursday May 12th.

The benefits of participating in NAPLAN testing:

- NAPLAN tests the skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy.
- NAPLAN results provide valuable information on how your child is progressing against national minimum standards of literacy and numeracy skills expected for each year level.
- The NAPLAN tests provide you as parents with an individual report that shows your child’s results and a comparison of your child’s performance against all other Australian students in their year level.
- Teachers use the NAPLAN results to determine your child’s areas of strength and where future focus is required and how best to provide support or extension activities.
- School teachers use the online NAPLAN Toolkit to analyse your child’s results. The Toolkit provides detailed information right down to the individual question with links to teaching strategies.
- Principals, senior staff and others use NAPLAN results to inform school planning and to allocate resources and support including informing decisions around targeted programs and initiatives for individuals and groups.

The best way you can assist your child is by helping them to feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests, and assure them that the tests will give them an opportunity to show what they have learned in class.

For more information about the national tests, please visit the national NAPLAN website at:
http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/naplan.html
MICHELANGELO EXCURSION
The children were enthralled by their recent visit to the Burnie Art Gallery to view the work of this most famous artist, sculpture and architect. The children listened to their personalised guided tour for two hours. They engaged in conversation about the artwork and had a hands on session at the end of the day.
AGFEST EXCURSION

The teaching team has decided to take only the Senior class to Agfest this year. We are linking the trip to their leadership areas in our Farm Kitchen Garden and feel that the excursion wouldn’t meet the needs of our younger learners.