

The QDE Courier

April 2013



to our new students....

- 😊 Mitchell Ambler
- 😊 Harmony Cannon
- 😊 Joshua Carberry
- 😊 Noah Carberry
- 😊 Aeden Donko
- 😊 Nidal El Hag
- 😊 Tillal El Hag
- 😊 Cassius Franks
- 😊 Maximus Franks
- 😊 Niah Franks
- 😊 Victor Franks
- 😊 William Gladman
- 😊 Quinn Griffin
- 😊 Claudia Horne
- 😊 Hannah Howard-Jones
- 😊 Toby Incher-Jones
- 😊 Harry Lean
- 😊 Clayton McKay
- 😊 Darcy McKay
- 😊 Tom O'Brien
- 😊 Rosie O'Brien
- 😊 Khemarin Sorn
- 😊 Ella Smethurst
- 😊 Ben Vassel
- 😊 Annabelle Yari Yari
- 😊 Kobi Yari Yari

...and Welcome all



Says Fynn as he proudly shows off his artwork

Welcome to the 2013 school year. A hearty welcome is extended to new students, supervisors and families. The teaching and administration staff have all hit the ground running with programs in place for all students. There's been some very speedy activity to have work to our newest students and supervisors too,

We have also been busy reorganising the areas in the centre building printed materials being moved into other spaces. The re-jig has created a new space for visitors, new families and gatherings while making better use of other areas of the building.

Classes have been organised and staffing finalised for now. We currently have 63 students and three full-time teachers; Eloise, Roger and Sue. We have five part-time teachers; Gillian, Jill, Max, Ruth and Jo. Administrative support is provided by Vickie, Isabel and Michelle. Our enrolment base often means changes to staffing will occur. With expected continued growth in student numbers (particularly as families choose to travel north for some sun) we will have some changes into the winter months. We'll keep everyone posted.



Meet the  team



I'm **Eloise Dews** and I'm the manager of the distance education centre. Since the very day I arrived here in 2009, I've been supported by a great team of teachers and administration staff. However, the big job is done by our very committed

supervisors and to them, I am eternally grateful! We are changing every year as technology opens up new horizons and this provides a challenge for all including supervisors and so I thank you all for moving forward with it all. We've made a few changes of late, to the centre which you will notice on your next visit and everyone has helped out. We hope you enjoy them! I must tell you that my son, Alexander (and my one and only) is getting married in September and Mummy is very pleased. Finding that special 'thing' to wear to the big do is my latest obsession and past-time as well as looking after my cat, Barney who's a good old friend who loves attention and cuddles.

Hello my name is **Roger Smith**. I have been teaching here at the Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre for many years. This year I am teaching stage 1 and



3 students most of whom are overseas. For these students technology is a wonderful tool meaning that I can communicate by email, audio and video. The ebackpack tool has proven to be very valuable in managing the flow of work. I enjoy using technology in other aspects of my life and have begun to enjoy the iPad along with other tablets and my Kindle (imagine one tiny device that can hold up to 3000 books – all the holiday reading you need in the palm of your hand). I look forward to working with my students and providing some technical support to other students and families.



My name is **Gillian Gamble** and I have been a member of the Distance Education teaching team for two years after returning from a number of years

teaching in the classroom. I enjoy the challenges and the varying opportunities that the DE mode provides especially in the ever changing area of technology. I am certainly learning a lot about technology but never seem to know enough. This year I am teaching Early Stage 1, Stage 1 and Stage 2 students. My students are home, overseas and travellers. It all makes for interesting communications hearing news from families wherever they are.

I have had a varied employment history teaching, nursing and working in the public service. I have also studied in various areas, obviously Education but also in the Visual Arts and Fine Art Conservation. I still hold an interest in the fine arts but find it difficult to have time to produce any of my own work. Perhaps one day! I also enjoy being outside going for walks and cycling.

Hello. My name is **Jill Hadobas**.

