It has been another fantastic week at Drummond MPS with students settling into a great routine. Walking past the classrooms I can see that students are busily working and really engaged in their learning. This is a really positive start to the school year.

This week I have employed Mr Samuel James as a student learning support officer in a temporary, part-time capacity. Mr James has considerable experience working with boys and brings a wealth of knowledge on engaging students through sport and interest groups.

I am really excited to introduce the links to learning “barking books” initiative to Drummond. Each Wednesday afternoon selected children will participate in the 30 min reading to dogs program. This program is proving to show outstanding improvement in increasing student engagement, building self-esteem and building capacity for students to respond positively in challenging situations. The program is run by qualified youth workers and will no doubt be beneficial to our students. I look forward to sharing some photos with you.

Scripture will begin this week. A note went home asking parents to indicate if they wished their child to participate in scripture or wished them to be withdrawn. Any changes to this must be made in writing. I thank our scripture teachers in advance for providing us with the opportunity to offer these classes.

As we begin the school year it is important for us to be talking to our children about how to make friends. If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. So teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs. I have included a website link that provides some tips and hints on talking to your child about how to make friends.

Friendships to boost your child’s learning http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning

Joey Nauruschat is the first student this year to receive 8 Good News Awards and choose a book from the book prize collection. Joey has chosen a popular “goosebumps” novel to read.

Dear parents/carers,

Tomorrow students in Kindergarten will be photographed for a one page spread in the Armidale Express which will be published in Friday’s edition.

It would be fantastic for the Armidale Community to see how proud we are of our school by:

- being dressed in a full, clean school uniform and Hair neatly done

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our school and our gorgeous students.

I thank you for your cooperation in this matter

Louise Moffatt
Term 1 - 2015

Thursday February 19 - PSSA Swimming Carnival

Scripture/Religious Education will commence for 2015 at 1.35pm

Friday February 20—Gathering Classes 5/6 and Year 2 will be presenting items. All Welcome come and support your children.

Thursday February 26 - K-6 YCDI Rewards Time 11.45am-1.15pm

Friday February 27 - Multicultural Day

Monday March 2 - P & C Annual General Meeting starting at 6.45pm

Saturday March 14 - Autumn Festival

REMINDER
The School Carpark will be locked between the times of 2.45pm and 3.20pm. This is for the purpose of Student Safety and Wellbeing. Students can be dropped off and picked up safely in either Ohio or Niagara Streets.

STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Janet – A big thankyou to working in the office all on her own. The newsletter was fabulous. Staff that attended welcome back much.

Habits of the Mind.

Last week we went through what organisation can look like and examples of this behaviour. I hope you are all feeling more organised and a little bit less stressed. With working 4 days a week and getting my 2 kids ready for school each day and being ready to teach with all my activities and supplies ready, I know that organisation is something I have to stay on top of for the sake of my sanity and my family.

When we teach the students about you can do it we focus in on one aspect in particular. That is the internal voice and the way we want the students to talk to themselves. Sounds a little bit nutty I know, but it works! For example if you tell yourself that you are going to have a bad day or that someone doesn’t like you or that life is just too hard, this negative thinking is going to create negative behaviours.

Habits of the mind that are ways in which we can talk to ourselves to create positive behaviours. The Habits of the Mind that help us to be more organised are

SETTING GOALS- This means thinking that setting goals can help me be more successful at something.

PLANNING MY TIME- This means thinking about how long school work is going to take me to get done and planning enough time to get it done.

Have a great week.

Mrs Vanessa Harwood

"You are what you are and where you are because of what has gone into your mind. You can change what you are and where you are by changing what goes into your mind."

Zig Ziglar Motivational Speaker

Swimming is FUN!
The Armidale Alligators is a NSW Swimming affiliated club which operates out of The Armidale School (TAS).
Your first two club nights are free.

Racing is against swimmers of similar ability, not age, with the focus on beating your own best time.

Phone Lisa Russell on 0408 989 994 or email: armidalealligators@gmail.com

Community Notices
The school is happy to advertise some local events and business ventures. However, we do not necessarily endorse them to you. It is the responsibility of individual parents/caregivers to ensure that they themselves are satisfied with all services offered before they involve their children or themselves.