I recently had a friend suggest to me that as the year was quickly drawing to a close that we in schools are starting to wind down. I was quite amused by this as this in fact could not be further from the truth. This time of the year is often the busiest time of the year in schools. Apart from the planning and preparations that need to be in place for the commencement of the 2013 school year, we have much still to do to successfully finish off this year. The senior teachers are preparing their year 6 students for the very important Graduation ceremony; the junior teachers are delivering the Prep Transition Program, the year 3/4 children are away on camp this week at Phillip Island enjoying the beautiful summery weather and wonderful activities of the camp; teachers and leadership are spending many hours considering the class structures for next year; reports are being finalised; Incursions / Excursions, iPad-a-thons, Parent Helpers morning tea, Choir concert at Tunstall Square, Celebration Concert at Doncaster Secondary College, Meet the teacher day, School Council meeting, Sub-committee meetings... and then we can all finally end the year with a whole school celebration at our Carols by Candlelight on December 20th at the school. I certainly hope that families are planning to come along to this night as we feel that the success of Donvale Primary School and its students is due to the wonderful relationship we share with our community. We would love to take the opportunity to celebrate our students’ achievements with our families. Mrs Keep is preparing the students and teaching them a variety of different Carols which they will be singing during the evening. Santa has been informed and he has put the date in his diary so that he can make a guest appearance. Please bring along a picnic, something to sit on and your festive spirit. We are looking forward to a relaxed family night with you all – the fun begins at 6.00pm.

Students and parents will be informed of the staffing profile and class teachers during the last week of term. During this week, our students will have the opportunity to meet their teacher and visit their classroom for 2013. More information on this will go home shortly.

You may or may not know but recently, Michelle Rassias, one of our very valuable Prep teachers, had to undergo a significant operation on her back. I am very pleased to report that the operation was successful and Michelle is now home from hospital recovering. Michelle will be on leave for the remainder of this year recuperating so that she is ready to commence her Prep class in 2013. We continue to wish Michelle a speedy recovery.
A very big thank you to the Krcevinac family for donating a Christmas tree to the school. The tree has been put up in the school foyer and helping to make the admin area of the school look very festive. The Junior School Council are bringing the true meaning of Christmas to our school by asking for donations of gifts and non-perishable foods for the needy. Sadly, not all children are as fortunate as many of the children at Donvale PS. If you are able to donate a gift and / or non-perishable food no matter how small, I’m sure a child in need somewhere will have a happy Christmas. We will make sure that all donations are distributed to the correct organisation. We are also seeking ornaments for our tree. If every child at our school brought along just one ornament, we would have the most wonderfully decorated tree. As always, we very much thank you and appreciate your support. And to show our appreciation and gratitude to our Parent helpers community, we would like to invite you to a special Parent Helpers morning tea. This will take place on Thursday December 13th in the Level 4 building starting at 11.00am to 11.45am. Parents that have supported our school and programs in every which way, are invited to come along to allow us to thank you all personally for the wonderful support you have given us throughout the year. I hope that we can get as many of you there as possible.

In last week’s newsletter I discussed us trying to minimise the amount of hardcopy printing of our Snippets newsletter. Please take the time to complete the form and return it to us by December 7th at the latest. Many thanks to the families that have returned the attachment already. Very much appreciated.

A reminder of our iPad-a-thon coming up on December 12th. We are looking forward to a fabulous event that will help support the implementation of our iPad program across the school. Please keep an eye out for notices coming home detailing the event. We hope you can join us to help cheer on the children.

And finally, a Camp update…
Everyone is well and having a great time! ‘Donvale Idol’ was a great success last night and reports today are that they are spending the day at the beach. No problems during the night – all slept well. I imagine that tonight they will all sleep even better!

**Lena Clark**

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**General News**

**Attention Guitar Students and Parents**
“Due to level 3 students being away on camp Friday November 30, guitar lessons will be held in lieu on Monday December 3.”