I have been at Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre for the last two years after a break for many years when I returned to mainstream classroom teaching. This year I am working till 12:30 daily at Jerrabomberra Primary School (another school in Queanbeyan) teaching reading to specially selected Year 1 students. (Reading Recovery) I am teaching K-4 students most of which are travelling or live overseas. The websites that our centre has subscribed to are extremely valuable to me as they add another dimension to each child's learning. I enjoy emailing and when possible talking in person to all my students. I look forward to working with my families this year.



Hello all. My name is **Max Dews** and I teach here at the Distance Education Centre. I've been a teacher for many, many years and have taught all ages and stages from Kindergarten to Year 12 and even some adults in

the TAFE system. I enjoy the challenges of all the technology and regard myself as 'a work in progress' in this regard. This year my students include travellers and students with special needs. I am always pleased to get feedback from the students as this helps me to understand each and every individual. My interests include ignoring cleaning the house and avoiding feeding the cat. When I know these things are coming up, I sneak out to the gym and then come home when it's all done.

Hello. My name is **Suzanne Boyd**. I prefer to be called **Sue**. This is my second year working full time in Distance Education and I am enjoying working closely with my wonderful students and families.



I enjoy learning more from the students that I teach and being a part of their learning journey.

I love cooking – especially baking and I've made some very tasty treats for staff and family. I'm always on the hunt for good recipes and my favourite chef is Donna Hay.

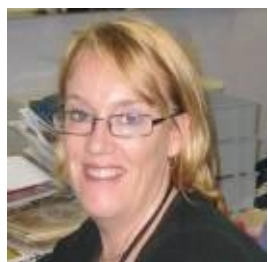
I grew up at Tathra on the Far South Coast of New South Wales and my family live in Merimbula. I absolutely love the beach, so my hobbies are swimming, surf-boarding, walking on the beach, collecting shells, deep sea fishing, whale watching and reading. I go to the coast often to visit my family and fulfil my hobbies.

I have a beautiful daughter named Erin, a cheeky son named Matthew and a glamorous cat named Gucci.



Hello my name is **Josephine Herbert**. I have been working in the Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre for a few years now. (Wow, doesn't time fly when you're having

fun!) I have taught in many different situations and countries; from Indigenous communities up on the Cape York Peninsula to large inner city schools in London. Interestingly, my first experience with Distance Education was as a supervisor. Many years ago my son was enrolled in distance education as we went on a one year sailing adventure and, I must say, that having taught up to 30 students in a classroom, for many years, I was very surprised by how much of a challenge it was to teach just one child! I now live a relatively quiet life in Canberra and with my family, and drive across the border into NSW each day to work. As you know the Distance Education Centre is part of Queanbeyan Public School which is the first school that I taught at, when I graduated with a Bachelor of Education over 12 years ago, and is where I always feel at home. I spend most of my spare time gardening or sailing on Lake Burley Griffin which is nice and close, but does somewhat lack the big waves, salt spray, coral and fish life of the ocean. Oh well that's the life of a 'land lubber.



Hello all. My name is **Ruth Hayward** and this is my 4th year working in the Distance Education Centre. I am currently working part time due to my busy family life

outside of school. Currently, all of my students at the centre are living overseas. I am really looking forward to working with them and getting to know more about the exotic places in which they are located. I live in Canberra and have three young children. My family keeps me very busy but I still find time to pursue my love of reading, traveling and cooking. I also enjoy communicating with all of the distance education students through Edmodo, so make sure you jump on often and post some things we can all read and share.



Hello everyone. I'm **Vickie Fowlie** and I am the school administration manager of the distance education centre. I have been working within the Centre since 1999. Initially I started

work here as the school administration officer until my predecessor retired and I was lucky enough quite a few years ago to have been selected to hold the administration manager position.

