It is week 5 we are half way through term 1. We have had a very successful Swimming carnival, many thanks to Brad, the teachers, parents and students involved. Last night some Year 3 students participated in the City of Sydney Chinese New Year Parade and may I say they were all impeccably well behaved and had a fantastic night being superstars along George Street. You may have noticed we haven’t had sushi delivered this term, unfortunately sushi was a very labour intensive endeavour so this year we have decided to move to an online canteen “Animal Box”. The canteen will be organised for each Tuesday and Thursday beginning this Thursday (26th Feb) more details in this bulletin.

**STAR STUDENTS:**
Each week a class will update their page on our website so look out for the link in next week’s bulletin. We do have an “Artist of the Week” from koalas, please check our home page out to view it: http://www.darlington-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/week-5-artist-of-the-week1

**REMINDErs:**

**Choir AUDITIONS:**
Tuesday 24th Feb — Preschool Room
8:00-8:50am — Spec Choir/Senior Choir
1:00-1:30pm — Mini’s Choir
2:30-3:30pm — Big Choir

**ETHICs classes begin:**
Tuesday 24th Feb — Stage 1 (Year 1&2), Year 3 and Stage 3 (Year 5&6) classes begin at 2.00pm.
The Year 4 class will be advised separately of their start date.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS:**

We have had reports of children needing treatment for nits/ headlice. **PLEASE check your child/ren and treat them accordingly, if we all do it this week it will eradicate the problem.**

Review treatment information on the back page of this bulletin.
ANIMAL BOX comes to Darlo

"Starting Thursday 26 February, Animal Box will be delivering fresh, healthy meals to our school every Thursday and Tuesday.

Jump online at animalbox.com.au and check out the menu for this term. They have a great selection of hot and cold main meals starting at $3.50 per meal. Snacks start at $0.95, while water and nuddie juices are also on offer.

Orders are made online and cut off at 8am on the day of delivery. Knowing how busy mornings can be, we recommend going online the night before with your children and placing your orders then. This will avoid potential disappointment through accidentally missing the 8am cut-off time.

Pictures, ingredient lists, allergen considerations and detailed nutritional information panels are provided for the entire menu - So you will know exactly what your children will be eating this term.

Animal Box will deliver the lunches at 12.40pm on canteen days. The lunches will come clearly labelled with your child’s name, year and class in a brown paper bag; with a serviette and biodegradable fork or spoon (if required).

You need only create one online profile per family and please remember to include your child’s class name when you first register. If you have any questions, please give the friendly team at Animal Box a call on 02 8015 5019, or send them an email at welcome@animalbox.com.au"
**The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the “Tell Them From Me” student feedback survey.

The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at:


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 27 February**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

---

**So what can I do through the App?**

**Absent note**

Complete the absent option on the app and this will generate an email directly to the Darlington Public School office.

**Information required:**

- Student Name
- Class
- Reason for absence
- Late or not attending
- (if late) - expected late arrival
- Parent Name
- Contact phone number

---

**WELCOME MORNING TEA — parents and carers**

Dear parents and carers,

The P & C would like to invite all parents and carers (both new and old members of our community!) to a welcome morning tea. Come along, have a cup of coffee or tea and a bite to eat, meet other Darlington parents and carers and find out how the P & C supports the school.

*When: Thursday 5th March, 9 - 10.30*  
*Where: School Hall*

RSVP darlingtonpandc@gmail.com or 0423022676 to Marianna Koulias  
P & C President on behalf of the Darlington Public School P & C
Hello parents and carers,

Each year students in Year 3, and above, are invited to join Training Band by attending a blow test to assess student suitability on an instrument. Instrument recommendations are also based on student choice, and the need to create a balanced band. Richard Brus, the band conductor, will facilitate blow tests on available instruments.

If you would like your child to attend the blow test and join Training Band in 2015, please complete the Expression of Interest form found at:
http://dnnbands.wordpress.com/
and email it to <richardbrus13@gmail.com>

You may also pick up a copy at the office and drop it off. You will find more comprehensive information about the band program on the website as well.