Ric Di Clemente

**Library News**
Borrowing of books finish this week. ALL books need to be back next week.

Thank you.
Christine

**Parent Morning Tea**
Please note - we had to change the date to Thursday 13th December. This is the same day as the R.E. concert which is at 12.00.

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**To all our Parent Helpers**

You are invited to a morning tea on Thursday 13th December from 11.00 - 11.45 in the Senior Building

The staff looks forward to this opportunity of saying a personal thank you for all your assistance during the year in supporting the many wonderful programs and activities that Donvale Primary offers its students.
**Music Matters**

**Choirs perform this evening!**
Today our Junior and Senior choirs will be performing at Tunstall Square (West side, near the ANZ and Commonwealth banks). Choir members are reminded to arrive by 5.20pm, wearing school uniform. You may need to bring a drink bottle too! The performance commences at 5.30pm so come along and support our wonderful choirs!

**Celebration concert**
The whole school community is invited to Doncaster Secondary College (123 Church Rd, Doncaster) on Wednesday December 5th. Most of our musical students will be performing in a variety program commencing at 7.30pm. All participants to wear black and white.
Tickets are available on the night only and are $10 per family or $5 per person.
See you there!
Anthea Keep

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**Basketball News**

Semi-Final game times are:

- Donvale Dolphins 8.30am DISC 1
- Donvale Delights 9.20am DISC 1
- Donvale Dreamers 11.00am DISC 2
- Donvale Dinosaurs 11.50am DISC 1
- Donvale Daffodils 11.50am Leeds St
- Donvale Dingoes 1.30pm DISC 2
- Donvale Daisies BYE
- Donvale Dragons BYE

Spectators $1 entry.

Good luck to all our teams in the Semi Finals this week.

Just a reminder that next year’s Registration forms are due in at the office by Monday 3rd December. New players from grades 1-6 welcome.

Thanks
Nina Vassiliades

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**C.R.E.**

You might have heard already some news of the CRE Christmas Concert this year. But just in case your house is as hectic as mine, it is our pleasure to announce that the CRE students will be performing a special Christmas Concert – The Visit of the Wise Men – Thursday 13th December this year.

The Level 4’s have been through the audition process and the cast has started rehearsing. There are 6 students entered in the Program Cover Design Competition. The winner of the competition will win a small prize and their program cover will be the cover for our Christmas Concert Program this year.

And this year we have 8 students performing a short dance routine.

**The Visit of the Wise Men**, written by Martha Jander. Martha has written the timeless story of Jesus’ birth in a way that is simple and easy to understand. The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to find Jesus, worshipping Him and giving Him precious gifts fit for a king. But Herod sought Him for a different reason.

So mark your calendar Thursday 13th December @ 12pm to join your children celebrate Christmas as they perform their part in – The Visit of the Wise Men.

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests.” Luke 2 v 14
Have a great week!
Shirley Mantfeld, CRE Teacher

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**Battle of The Bands 2012 Winners**

Congratulations to our Expressions Band (coached by Chris) on being the winners of the Battle of The Bands.

Lucy C, Ingrid B, Kate G, Liam Y, Ben A, Jayden B, James D, Cooper M and Emma W rehearse every Friday. They competed against 7 bands from other schools on Sunday 25th. The performed 2 songs: *Holiday by Green Day* and *I Found You by The Fray*.

As the winners they have won for the school - an electric guitar, amp, drumsticks and guitar picks. Lucy won best bass guitar player of the day. Jayden won best keyboard player.

We were the largest band and the band with the youngest player (Emma). They also performed without an adult accompanying them (only one other band did). Well done!
Dear Parents & Students,

Drink lots of water and stay hydrated, remember to use sunscreen and hat to prevent heat related illness.

Online bookings for Mitcham and Blackburn Holiday Program are open. To avoid last minute rush or disappointment book in the children in advance. Blackburn holiday program starts from 2nd January 2013 and Mitcham holiday program starts from 7th January 2013.

Please make sure all enrolment forms are up to date and all medical action plans have also been checked and changed or updated if needed.