I am positive that I actually have the best job of all here at the Centre. I get to speak regularly with you over the phone and meet nearly all of our students and their families who are enrolled through Distance Education. My main focus at the Centre is to always try and ensure that the Centre runs smoothly and that all staff, students and their families are provided with the most up to date and best possible resources which suit every child's individual learning program.



Hello my name is **Isabel Thornton**. I have been working at Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre for over a

year. I work with Vickie in the office as a school administration officer. I answer your phone calls and I deliver your mail to your teacher. I also help to look after and organise library cards so your teacher can borrow books to be sent. I help put together the year book (which is really fun because I get to see all the great work you've been doing). I really enjoy my job and hope to talk to you soon on the phone.



Hello, my name is **Michelle Polsen**. I have been working one day a week at the Centre over the past few years. I work with Vickie and Isabel in the office as a school

administration officer. I sometimes speak with you over the phone and have met some of you when you visit or attend our Gatherings. My main focus at the Centre is assisting with the administration and maintenance of our Centre's library.

Home Visit to the Gravenor and Payne Families

By Sue Boyd

Gillian and I headed off early on Tuesday morning (12/3/13) to visit two families who live in the beautiful Snowy Mountains, about 40 minutes out of Jindabyne. The Autumn day was glorious and the views over the mountains were spectacular. The dirt road was very rough and bumpy at times.



First we visited Arlo and Raven Gravenor. We sat down to a delicious morning tea to celebrate Lorna's birthday, even though it is not for another month. Arlo was keen to show us his amazing hotel, which he designed and built all by himself out of boxes. It even had a children's playground and many connecting rooms inside. Arlo was keen to read and show me how fantastic he is at spelling many of his sight words.



Raven and Gillian talked about the unit she did on 'Succeed at DE' so that Gillian could get to know Raven better. Raven is very good at singing and is even writing her own songs about her life experiences.

We had to rush off to see Charlie Payne and his family, who live about 30 minutes back towards Jindabyne. The car was greeted by a smiling Charlie and a menagerie of animals; cats, dogs, ducks, chickens and rabbits to name a few. Charlie was keen to show us his bedroom and his many toys. While we shared a delicious lunch around the kitchen table, Charlie was keen to get on with his handwriting and show us how clever he is at spelling.



It was then time for us to head back. Thank you Raven, Arlo, Charlie and your families, for a lovely home visit.

Home Visit to the Groves family

By Gillian Gamble

Sue and I headed off on a warm summer morning to visit the Groves family at Bungarby, about an hour out of Cooma. On our arrival Ivana and Joshua were there to meet us, Ivana with a beautiful welcoming smile



We were given a tour of the new house which afforded some expansive views of the wide open sweeping countryside. To sit and look out of those windows was a pleasure. Ivana also showed me her bedroom and all the many objects that she had created. She certainly enjoys many artistic pursuits. Joshua showed Sue his room and some of his prized objects.



Ivana and I had a look at the schoolwork in her next pack and talked about the various activities to be completed.



Joshua and Sue spent some time reading and talking together. Morning tea followed and it was terrific to sit down with all the family for a chat.

After completing some reading and comprehension activities the children took us

outside to meet the bunny and guinea pig and to see their fantastic cubby house and climbing tree.

Ivana and Joshua demonstrated their expertise at balancing on the 'balance beam'.



It was then time for us to head back to Queanbeyan. Thankyou Ivana, Joshua and the Groves family for a lovely home visit.





Our new logo

The 2011 distance education review asked schools with integrated DE centres such as ours, to find ways to develop autonomy while still remaining part of the Queanbeyan Public School. As part of this process, Eloise and Roger have been working on a number of initiatives to increase the profile of the centre and let districts and schools know we exist. These initiatives include developing a new web site which we hope to launch soon, speaking to principals at their regional conferences, by advertising and editorial comment in selected regional newspapers and, importantly, developing a new logo. We hope our practices and programming for students reflects our mission statement – to provide personalised, flexible learning wherever you are. With an increasing number of our students being based overseas we feel the globe inside the stylised Q for Queanbeyan, encompasses this growing enrolment base. It also reflects a globalised view of the provision of distance education in the 21st century.