Welcome to all new (and returning) Parents and Carers at Darlington Public School,

You’ve made a great choice sending your child to Darlo!

The school has an active parent body that are keen to help improve the school in any way we can. The School’s Parents & Citizen Association (P&C) meets once a month (2nd Wednesday of the month) to coordinate our efforts.

The P&C has two main goals:

1. To promote the interests of the school and strengthen community spirit by bringing parents/carers, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation.
2. To benefit the school through fundraising and volunteering.

Last year we raised in excess of $15,000, with a fete, trivia night, raffles, BBQs, pizza & pyjama night and more. We also held a very successful working bee, helped raise and resolve issues around the school and most importantly had a lot of fun doing it all.

Next P&C meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 March, 6-7:30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Where</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who</td>
<td>Everyone is invited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why</td>
<td>Because you want to support your school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please come join us at the next meeting or if you can not make it but would like to be on the P&C emailing list please email darlingtonpandc@gmail.com

For more information on Darlington P&C please visit our website and join our Facebook group:
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/253101788067191/?fref=ts

Darlington P&C executive:

President - Marianna Koulias    Vice President - Viv Smith
Treasurer - Nichola Jephcott    Secretary - Heather Clement, Anna Butler
Non-Office Bearers - Jen Burn, Kim Bell-Anderson, Rae Cooper, Rebecca Shanahan, Ifeanna Tooth
Futsal is back on! Indoor soccer (free) every Sunday at the Ultimo Community Centre, across the road from the Ian Thorpe pool. It’s free, did I mention that? Under 7’s at 10am, over 7’s at 11am. It’s a great way to find out if your kid is keen on the “beautiful game”. Meet other parents and find out all about the teams to avoid...

Year 6 — EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST — HIGH SCHOOL
DUE 18 March

Moving into Year 7 in a NSW government school in 2015—as your child’s primary school education is coming to a close, it is time to think about which school your child will attend next year.

In NSW, students are required to continue education and training, gain full-time paid employment, or a combination of education/training and employment until at least age 17. All students must complete Year 10 of secondary education.

The Parent and Carers guide provides information about the different types of government secondary schools to help you decide which school you would like your child/ren to attend.

Please complete the Expression of Interest form included within the guide and return to the office by: Wednesday 18 March, 2015

Alexandria Park Community School
Community Opportunity Success

High School Open Day
Thursday 26th February 2015
Mitchell Road Campus 9.15am

Did you know that Alexandria Park Community School is THE HIGH SCHOOL in the INNER CITY?

Did you know that Alexandria Park Community School:

- Caters for students in years 7 – 12 with the full range of high school subjects and electives including extension courses for the HSC.
- Recently awarded a NSW Director General’s Award for providing quality education for all students.
- Is identified as a high performing school due to our excellent HSC results and outstanding student achievement growth in NAPLAN.
- In 2014, 14% of HSC students gained ATARS over 90.
- Provides a unique seamless transition to high school program for Year 7 students through our Year 5-7 Middle School structure.
- Delivers an innovative student engagement program for high school students which incorporates a range of extra-curricular activities in sport, leadership, music, vocational education, hospitality and sustainability.

“I have attended this school since Year 2 and have always felt happy here...I choose to remain at the school to complete my HSC knowing I would get the best education without losing my friends, my great relationships with teachers and with the school community I belong to” - Will Makarytches, School Captain 2015.

Our student enrolment numbers in the High School are growing fast!

We invite you to visit our High School classrooms to see our students and teachers working together.

Come join us to meet our staff, students and parents and find out more about Alexandria Park Community School – The High School in the Inner City.
2015 Ethics Classes

All children who have already applied for ethics classes have been given a place and parents who supplied email addresses have been notified by email.
Stage 1 (Year 1&2), Year 3 and Stage 3 (Year 5&6) classes begin next Tuesday 24 February at 2.00pm.
The Year 4 class will begin as soon as its teacher completes training – I will advise when this class is due to start.

