Dear Parents / Carers,

**Kindergarten Orientation**

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our 140 prospective kindergarten students next Monday and Thursday when our orientation program begins. The children will be attending on either Monday morning or Thursday morning for a 2 hour orientation where they will learn all about school and get to know some of the friendly staff who will be looking after them next year. Orientation takes place over a three week period with all prospective kindergarten children attending 3 sessions. Children must be registered to attend the orientation and must be starting school next year. If you have a school aged child who you would like to enrol at North Sydney Demonstration School for Kindergarten 2015, please call the school office ASAP (02) 9955 2822.

**P&C Survey**

Every two years the P&C prepares a survey for parents to complete. The purpose of this survey is to offer the opportunity for parents to have a say in P&C fund raising and expenditure. If you would like to have a say in either of these processes then please complete the survey. Non completion will be seen as your affirmation that you are happy with how funds are currently raised and expended.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the P&C and all parents for the difference that they have made in the lives of the students at our school. Parents who were here 5 to 6 years ago have often commented to me that the school grounds have been transformed with the new playgrounds in the front of the school and the Pacific playground area. We are looking forward to the next round of works to occur along Bay Road for which we have received a grant. Thank you also for providing the funds for the 100 ipads, 35 Interactive White boards and the Wi Fi infrastructure. This expenditure by the P&C has allowed us to support all students in developing 21st Century skills.

The survey link is:


**Red Room Poetry Competition**

*Red Room Poetry Object* is a free poetry-writing competition for students in Years 3-10. *Red Room Poetry* invites young writers and their teachers to submit poems about objects that hold special significance to them.
Over 2500 students and teachers submitted entries this year and 100 entries were shortlisted. Of those 100 entries, three came from North Sydney Demonstration School.

Congratulations to the shortlisted students named below. Their poetry can be found on pages 6 and 7 of today’s newsletter

- Tyvian 3MT
- Max (previously of 3MT - now at Turramurra PS)
- Pratham (6LK)

Tyvian and Pratham will be recorded reading their poems in the next week and those recordings will be a part of the ABC Radio National 'Poetica' which will be broadcast in 2015.

The final winners will be announced on November 13.

Congratulations Tyvian, Max and Pratham and thank you to Ms Tracy 3MT for flagging this wonderful opportunity!

2015 Class placements
The placing of children into their new classes each year is a complex process. Classes at the DEM are not graded academically and each year we strive to ensure that we have well balanced classes. The following factors are considered;

- Gender
- Academic ability
- Language needs
- Medical needs
- Behavioural needs

When this has occurred we then check to ensure that each child has at least one friend in their new class. Children will be asked in the next fortnight to nominate 5 children who they would like to be placed with. The school will then undertake to place each student with at least one of these children. This does not mean they will be placed with their best or closest friends or with their group of friends. In fact often this is not appropriate. Two weeks ago a note went home requesting that you advise the school if your child would be returning in 2015. This note is now due back to school and is required so that we can ensure that every child is placed with a friend. A copy can be found on the school website. Please do not send requests to class teachers or to myself asking for specific teachers for your child as it would not be appropriate or equitable for us to accommodate these requests.

Exceptional circumstances
Because of the complexity of this process, class decisions are final. If there are exceptional circumstances that need to be considered when placing a student, parents will need to request that the classroom teacher complete a learning support referral form (Exceptional circumstances impacting class placement). This request must be made prior to Friday 22nd November, 2014. In addition to this referral form, parents may also email me the details of their child’s exceptional circumstances at myra.janes@det.nsw.edu.au. These requests will then be reviewed by the Learning Support Team and me. No changes will be made to classes after class allocations on January 28 2015.

Myra Wearne
Principal
FABStar! Features

FABStar! is an initiative to recognise positive behaviours in the playground.

Two FABStar! slips were drawn from all the students who received FABStar! slips in recognition of their positive behaviours on the playground last week.

The K-2 Fabstar for this week is Will from Year 1, who sensibly retrieved some litter from the toilet cubicle to ensure it didn’t find its way into the toilet. Thank you Will, your help is appreciated.
**Christmas Cards for Meals on Wheels**

Every year our school makes Christmas cards for the clients of *North Sydney Council’s Crows Nest Centre Meals on Wheels*. Hand-made Christmas cards can be left at the office before the middle of November. The Centre would like about 70 cards, so if the creative spirit is moving make a couple. Thank you

**Become an Ethics Teacher at The Dem**

**On Wednesday Mornings**

Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don’t attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical ethics classes.