Remember bookings can be made right up til 12:00 the midnight before, or you can book on the Day but there will be extra charge of $2.00. If you’re ever stuck and would like your child to attend OSH After School Care you can call me or leave a message on 0402 362 443 and I will get back to you.

Jagruti Shah

Next Week’s Activities

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<tr>
<th>Before Care Activities</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas-3D Christmas tree</td>
<td>Christmas Craft</td>
<td>Cone Christmas tree</td>
<td>Christmas Footprint Reindeer’s</td>
<td>Christmas wish List</td>
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<td>Shark attack</td>
<td>Piggy wants a signal</td>
<td>Scarecrow/Toilet tiggy</td>
<td>Noisy animals</td>
<td>Free play</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>After Care Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Advent Calendar Christmas tree</td>
<td>Christmas Wreath</td>
<td>Christmas Cookies</td>
<td>Christmas card making</td>
<td>Christmas crown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karate (AASC)</td>
<td>The balloon Between the Knee race</td>
<td>Hats Up, hats down</td>
<td>AASC (table tennis)</td>
<td>Dress up relay race</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information

OSHClub phone: 0402 362 443
Coordinator: Jagruti
Assistants: Caroline and Jennifer
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the
ARTS AND CRAFTS DONATIONS
Darcy, Stephanie, Nick, Adam, Trivina, Matthew, Billy and Shadia are supporting a geriatric hospital in Numurkah that was affected by floods in March and October. If you have any spare wool, knitting needles or knitting patterns can you please deliver them to the 5/6C or 5/6A classroom in the BER building to support this cause.

Donate a Footy
Hello, our names are Alex, Alexzondra and Christian. We are planning to donate footballs to Maryville Football Club who were affected by the Black Saturday bushfires. So if you have any footballs, still in good condition, which you don’t use, could you please donate them to us to give to the footy club? Please bring them to Grade 56C in the Senior building.

Thank-you to all the families who have donated towels and blankets to Wildhaven Wildlife Shelter. We have sent them to Wildhaven and they have been very useful so we were hoping we could collect more blankets, towels and rolled oats so we can make another donation in the next week or so. Could you please bring these to 56C in the Senior building?
Ingrid, Brittany, Christian. Abbey, Cody & Lucy.

A group of students in Level 4 have organised a concert for some children affected by the Marysville bushfire. The group is called ‘Ash’. The children are aged from 10 to 14 years old. They formed this band as part of their recovery and hope to raise enough money to purchase more sound equipment for their band. Their performance details are:
Date: Monday 10th. December
Time: 1.40 pm
Place: Senior Building
Cost: Gold coin donation
Hoping to see you there!
Dejan, Rylie, Elias, Nick, Stephanie, Ben, Abdurahman

What is Challenge-based Learning?
As a method of studying natural disasters, our students have been challenged to form into teams, research recent natural disasters and learn how the communities have been affected at a personal level. Their challenge is then to find a practical way to assist the local communities in the area, create an action plan, and enact their plan to help the community to recover. This is an exciting new method of learning which will give the students a real understanding of other people’s needs, and a sense of achievement when their plans have been realised. It’s all about ‘making a difference’.
More information on the following advertising is available from the office:

DONCASTER CRICKET CAMPS
- Schramms Reserve

PINES LEARNING
- Courses designed to support parents wishing to return to work. Essential skills for work-business administration (course during school hrs). Interpret and apply medical terminology.

Garage Sale
Sunday 2nd December
9.00am – 3.00pm
58 Chippewa Avenue, Donvale
Come and grab a bargain, lots of new and second hand items to be sold. Furniture, T.V, digital set top box, brand new 19” LCD computer monitors (x2) and equipment, electrical items, new laundry/bathroom equipment, NEW! Set of 4 Car Tyres – Good Year 185 75R/14, NEW! Golf Storage Racks x 2, Car Bike racks x 3, BMX boys Bike x 1 toys, new and used clothes, 3 single beds/mattress, kids single bed linen and so much more.
You don’t want to miss out.
Hope to see you there!!!

