Dear Mums, Dads, Students and Friends

It is with some sadness that I leave Durack School. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last 6 years at Durack and have been very proud to say that I am Principal of the school.

I am very pleased to be leaving the school in great hands. Mrs Joanne (Jo) Jefferson has been appointed as the Principal of Durack from the commencement of Term 4. Mrs Jefferson is experienced in a principal’s role as she was previously the Principal of Alyangula School. Whilst in this position she was awarded Arnhem Region, Principal of the Year. She has also held the positions of Acting Principal and Assistant Principal of Driver School. Mrs Jefferson also has some knowledge of Durack School as she held her first teaching position at Durack and her children attended the school.

Next term we also welcome Caitlin Folpp to our teaching staff. Caitlin will be working in the Year 5/6 area providing challenging programs to some of our more independent learners.

We have achieved many things together over the years. Highlights for me are the quality teachers that we have at Durack; becoming an Independent Public School; Japanese language and culture program running from Preschool to Year 6; developing partnerships with CIC, Tennis NT and Golf NT; innovative programs (extension groups, afterschool tutoring etc); and the outstanding achievement of our students in areas ranging from poetry to sport. There will be more exciting things to come. We are currently in the process of drawing up plans for an aquaculture/ aquaponics facility at Durack and will be developing the sister school relationship with Kanai International School in Japan.

Durack has wonderful, supportive parents, an absolutely outstanding staff, a supportive and active School Board, and students who are just amazing. I will especially miss the chats I have with students in the morning!

Next week is the mid-semester break. I hope you are able to take some time to spend with your children.

It has been a real pleasure working with you all!

Kind regards
Sheila Delahay
The Board would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Delahay well in her retirement. Mrs Delahay has been a wonderful principal of our school for the past 6 years and leaves very big shoes to fill. We have been fortunate to have a principal who has driven some fantastic programs for our students including the upcoming aquaculture program, Japanese language program to the whole school, our HP groups and most of all the hard work put in to gaining Independent Public School status and the continuing organisation associated with this.

Thank you for your invaluable contribution to our school. We will miss you immensely but look forward to welcoming our new principal Mrs Joanne Jefferson.

Kind Regards
Wally Mauger
Board Chair

Notes Home

5/6 classes note

COGSO Newsletter

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

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

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Testing is done!!!!!!

Congratulations to all of our students for working hard to learn their spelling lists! It is great to see so many students with 100%.

The due date for the collection of sponsorship money is 19th October.

New Prizes!!

We have a 45 minute family portrait sitting, Family Pass to Event Cinemas and lots of McDonalds Vouchers!!

On Track at Durack

Congratulations
Anna Collard
Macie Taylor
Lilah Sisley
Harrison Wright

Lily Harden
Ella C
Georgia Day
Jasmine Giles
Vincent Mondol
Kaiya Harris
Keeley Willison
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Cecilia Shoniwa
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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.
On Friday 23rd September, Durack’s students of High Potential in Japanese were invited by the Australian-Japanese Association of NT (AJANT) and the School of Languages to participate in an excursion to board the Japanese ship JS Fuyuzuki. This was because the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) arrived in Darwin to participate in the Kakadu 2016.

Upon arrival, it poured with rain but it did not for a second dim the excitement of students who were bursting with anticipation. All in single file, the students navigated up and over a series of stairs to board the third ship in ‘JS Fuyuzuki’ whilst the crew flanked each area we were escorted to.

Students were able to enjoy a tour of parts of the ship, ask many questions as well as take photographs. Durack students tried their best to ask as many questions as possible in Japanese and the crew tried to return the favour by answering in English. The tour included looking at the features of the ship including weaponry and students were very impressed at the sheer size of the ship. A couple of highlights were the deck where students sat in the chairs and pretended to captain the ship, use of the powerful binoculars and being lifted up into the SH-60K Helicopter for a look inside. Unfortunately, we were unable to fly it at 300km/h on this occasion but the students were so impressive that we think maybe next time (we can dream)!

At the end of the excursion, students were presented with a few cool gifts from the crew: a book, a pin, a computer mouse pad and a sticker. We presented one of the crew members with a good old Australian Slang book to help them with Aussie English!
Recycling at Durack School

Durack School students have been busy since the new recycle bins arrived. They have been taught which bin to put their waste, recycling and comingle items in and they are doing a great job of reminding their friends how to recycle.

YOU CAN HELP ... A yellow recycle bin has been installed at the front of the school (outside the community room), for parents and community members to deposit 10c containers. This bin SHOULD NOT be used for general waste. Please use the wheelie bin beside the yellow bin for rubbish.

This graph shows the results of the recycling programme for term 3 this year. It is pleasing to see that the amount of rubbish in the recycle bin is reducing and the amount of 10c containers is increasing. Students are still learning to empty their containers before placing them in the 10 recycle bin.

Mrs Edie
Are you going to be a SPELL-A-THON winner?

We have a 3G Ipad, donated by Kerry’s Automotive Group, as a prize for highest overall fundraiser - Individual or family group. Will this be you?

We have a pizza lunch, donated by Dominoes Palmerston, for the highest fundraising class. Is this 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.

Remember to get your sponsorship money in by Wednesday 19th October to be eligible for a prize. There will also be prizes for the following:

**Highest Fundraiser from the 4 Preschool classes. Highest Fundraiser in each other year level – Transition to Year 6.**

There will also be a prize draws for those students who raise $40 or more. For your chance to win one of these prizes collect your sponsorship money and return to school by

**Wednesday 19th October**

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

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Durack School Board has approved a professional learning day for staff on Monday 7th October. The focus of the day will be analysing school data, developing the Annual Improvement Plan for 2017 and professional learning in Mathematics for teachers. This day will provide an opportunity for the new principal to be involved in identifying the future priorities of the school. Although final approval has yet to be received from the Department we are giving advanced notice in order that parents can plan for the care of their children as normal school programs will not be operating on this day. The YMCA will be open to provide care for children. Phone 0439990195 for bookings.