Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Principal of Durack School and sincerely thank the staff, parents and students whom I have met and made me feel so incredibly welcome. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Mrs Sheila Delahay for her leadership and support, ensuring that there has been a smooth transition between us. I can understand Mrs Delahay’s sadness in leaving, as Durack School is certainly a happy and successful school, with outstanding staff and committed parents all working towards the schools shared vision of ‘Quality Teaching, Learning, Innovation and Equity’.

I have been living in the Northern Territory for 16 years, after moving into the suburb of Durack in the year 2000, due to my husband’s posting with the Royal Australian Airforce from Canberra. We enrolled both of our children into Durack School; Caitlin into Year 3 and Dale into Year 5. I was then appointed as a classroom teacher, backfilling Mrs Saunder’s maternity leave later that same year. From there I taught at several schools in both Darwin and Palmerston, as well as a number of position within the Department of Education, supporting schools. My most significant appointments have been as Assistant Principal at Driver Primary School, where I spent 8 years and then 4 ½ years as Principal at Alyangula Area School on Groote Eylandt.

I am very honoured to have this opportunity to once again work with the Durack School Community and lead them on their Independent Public School journey. I believe team work is essential in all aspects of a school and community and look forward to developing opportunities for more parents and community members to work as part of the Durack School team in the coming years.

I'm sure many of you have noticed that I am not the only new member of the Durack School Community this week. We have a number of new students who have joined us, as well as two new teachers. Ms Caitlin Folpp joined the Year 5/6 team to lead the newly developed ‘independent learning group’ and Mrs Kylie Flanders joined the Preschool team to assist the classes and teachers in providing quality teaching and learning experiences for our youngest students. Both teachers have come highly recommended and will be assets in assisting our students learning journeys. I trust that the Durack School Community will welcome our new members, as warmly as I have been welcomed.

I encourage all parents to take advantage of the regular Friday morning teas run by Laura Helman in the Community Room at 8.10am. These get togethers are a great way to introduce new parents to the area and our school community, as well as to provide networks for our existing parents.

Please say hello when you see me around the school.

Jo Jefferson
Principal
Notes Home

Year 6 Save the Date
Returning to Durack
School 2017 note

School Canteen

Open
Tuesday - Friday

Position Vacant

We currently have a position for a casual cleaner. Approx. 4-5 hours per day.
Ochre Card Essential

For further enquiries see Cathy or email your resume to cathy.kerr@ntschools.net

Dental Clinic

For any dental enquiries, to arrange an appointment or for dental emergencies, please call 8922 6466

**IMPORTANT**

Professional Development Day

A Professional Development Day for teachers has been approved and will be held on Monday 7th November 2016.

Please do not send your children to school on this day as normal classes will not be held.
Out of school hours care can be organised by calling YMCA on 0439991095

Japanese Cultural Day
Bunka-no-hi

Yo-Yo Fishing
Martial Arts
Calligraphy
Ikebana
Kimono
Origami
Dance
Food
Fun

Sunday 6 November
11 am – 2pm
Charles Darwin Centre
19 Smith Street
The Mall

PRESCHOOL 2017

We are currently taking expressions of interest for children who turn 4 before 30th June 2017.

Please see the ladies in the office as soon as possible as enrolments will begin in November.

School Board News

Hi Parents,
Most, if not all students, have been introduced to our new principal, Mrs Jefferson. Mrs Jefferson is a local person. In fact, she taught at Durack some years ago. The school is fortunate to have a replacement in the calibre of Mrs Jefferson. I hope parents have the opportunity to meet her in the near future.

A number of our Durack board members attended a 3 hour governance training session earlier this week which will be of value to the school.

The school is still hoping to have a few parents sit on a subcommittee dealing with fundraising. Mrs Carrier, a staff member, is coordinating this group and she aims to keep meetings to a minimum and at a time suitable to parents.

If you can assist it will be most welcome. For further information please contact Mrs Carrier on dianne.carrier@ntschools.net

Regards,
Wally Mauger
Board Chairperson
ABSENCES

To enable us to keep accurate records please contact the school if your child is absent. This may be done in the following ways:

⇒ phoning the office on 8935 9259
⇒ Note to your child's teacher
⇒ Emailing the school - durack.school@ntschools.net
⇒ email via school website

Updating Information

If you have changed any of your details such as address, phone number, medical conditions or any other information please inform us at the Office so we are able to update your child’s records.

Student Banking

Student Dollarmite Banking is done each Friday. If you are interested in opening an account for your child we can provide you with an information pack at the office.

Durack School’s Veterans Health Week Fitness Challenge 2016

Students, teachers and parents are invited to join personal trainer, Leah Sisley from CrossFit Palmerston to participate in Durack School’s VHW Fitness Challenge! There will be prizes to give away and fruit available to participants following the session.

Date: Thursday 27th October 2016  Time: 12.40pm – 1.05pm
Location: School Assembly Hall

IS YOUR CHILD INTERESTED IN LEARNING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Online Enrolment applications are now open for all students interested in the NT Music School’s Instrumental and Vocal Program for 2017 via our website:

www.ntms.net.au

Please note: Only online enrolments will be accepted. Our friendly reception staff are available should you require assistance 89635550 or nt.musicschool@ntschools.net
Are you going to be a SPELL-A-THON prize winner?

We have prizes for the following:

- Highest OVERALL fundraiser
- Highest fundraising family
- Highest fundraiser in each year level
- Highest fundraiser in Preschool
- Lucky Draw prizes for children who raise $40.00 or more.

Remember to get your sponsorship money in by Wednesday 19th October to be eligible for a prize.

Prizes will be awarded at a special assembly on Friday 28th October.
Prizes include......

We have 2x Mini 2 iPads, donated by Kerry’s Automotive Group and Fulton Hogan as a prize for highest overall fundraiser – individuals or family group. Will this be you?

We have a pizza lunch, donated by Dominoes Palmerston, for the highest fundraising class. Will this be your class?

We have a 45 min family portrait session, including 5 digital photos and one framed print, valued at $250 donated by Nakita Pollock Photography.

There are also two, $200 ‘SpecSavers’ vouchers to buy sunglasses or prescription glasses of your choice.

There are family passes to the Territory Wildlife Park and Crocodylus Park.

Vouchers to redeem at KJ’s Entertainment and McDonalds.

An ‘ANACONDA’ store voucher and a number of ‘Instyle Hair & Beauty’, Hair cut vouchers.

EVENT Cinema vouchers and Stationary packs from Palmerston Woolworths.

Bike light sets donated by Physio Forward and Paul Arnold