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ASH
Monday 10th. December, 2012
Senior Building
1:40– 2:30 pm.

Donvale Primary School are holding a concert to raise money for a band called Ash. They are a music group comprised of three children, aged from 10 to 14 years old, who formed a band after the Black Saturday bushfires. They started this band as a part of their recovery plan to relieve the horrific pain and loss they went through before and after Black Saturday.

As a method of studying natural disasters we have been given a challenge to form into teams and research recent natural disasters and learn how the community has been affected at a personal level. This is an exciting new method of learning which should give us a good understanding of other peoples’ needs. At the end of this project we should have made a difference in at least 1 person’s life.

Gold coin donation for entry
This unit is entitled Basic Engineering - Unit 1 using Lego Dacta. Through activities and exploring, children will develop their language, and explore mathematical and scientific ideas. Children will make working models each week. It helps all children develop skills and stimulates and encourages them to think on a higher level. This is a unit for all children, girls and boys and there are separate kits for the Juniors and Seniors. Seniors will be working with the idea of levers, structures and forces while the Juniors will be working with levers, wheels and axles - and it is absolute fun!

WiseOnes Application for 1st Term 2013
This program is available for all Grade 1 - Grade 6 children who have qualified for WiseOnes. The unit for first term commences week beginning Monday, 11th February, 2013.

Because of the shortness of first term, the unit will run for 8 weeks (of the 9 weeks available) beginning: Feb 11, 18, 25, March 6, 11, 18 and 25, April 15 and 22nd

I wish to enrol my child in the unit "Basic Engineering" commencing week beginning Thursday, 7th February, 2013.

Child's Name ________________________________ 
School: _____________________________ 
Date of Birth ________________ Class (2013) ________

Parents' Names 
___________________________

Address _____________________________ 

Phone: BH _____________ AH _____________ Mobile _____________

Email: _____________________________

My child has already qualified for WiseOnes YES/NO
I would like a free test for my child YES/NO.
I would like my child to be tested with a fuller assessment to qualify for WiseOnes (assessment cost $200 inc GST).

Please send this slip and payment of $220.00 on Thursday, 7th February, 2013.

As we are a non-credit business, children will not be accepted into the program for the term unless the fees and enrolment form are returned by the above date.

If paying by cheque please make it payable to Donvale Primary School.
For further information please contact Pat Truscott on 9326 6441 or Mobile: 0407 313 657.

NB: Due to the Government increase of teachers’ wages, please note the new cost of the program.
Currently, our Snippets newsletter is available to our families in two forms; hard copy which is printed at the school and sent home weekly to each family; and online via our Donvale Primary School Website. I am very keen to cease sending home the hard copy version of our newsletter. The administrative costs and environmental issues in printing copies each week are my justifications in wanting to do this. However, in our recent parent survey, many parents indicated that they really enjoy flicking through the hard copy and appreciate it to be sent home in this format. Some families also do not have access to the internet so communicating via hard copy email is their suitable option. So in an attempt to support all members of our community, I would like to make it an option for parents to choose whether or not they would like to have their Snippets Newsletter sent home as a hardcopy. I would appreciate it if families could please complete the form below and send it back to school no later than Friday 7th December. If you are happy to read the Snippets newsletter online, then we will not print one for you. If on the other hand, you would appreciate us to continue to send you a hard copy home, then we will do so for now. I am also keen to create an email distribution list so that we can readily email families any school information as needed. We would also appreciate it if you could please add your email address to the form below. I would like this to begin in 2013. I thank you for your consideration and hopefully, in doing things this way, we can minimise the cost to our school and environment.

Lena Clark

DONVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2013

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Commencing 2013:

☐ I do wish to continue receiving my Snippets Newsletter as a hardcopy.

☐ I do not wish to continue receiving my Snippets Newsletter as a hardcopy and am happy to read it online via our Donvale Primary School website.

My email address is: _____________________________________________________