**We have vacancies for volunteers to teach Years 2-6 ethics classes in 2015.**

The classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgement, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives.

Volunteer Ethics Teachers are trained to deliver our age-appropriate curriculum every week and to use the accompanying learning and teaching materials.

Some of the people who have taught Ethics at the Dem say:

“Teaching ethics has been a great experience. The material is very well structured so lessons are easy to prepare and the topics are very diverse – everything from our responsibilities for the homeless, to drugs in sport to ‘classical’ ethical issues like deciding what is fair. I have loved seeing the kids grapple with complex questions and gradually build their reasoning and discussion skills.” – Elyse Yr 6 Ethics teacher

“…The children are delightful and it's been a really rewarding and stimulating experience helping them to think independently about such basic moral issues as ‘Is it ever ok to break a promise?’ *Do it, you won’t regret it.*” – Mia Yr 3 Ethics teacher

For more information, please contact:

**Sophia Coles**
Ethics Coordinator for North Sydney Demonstration School

sophiacoles@yahoo.com.au  0414 770 097

or visit the Primary Ethics Website:  [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au)
SCHOOL BANKING

We have completed our first term of School Banking at The Dem and it’s been a great success:
• 93 accounts were opened
• 468 deposits were made throughout the term
• Resulting in a contribution, through commission, to the school funds of $725.60 (in addition to the normal interest the students receive on their accounts).

Thank you for supporting the School Banking Programme at The Dem
Please contact us through dembanking@gmail.com with any queries

Congratulations too to the students who have made 10 deposits into their accounts and have now received their rewards. All rewards except the whale shark pencil case and penguin key-ring are still available.

MAKE DEPOSITS BETWEEN 20 OCT. & 30 NOV TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO WIN A CAMERA OR SLIP ‘N’ SLIDE

Clam of Fortune Promotion

We’re rewarding regular savings by sharing the Dollarmites latest find, precious prizes from the ancient Clam of Fortune.
• 40 GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
• 150 Slip N’ Slide Double Wave Riders

Entry into the promotion is a little bit different to those we have run previously. For every School Banking deposit made during the competition period, the student will receive one entry into the competition (up to a maximum of 6 entries). So the more they save, the more chances they have to win a prize. Competition period: 20 October — 30 November 2014.

For more information, or to view the full competition terms and conditions, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers
Fossil
by Tyvian 3MT

As the small bones
Live in their grave

In the deep dark ground
As the white sticks
Lay there

The mighty
Small creature
Plays

Meteor Shard
by Max 3M

The universe trapped in a box
Sealed from evolution
Frozen in time
Nothing moves

Dark
Hopeless
As a gloomy cloud

Glistening in its box
Like a lost star

The strongest
Most everlasting object
In the world
Miniscule
But powerful

Beaming cold memories
Of aliens passing

While the lock rattles
The shard laughs
Forever dismantling the galaxy
The Same Window, But a Changed Me
by Pratham 6LK

I was four when I saw our stained glass window
It was the sheen on a rainbow
A silver lining behind a cloud,
All amalgamated into one thing.

Every day, I would take an arm chair, sit down cross-legged,
And gaze out of the window for several hours
Lured into the window’s beauty, until I couldn’t feel my legs,
Always looking at how time flew by like the zephyrs in the park,
Eventually this was going to fall into a deep sleep,
Possibly for eternity

Not even the brawniest human could freeze time,
Or even stop from growing up,
But, we have memories to look back at as an overcast of our life,
(Some bad, others good),
And although people change, some things are meant to stay the same

So for me, the glass window was the never-changing thing
That every day, when I was a child, I would come home from school,
It would protect me, teach me and comfort me as well as always staying with me,
And even when I was older, stuck in quicksand,
I had the glass window to return to, to get me out.
BAND NEWS

Dates for your Diary

6 November – Junior Band 2015 recruitment morning
12 December – End of Year Concert (North Sydney Leagues Club)

Junior Band Concert

The Junior Band Concert last Thursday evening was a wonderful celebration of the progress of these students have made in their first year in the school band program. Many positive comments were made by parents attending the event, with both the solo / small group performances and the whole band pieces receiving high praise. Thank you to Phil Molloy for acting as MC for the evening and to Heather Davies for conducting the band on the night and for the wonderful work she has done with the band throughout 2014.