Succeed at Queanbeyan DE feedback



This year for the first time we trialled a new resource; **Succeed at Queanbeyan DE**. The resource aimed to introduce students to the You Can Do It program and develop a focus on the five keys to success; organisation, resilience, persistence, getting along and confidence. As students and supervisors worked through the resource they became aware of the ways they like to learn. Students also had time to focus on things that were blockers or obstacles to success. Learning to recognise these, and finding ways to overcome them, will help students work towards greater success for learning and for life

Ebackpack and... ...you@education



Over the last few weeks..... Supervisors have been contacted regarding the use of email addresses provided by the Department of Education and Communities. By now all supervisors and students should have details of user names and passwords. A number of students have also been using the new e-backpack service provided by the department. We have decided to use these @education addresses because they are filtered and provide security from spam and other unwanted emails. Students are given 7Gb of storage in their email account and 500Mb in their e-backspace. We ask that supervisors regularly check their students email address for correspondence from the centre either from their child's teacher or the administration staff. We want to thank all for transitioning to the new student portal.

Attendance at school in DE

Your child, while on distance education, is enrolled as a student at a NSW Department of Education and Communities school. Each set of work represents the work your student is to complete for their learning for the length of time indicated on the pack. This is usually two weeks, or in some instances, one week.

The regular return of work demonstrates students have been in attendance at school.

Students in distance education are allowed to be absent from school for legitimate reasons! Should the work not be able to be completed for any reason, you need to inform your child's teacher. Your child may be sick or on leave for a special reason (to attend an appointment requiring travel or for urgent family business for example). Alternatively, you, the supervisor, may be ill and not able to fulfil your role. In either instance, where work is unable to be completed, call or email or write a note so the teacher can record the absence and help you with re-organising.



Implementation of the Australian Curriculum has begun in all NSW schools including the Distance Education Centre. At present teachers are undergoing professional learning to understand the nature of teaching and learning, the pedagogy, and the ways students are expected to learn to implement the new English curriculum.

The English curriculum will begin to be taught in NSW schools in 2014. Other curricula will come on stream in subsequent years. To find out more about The Australian Curriculum visit <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

Yes. They really do and they are the key reason why schools exist in communities. Are you seeking suggestions and practical ideas to help you with your children? Then this is the site for you! It has some great information about a range of challenges that parents and kids face today which is research based and 'easy to read' information regarding the needs and make-up of diverse groups of children. **Kids matter** is a whole school approach that focuses on the mental health of children in their primary years of schooling. In our centre we introduced this philosophy in 2012 providing professional development for parents and workshops for students. We intend to continue the workshops and professional learning for supervisors. To learn more about Kids Matter visit <http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary>

Apps for learning



We would love to hear from you if you know of any great apps we could recommend to others for learning, for knowledge or just for fun. We are building our website all the time and this would be something that would help out our whole QDE community. Please email or call if you have one or two or more you could recommend. There are so many and the searching and reviewing takes time. This may even be a good thing for the new supervisor network to take on!

A spark of an idea



It has been suggested, by more than a few now, that we establish a supervisor support network just for supervisors. This could be in the form of passing on emails to other supervisors or setting up a link on our Edmodo site for example. New families coming into DE and particularly those travelling to overseas destinations would love the opportunity to catch up with those who may be within coo-ee of their destination. We also have home families and travellers who would love the support of other supervisors as they start out in their new roles. Please give it some thought and let's talk about it during the Gathering in May.



NAPLAN for our DE students

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) which was introduced in Australian schools in 2008 will continue this year. All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. If your child has special circumstances, these should be discussed with Eloise Dews at the Queanbeyan DE so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

The content of each test is informed by national statements of learning in Literacy and Numeracy and questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a narrative or story based on a given topic. Students are best prepared for the tests by their full participation in their distance education programs. In years 3 and 5, the Numeracy test does not permit calculator use.

