Welcome to the 2016 school year!

It is wonderful to have everyone back at school happy and healthy. Welcome to our new students, Tacoma and Billy.

**Uniform**

It’s great to see all the students back in school uniform including their black shoes. Pride in self and care with presentation filters into a variety of areas of success and achievement in life – neat & correct school uniform is an easy way to promote these values with your child. Please check items at home – we have a missing 2015 labelled jumper! SPORT uniform is to be worn on Fridays this year, please.

**Textbooks & school materials.**

This year, we will be using Maths and handwriting texts - $30 per student. We are grateful to families who contribute to the cost of these school materials as, unlike nearly all other schools, we don't have 'school fees'.

**DPS Staff for 2015**

At the end of last year teaching and classroom support staff successfully completed mandatory training in safety, health and student wellbeing and worked extensively on our school’s maths programming and literacy assessment practices. We are also introducing the new History and Geography syllabus documents this year.

On Wednesday staff of Dungowan and Woolomin all passed our CPR and anaphylaxis update and completed our annual Dept of Ed Code of conduct revision. During the break, we have spent a great deal of time planning our teaching and learning programs and extra-curricular calendar for the year ahead. We are looking forward to a great year!

**Mrs Merydyth Raue**, our school Principal, will be teaching the senior class 4 days per week – History & Geography, Creative Arts, Literacy & Maths.

**Mrs Kerrie-Ann Hubble** will be with K12 Monday to Friday. She will also coordinate sporting events such as carnivals and representative competitions.

**Mrs Newcombe** will be working 3 days a week, taking on the learning support role for the duration of Mrs Fletcher’s leave. She will be with senior class on Thursdays and Friday afternoons for sport and will teach the Personal Development & Health and Science to both classes. Mrs Newcombe will continue to work with our Student Representative Council throughout the year and we will be hearing news from her regularly about the school garden!

**Mr Scott Munday** will continue guitar lessons with his private students out of school hours and will assist in the classrooms and office Monday to Wednesdays.

**Mr Ian Hocquard** teaches music one afternoon per week – currently Thursdays. He is available for private music lessons for a variety of instruments during school time – including brass and percussion...

**Mrs Tanya Wilshire**, manages the office Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays.

**John McDonald** remains as our (GA) general assistant, looking after our grounds & Donna Smith, our cleaner is here each day.

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**Dungowan News**

137 Ogunbil Road, Dungowan, NSW 2340.
School email: dungowan-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Principal’s email: merydyth.raue@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.dungowan-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

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**Dates For Your Diary**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday:</strong> Library</td>
<td><em>(bring library bag)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday:</strong> Sport</td>
<td><em>(wear sports uniform – But either uniform tomorrow is fine – it IS the first week!)</em></td>
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<tr>
<th>2016 TERM 1</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
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<td>Students return Thursday 28/1/16</td>
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**Week 2**
Friday, February 5
Dungowan Public School Swimming Carnival at Nundle Pool – Parents responsible for transport. Please see attached note.

**Week 3**
*Homework begins*
Monday, February 18
Parent Teacher information night

Friday, February 12
Peel Valley Swimming Carnival at Nundle Pool – only for qualifying students over 8 yrs old. Minimum 50m races only.

Wednesday, February 17
Life Education Van – K-6
Cost covered by Dungowan P&C and BHP sponsorship.

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**Friday Lunch**
Due to swimming carnivals etc, kitchen lunches will start in week 4.
GENERAL SCHOOL REMINDERS

**Notes** that come home on **yellow paper need to be signed and returned please.**
**Notes** that come home on **pink paper are urgent & require immediate attention.**

If your child is absent from school, please send a signed and dated note stating
student name, date of absence & reason for absence. If your child is away for more than 1 day, a quick call
to the school would be appreciated as
we are legally obliged to attempt to contact parents after 2 consecutive days of absence.
If you know that you will be away, please contact the school beforehand and we may be able to arrange an
exemption form (legal permission to be absent from school).