Crows Nest Festival

Well done also to students from the Senior and Intermediate bands, which performed at the Crows Nest Festival last Sunday. These students did an amazing job entertaining parents and members of the local community and all children should be proud of their efforts. Thank you again to Phil Molloy for conducting the bands on the day and to Danika Allars for her commitment to these bands throughout the year.

Enquiries: Band Committee Secretary, MELISSA.LANIGAN@det.nsw.edu.au
Are you selling a property in the near future?

McGrath Neutral Bay’s North Sydney Harbour Foreshore Team is delighted to announce the opportunity to purchase a commission free house sale has been extended until the end of the year.

McGrath will kindly donate the purchased amount to the school.

As a welcoming gesture, the P&C of the school will donate part of the proceeds to the P&C of the new local high school, located on the Pacific Highway at the Bradfield College site.

Agents’ Nigel Mukhi, Donovan Murphy, Annika Bongiorno and Fiona Smith are proud to be associated with North Sydney Demonstration School and welcome the opportunity to give back to the local community.

If anyone with children at the school is considering a house sale in the next 12 months or so, then this is a great opportunity. The commission free sale could save you a lot of money and secure you the services of these leading agents, whilst also directing valuable funds to the local schools.

Please contact Nigel Mukhi with any queries.
Woo Hoo! It's the......
End of Year Festival
Friday 5th December

We need your help with...

1. ideas & organising the event
2. managing/help on a food stand
3. finding raffle prizes

The Festival Committee meet every Monday after assembly by the little equipment. Please join us if you can help.

This is a great event and fundraiser for our kids, but we need help to make it happen.

More info in the weekly newsletters or contact: thedempc@gmail.com
NORTH SYDNEY
CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

BUSHLAND
Adventure
A day to let your imagination run wild!

SAT 25 OCT 2014
10AM TO 2PM
FREE EVENT

Australian Wildlife Display Show
Kindifarm • Tiger Belly Jumping
Castle • Kiddie Pillar • Face Painting
Balloon Twisting • Arts & Crafts
Food Stalls • Prizes • Dancers on Stage
Musical Performances
and much more

Civic Park, North Sydney (cnr Miller & McLaren Sts)
Free parking in Ridge Street car park
Wet weather hotline 9936 8272 | Transport Information 131 500
General Information 9936 8100 or www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au
Advertisements do not indicate endorsement by the school.

Lane Cove Theatre Company

Jack and the Beanstalk

A Musical Pantomime

Friday 17th October 7.30pm
Saturday 18th October 5.00pm
Friday 24th October 7.30pm
Saturday 25th October 5.00pm
Friday 31st October 7.30pm
Saturday 1st November 2.00pm

Kit Kirkwood Hall, Lane Cove Public School
Bookings http://www.trybooking.com/FRWD

Advertisements do not indicate endorsement by the school.
Learn Music on Keyboard at
North Sydney Demonstration School
Enrolment 2015

♫ Convenient at-school venue ♫
♫ Small group - 45 min weekly lesson ♫
♫ Competitive rate - $27 per session ♫
♫ Instrument not required initially ♫
♫ Music material provided ♫
♫ Limited vacancy! ♫

Smart Kids Love Music!
Call 9411 3122 before Mon 27 Oct to enrol
Violin Incl. Piano (VIP) Music est. 1984
www.learnmusicatschool.com.au
Advertisements do not indicate endorsement by the school

Get a better deal & $500 cash back...

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

If you or anyone you know is paying more than 5.00%pa on their home loan we need to talk!
We have just entered the 14th consecutive month of historically low interest rates in Australia. Whilst it is impossible to predict the future of interest rates, find out if you can get a better deal and should consider locking in your rate.

Mentor offers home loans that put you in control and will give you $500 cash back on any new loan settled.

Conveniently located across the road from North Sydney Demonstration, Mentor1 specialise in providing full financial services including:

- Financial planning
- Home loans
- Estate planning
- Superannuation & Retirement Planning
- Personal Insurance
  - Life
  - Income Protection
  - Critical Illness

Contact us and future proof the future for you and your family

PEACE OF MIND & A COFFEE ON US!

We would like to offer you a no-cost, obligation-free review of your finances to ensure you are on track to meet your financial obligations and goals. Simply mention this ad when you book your review and you will receive a $20 Cala Luna Italian Café & Restaurant voucher at the completion of your review meeting.

Contact Hamish or Liam on 1300 765 811
www.mentor1.com.au
283 Pacific Highway, North Sydney NSW 2060 — Parking available