Tests are marked by independent markers and, after papers are marked, a NAPLAN report will be sent to you. This is usually later in the year. Your child's results are strictly confidential. Your child's achievement in each test is shown against national achievement scales which also indicate minimum standards for each year level. NAPLAN results are used in a number of ways. They can be used to help teachers better identify areas for your child's individual programming and schools to support student learning. Results can be discussed between your child's teacher and yourselves.

When does NAPLAN testing take place?

Tests and test dates for students in all Australian schools are as follows:

Language Conventions and Writing	Tuesday 14 May 2013
Reading	Wednesday 15 May 2013
Numeracy	Thursday, 16 May 2013

How will DE students be able to complete the tests?

Home students and medical and significant support students will be completing all tests during the gathering in May which will be held to coincide with the above dates in week 3 of term 2

Travelling students can:

Where possible, attend any public or private school closest to them to complete the tests. This is the best option. You will need to nominate the school in advance and inform the Queanbeyan DE as soon as you can so that arrangements for transfer of details can be made.

OR

Where the above option is not possible, choose to complete the tests 'at home'. You will be sent the papers on 16th May – after the testing is completed in schools to ensure integrity. Once papers are received, they are to be completed and returned immediately to Queanbeyan DEC. If you are located in a rural or remote area you are advised to return papers by Express Post.

Overseas students will complete the tests at home under the supervision of an independent supervisor. Test papers will be posted from the Queanbeyan DE 16 May by Express Post.

Once papers are received, they are to be completed and returned immediately to Queanbeyan DEC by Express Post.

This will ensure the best possible opportunity for papers to be marked at the Marking Centre.

Tests that arrive at the Queanbeyan DEC by Friday 21 June will be forwarded to the Marking Centre.

More information

More information about NAPLAN is available, along with sample questions and a sample writing task, on the NAPLAN website at www.naplan.edu.au

FROM THE LIBRARY



The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is set by our State Premier to all students from Kindergarten to year 9. The reading 'worm' is the logo this year. It is a great way to help students discover a love of reading. It is also a wonderful opportunity to help develop essential learning habits such as being organised, meeting deadlines, taking responsibility for their reading and valuing regular reading.

The Challenge will run from the beginning of the year and end in August. Students in K-2 must have 30 books read to them to complete the challenge.

Students 3-6 must read 20 books independently or with some help. If any students in K-2 are independent readers they can enter the 3-4 challenge, reading 20 books themselves. Only 5 books can be personal choice books that are not on the PRC list, whatever Challenge undertaken.

Our library has a number of PRC books, many labelled on the title page, for our students to read for this challenge. You may have books at home you can read too.

Students should enter the books they read online at the Premier's Reading Challenge Website (see below for web address) Students need to be registered (the co-ordinator should have done this) they then log on, using their DET username and password.

Students then click on "Personal Reading Record". In the box that says PRC ID, students should type in the PRC number for each book read. And then click on the 'enter' button to the right. The book's details should

come up automatically and therefore be 'added' to your student's list.

If you are unsure if the book is a PRC book you can search this (and the PRC ID number) using the search box on the top left hand side of the website.

Be careful of spelling and ensure you do not include 'The' or 'A' if at the beginning of the title. For Example, 'The Diary of a Wimpy Kid' is entered as 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid'.

When you add a personal choice book (you can read a maximum of 5 books that are not on the PRC book list), you need to do the following;

First, log on to the PRC web site using your username and password, next go to 'Personal Reading Record' and along the top of the page are a number of choices. Click on 'Add a Choice Book', then type in the title of the book and the author and press 'search'.

It may find and accept this book but if not, a new page will come up saying there were 'no matches with the search'. At this point, retype the title and author, but in the section which is headed "STILL can't find a book", click on 'add'. This should add the book to your list.