I would like to express a big vote of appreciation to Kate Concannon Texilake, Darlo’s first ever ethics teacher, whose schedule has prevented her teaching this year. Kate’s contribution kick-started ethics classes at Darlo and gave our 2013-2014 senior students opportunities for ethics discussion before starting high school.

Interested in teaching ethics or coordinating the program?
We are still looking for parents/community members who’d like to teach ethics at Darlington, and this year I will be stepping back from my coordinating role. If you’d like to know more, please don’t hesitate to get in touch: email me at rks@wideopen.net.au, or go to www.primaryethics.com.au.

Rebecca Shanahan, Ethics Coordinator

Out of the mouths of babes ...
"I like that I get to relax and listen to great stories. Then we get to talk about them. It’s different to our other classes”. - Lara, Year 2, Gordon East Public School

"In ethics, we learnt that people are different and that’s OK.” - Student, Year 3, Pennant Hills Public School.

"It’s a fun way to learn things and your opinion matters in ethics.” - Student, NITS/HEADLICE — please check

Please check your child’s hair for nits/lice tonight using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health (http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/lice/treatment.asp) a copy of which is attached.

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website (details above) or through the Department’s website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/lice/index.php

Have a great week and remember: “This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness”.

- Dalai Lama

Liz Sinnott
Principal

PLEASE VISIT OUR P&C:
Darlington Public School P&C Association on
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/253101788067191/
Email: darlo.parents@hotmail.com
Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to advise you that we suspect that nits/head lice are present in the hair of some students within our school.

Please check your child’s hair for nits/louse tonight using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health (http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/headlouse/treatment.asp) a copy of which is attached.

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website (details above) or through the Department’s website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php.

I appreciate your assistance in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Liz Sinnott
February 19\textsuperscript{th}, 2014
Head lice

Changed advice
Up to date information on head lice is important as there are many misunderstandings about 'head lice' and how to treat them effectively.
NSW Health has recently conducted a research project in NSW to find out more about head lice and effective ways of treating infestations.
As a result, advice from NSW Health to parents and school staff has changed significantly.

Results of research show that:
Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools.

- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments
- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)
- school communities may need to hold 'check and treat' or Nitbuster days where everyone learns about and starts treatment on the same day.

Information on effective treatment is essential to break the cycle of head lice infestation.

What you can expect from your school
Advice from NSW Health indicates that there is no need for students to be sent home or excluded from school because of head lice.

Observing students scratching their heads is not a reliable or efficient means of assessing head lice prevalence in the school.

Where one student has head lice this serves as a warning light that there is likely to be an infestation in either specific classes or across the whole school population, including staff.

Schools also provide:
- a venue for parents to get together and work out and where relevant, implement, local strategies
- ways of communicating information about head lice infestations and treatment for parents (eg through school news letters).

They will also encourage students to avoid head to head contact in group activities as far as possible.
In rare cases where students are experiencing a chronic head lice infestation the school, parents and the local community may need to work together to treat the infestation. Nitbusters has been found to be an effective whole school approach.

Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice:
- regularly check your children’s hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.
Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, *The Learning Bar*, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by Friday 27 February.


Elizabeth Sinnott
Principal

Darlington Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 27 February 2015.

I (print name) .......................................................... DO NOT give consent for my child/children (print name/s) ..........................................................

of class/es ..................to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Signed.......................................................... Date............................
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>J a n u a r y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>F e b r u a r y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>F e b r u a r y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scripture and Ethics begin Choir Auditions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Animal Box”: arrives at Darlo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Tell Them From Me — student survey feedback due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Zone Swimming carnival Botany</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>M a r c h</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 6pm</td>
<td>Selective HS placement test</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>M a r c h</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Expression of Interest - Year 7 DUE BACK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>A p r i l</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>