If students are late or picked up early, they need to be signed in / out of school.

Please remember to **update your emergency contact details** with the office, esp mobile numbers.

Supervision at school begins at 8:30.
For the well-being and safety of all, students should not be brought to school before this time.
The school day begins at 9am and it is important that students are here on time so that they are organised
and have heard the daily messages & reminders in morning assembly.
Lessons finish at 3:00pm when notes are then handed out and any changes to transport routines for
individual students are announced.

**FOOD**

At DPS, we promote the ‘Good for kids, Good for Life’ program which encourages the children to drink
water at school and eat healthy food. Your cooperation in this is greatly appreciated.
Chocolates and lollies should be kept at home for special treats.

**During our morning lesson session, students have a “CRUNCH & SIP” break**
where they are encouraged to rehydrate with water and they are given the opportunity to
eat a quick **snack of fresh fruit or vegetables**.

This is an optional convenient snack time and has shown real improvement in the concentration levels of
students during the prime learning time of morning. It is not an outdoor break time, so please keep this in
mind if tempted to pack messy, juicy fruits such as whole oranges.
If your child likes their fruit cut up or peeled, please do this at home. Dried fruits are high in sugar and are
best left as an occasional alternative when fresh food isn’t available.

For many years, most schools have banned **nuts and nut products** due to the increasing number of life
threatening allergies … but there has been a change of policy… **Schools (and families) are now**
encouraged to be **“NUT AWARE”**. Nuts are now allowed at school,
but all students, staff and visitors are to be reminded to
wash their hands thoroughly before and after eating and not to ‘share’ food.

To minimise the risk of exposure to a high risk allergen, schools must not use peanuts, tree nuts or any nut products in curriculum
or extracurricular activities (or for our Friday lunches). This does not include food labelled as "may contain traces of nuts". These
precautions apply to all schools whether or not any student is known to be at risk from anaphylaxis.

**Friday lunches** – we are always looking for ideas and volunteers to cook &/or serve please!

We look forward to working with you and your children this year at Dungowan Public School
Please don’t hesitate to let us know any immediate concerns you may have or provide any
information that will assist us in providing the best education and care for your child whilst at
school. Teaching staff are not always available to have lengthy conversations (especially without notice) so appointments are appreciated. If you have a specific concern, letting staff know this
beforehand can allow us to answer urgent questions quickly or enable us to prepare relevant
information to make our meetings more efficient and effective.
EQUIPMENT for the classroom

Most classroom equipment is supplied for K12, but we know that some students have their own pencil cases filled with their personal supplies which is acceptable.

All students need…
- **Paint shirt.** This can be an old shirt or a painting smock. *Time to update these please.*
- **Library bag** for Tuesdays.
- **Box of tissues.** To go towards the class supply. The students receive 50 House points when they take them to their teacher. (Thanks to the superstar mum who sent 2 in on the first day!)
- **Optional:** **Watch.** We would like to encourage the children to wear a watch. This is to help encourage the students to become aware of times and for the older students to help plan and organise their activities. Generally, precious items and electronic equipment should be left at home.

For students in Years 3 – 6, please provide the usual basics for your child … pencil case,

- 2 red pens, 2 blue pens, NO liquid paper please.
- **30cm ruler** (plastic or wood – not metal),
- lead pencils, coloured pencils,
- sharpener, eraser,
- pair of child scissors,
- gluesticks,
- textas (if desired)…

These should be replenished regularly – especially lead pencils and **gluesticks.**

It is useful to have everything labelled to avoid confusion and misunderstandings.

**Wobbly pencil toppers, fancy toy sharpeners, toys masquerading as erasers & other stationery items** etc usually provide more distraction to your child and those sitting near them, than being useful for the completion of work.

*Please save these special treats for home and homework!* (… which will begin in a few short weeks…)