If you have any questions about the Challenge, or you would like to sign up to read please go to:

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html> or access directly from the QDE website – Links for Learning.

Register for the Premier's Reading Challenge and have fun reading!

From the Reading Worm



Be Cyber Smart

Keeping children safe is an important part of parenting and increasingly an important part of teacher's work as well. Whilst we keep children from harm in the home and yard, it is becoming just as important to protect children in the virtual or cyber world. An increasing number of our students are working in an online environment using a variety of devices that are capable of connecting to the internet. Doing so has never been easier with many gadgets now able to connect wirelessly. The key points - There are four key steps to cyber-safe practices in the home:

- 1. Educate** - an essential part of keeping children safe is making them aware of risks and talking to them about how to avoid potential problems.
- 2. Empower** - encouraging and supporting children is a positive step towards making them feel confident in their internet use. Children need to know they can make the right choices. They also need to know they can talk to an adult if something happens online that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- 3. Make the computer safe** - a practical way to help children stay safe online is to set up the home computer with an internet content filter and other security software.
- 4. Supervise** - children may behave differently online to in person, so it's important to be involved. By placing the computer in a family area, supervision becomes easier.

Using the internet safely at home

Before starting

- ✓ Talk with the family about the importance of staying safe online and having an internet safety plan.
- ✓ Teach children how to use the internet safely. Use an educational program suitable for the child's age.
- ✓ Learn about the internet and the types of internet services children use.

Set up correctly

- ✓ Determine if your internet service provider can assist with advice for staying safe online. If not, switch to one that can.
- ✓ Look at where the computer is set up. If it is in a bedroom, move it to a public area of the house, where it's easier to supervise.
- ✓ Make sure safety software is installed on the computer. This may include an internet content filter and other security software such as anti-virus programs, spyware and adware.
- ✓ Use a safe search engine for all web searches.

Create family guidelines:

- ✓ Discuss the benefits and risks of going online with children and offer support if they get into trouble.
- ✓ Create an internet safety contract with children, setting house rules for internet use.

Cyber rules for safe and fun internet use

- ✓ Think before you post information online - once posted it's difficult to remove.
- ✓ Ask your parent/carer before you give anyone on the internet your name, address or any personal details.
- ✓ Be careful who you trust online. Making new friends can be fun, but there's a chance that they may not be who they say they are.
- ✓ Always keep your password a secret.
- ✓ Set your profile to 'private' so your personal information is kept secret.
- ✓ Don't open messages from people that you don't know. These could be nasty, contain viruses or be trying to sell you something.
- ✓ Tell your parents if you are upset by language, pictures or anything scary on the internet. Don't accept any offers that seem too good to be true - they probably are.

Go to www.cybersmart.gov.au for more information and excellent resources for you and your child to learn more about internet safety.

Contacting Teachers

The Centre's staff can be contacted between 8:30 AM to 3 PM Monday to Friday. Outside of these hours teachers can be contacted using either the phone and the answering machine or the email address supplied by the Department of Education and Communities. All teachers have made this email address known to their students. The Centre's email address:



queanbey-d.school@det.nsw.edu.au can be found on the Centre's web site <http://www.queanbey-d.schools.nsw.edu.au/> and also on the contact card supplied at enrolment.

Please note: The DEC Code of Conduct advises teachers about maintaining a professional relationship between themselves, students, and supervisors.

This means that teachers are discouraged from using social media such as Facebook and Twitter as a means of communicating with students. The DEC portal has also blocked the use of Skype and other similar sites. Teacher's personal devices such as mobile phones for either calls or text messages are also not recommended.

Important Term Dates

Students last day for Term 1 2013
is Friday, 12 April 2013

Students first day for Term 2 2013
is Wednesday, 1 May 2013

CALENDAR
OF EVENTS
2013



<http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/calendar>

Fees Reminder

Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre is a public education facility and is part of the NSW Department of Education and Communities. We try to keep costs and charges to families as low as possible.

Queanbeyan Distance Education levies two types of fees. The first is a general service fee of \$50 per student per year. This contribution helps cover the cost of consumables and consumable materials used as part of the student's program. This fee is payable every year that a student is enrolled. It has not been our practice to invoice families for this fee but a reminder letter is sent and notice is provided in this newsletter.

A second fee of \$50 for resources is a one-off fee which is charged to cover returnable resources such as books, USB drives, maths kits and other items necessary to the delivery of student programs.

When an enrolment is completed and all resources loaned to a student have been returned, this resource deposit is fully refunded. In a case where items have been misplaced, damaged or not returned, the cost may be deducted from the resource fee before a refund is given.

An Overseas Student Fee of \$100.00 is payable at the time of enrolment and prior to the beginning of each term. *Exemptions under this category only applies to students where hard-copy mail is forwarded to a locked or diplomatic bag within Australia OR where a family elects to receive and send work wholly electronically.*

Payment of fees, as explained in the enrolment package, is a condition of enrolment and of continuing enrolment. Fees can be paid either by cheque, money order, cash or direct deposit. Unfortunately we do not have EFTPOS facilities. Receipts for payments received are provided.

Further information about fees can be obtained by contacting our office on (02) 6299 2966. Special circumstances are considered with regard to the payment of fees. Please discuss this with the centre manager at the time of your student's interview.

It's Gathering time at the



Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May 2013

Arrive Tuesday, 14 May - morning start at 11.00am
Depart Thursday, 16 May at: 2.00 pm

You will need to provide:

- ✓ With the exception of dinner on Wednesday night, all other meals for the duration of the gathering, including packed morning teas and lunches for students each day
- ✓ Snacks as required
- ✓ Drink bottle
- ✓ Sun screen and hat
- ✓ Back pack for food and water bottle
- ✓ Digital camera –blank with full memory, USB cord and fresh batteries
- ✓ Clothes and shoes for sporting and outdoor activities in the May weather
- ✓ **BYOD** Bring your own device



Allergy awareness environment for the duration of the gathering.

Look after your mind and body with some **Blue Earth** fun and...



Find out what doughnuts are all about.

Celebrate Canberra's 100th birthday



Join Australian students everywhere in completing the **NAPLAN**



NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy



Discover great things about Australia's Capital

Do 'The Lake' in style



Enjoy dinner together with everyone at school on Wednesday night



Cooked superbly (again) by Roger of course!!

INFORMATION FOR ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

We have contacted the Crestview Tourist Park, Donald Road (02) 6297 2443 and have been informed that at this stage there are a variety of cabins available, including the following:

2 Bedroom Villas

\$139.00 per night for 2 adults

+ \$7.00 per night per child

+ \$7.00 per night per child

Eg., 2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN = \$153.00

2 Bedroom Ensuite Cabins

\$119.00 per night for 2 adults

+ \$7.00 per night per child

+ \$7.00 per night per child

Eg., 2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN = \$133.00

DEC ACCOMMODATION SUBSIDY FOR NON-LOCAL AREA FAMILIES

Please note that the Centre will subsidise and reimburse DEC families' that reside outside of the local Queanbeyan and Canberra area up to a maximum of \$135.00 per family per night. This will only apply for accommodation on the following 2 nights during the gathering:

- Tuesday, 14 May; and
- Wednesday, 15 May

Cheque reimbursement will be paid upon the presentation of the receipt for payment.

There is a wide variety of accommodation available in Queanbeyan for you stay during the gathering. Queanbeyan is a very busy town for visiting contract workers and salespeople so please ensure to booking early to secure your accommodation.

If you access the following link: <http://www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au/> you will find a valuable website about Queanbeyan including listings and websites for all motels, hotels and caravan parks in town.