**Sanson’s Slate**

**Hi all and Welcome to Week 8!**

Did I say that correctly, Week 8?? This term has flown by! Teachers are busy finishing term assessments and getting student work finalised before the end of the term in addition to preparing for upcoming Parent Teacher interviews. As always, your child’s attendance matters….every day!

**Parent Meetings**

Thanks very much to all the parents who have committed to take advantage of the opportunity to meet with teachers regarding their child’s progress. It is a great opportunity for parents to learn more about their child, and to better assist them in their learning journeys. At this point I would also like to acknowledge our wonderful teachers who have invested a great deal of time into ensuring accurate and useful information will be presented for each child. Please remember to complete the survey so we can use your feedback to make these even more productive.

**Behaviour Focus- Working Well will others**

The school’s positive behaviour focus going into the end of term is around students being respectful learners. One’s ability to show and receive respect is important in all facets of life. In order to be a Respectful Learner students will learn to:

- Use their whole body to listen to the person speaking.
- Raise their hand to speak and wait their turn.
- Respect the rights of their classmates to learn and the teacher to teach.

**Keep a watch on our school these holidays**

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

**A Great First Term**

With only a number of school days to go, I would like to say thanks to everyone for a great start to the 2015 school year. You have certainly made me feel very welcome in the Denison State School family. I am really looking forward to ending the term with our Cross Country and Swimming Carnival. I hope that the rest of the year runs as well as Term 1 has.

Have a safe and relaxing Easter Break and we welcome everyone back on Monday 11th of April. Cheers! And have a great week!

Troy Sanson  
Acting Principal

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**Reminder**

Insulated Lunch Bags are not to be place into classroom fridges! They counteract the cooling process and cause the fridge to overheat and leak which then becomes a Work Place Health and Safety issue. Thank you

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**From the Deputy Principal**

**Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Level</th>
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<th>Attendance % Week 7</th>
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**Early arrival at school**

Please be aware that arrival at school before 8:00am is not permitted. If a child arrives at school before 8.00am, they will be requested to sit outside the office. A teacher is on duty in the Senior Undercover Area from 8.15-8.30am but not before. If your child is riding or walking to school, please monitor what time they are leaving, as some students are arriving at school well before 8.00am.

**Stop, Drop, Go Zone**

Please be aware the Stop, Drop & Go Zone located at the front of the school is a 5 minute zone designated for dropping off/picking up children only. This time restriction does not allow you to get out of your car and enter the grounds. If leaving your car, please park on Gray Street.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Parent Teacher Interviews in some classes have begun and in others, will begin this week. If you have not already booked an interview with your child's teacher, please do so with them. This is a perfect opportunity for you to discuss progress and ways that you can support your child at home.

Nikita Vaughan  
Acting Deputy Principal

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**Date Claimers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 14th</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM-6pm Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 17th to 23rd</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 23rd</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 24th</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival 4,5 and 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 24th</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11th</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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Prep
Welcome to week 8! We are all doing great! This week we have a visit from Old MacDonald's Farm to celebrate our learning of things and what they need to survive. A reminder to parents that homework folders are to come to school each day so that any notes can travel home safely. If you have not yet made a Parent Teacher interview time please contact us so we can arrange a time. Thank you to all parent helpers it has been a joy having you in the rooms! Enjoy the last 2 weeks of Term 1!

Regards, Mrs Katelyn Poole & Mrs Sam Patterson

Year 1
Week 8 already! Parent-teacher interview forms have been sent out. Thank you for booking in a time so efficiently. Most times have now been filled so if you have not booked in a time and would like to, please contact your teacher as soon as possible. We have our Geography excursion at the Botanical Gardens in week 2 of term 2. Information and permission forms will be sent home before the end of term 1. Just a friendly reminder that homework folders should be returned to school every day. This assists notices being sent between home and school. Spelling words should be practised every day along with reading and sight words. We aim to change readers everyday and according to ability levels. If your child has a home reader that is too hard, use it to practise decoding tricky words with known reading strategies or read it to them. If your child has a home reader that is too easy, use it to practise verbal retells and to answer comprehension questions. Home readers should not be a stressful experience, enjoy the story or new information.

Regards, Miss Simone Bourne & Miss Lauren Laws

Year 2
Wow! It's already week 8 and there is only one more fortnight of learning to go before holidays. During Maths lessons we have been looking at data. We are learning how to survey our friends, record their responses, create a picture graph and answer questions about the data. We are also looking closely at addition and subtraction and how to show problems in lots of different ways. In English, our focus is on narratives. If we haven't already, we will soon begin to write our own narrative with an orientation, complication and resolution. We can't wait to read what amazing imaginations the students have.
Don't forget parent teacher interviews are occurring over the next fortnight – please see your class teacher for your time. It is a very valuable process to learn where your child is at, what support the school is providing and what you can possibly be doing at home too. Due to interviews, please be aware mornings and afternoons are quite busy. Have a great holiday.

Regards, Miss Amanda Poolman, Mrs Shona Shaw and Miss Rachael Tulloch

Year 3
Not long till the Easter holidays! Although we're all starting to count down the days, remember that EVERY DAY COUNTS. Being a short term, all classes will still be learning till the very last day of term.
3B will be performing at parade on the last day of term (Thursday 24th of March). All fans are invited to attend. Another spectacular reason to attend school every day this term!
Reading takes us to a place where we have to imagine the tastes, the sounds, the pictures, the feelings and the smells. However, when watching the TV, the stimulation of the senses are often provided for us. Visualising is a reading strategy that promotes the growth of imagining when engaging with a book. In year 3, classes have been practicing how to do this. At first some students would close their eyes and describe blackness with some speckles of light (what we see when we close our eyes), however now they are starting to visualise the pictures, feelings, smells, sounds and tastes. Why not ask your child to do this during or after they've read a book?
Some people are starting to lose hats, water bottles, lunch boxes etc. Please ensure your child's belongings are labelled and they are taking home their own belongings (not accidentally picking up some one else’s). If your child has lost something trying to look in the lost property box at the office, all lost property is sent up there. It is easier to send lost property back to the owner if it is labelled with your child's name.

Regards, Mr Joel Davis, Miss Elysse Douglas, Miss Rebecca O'Grady

Year 4
Our students are by now very much into the routine of year 4 and currently working towards completing assessment for the term. We have recently completed a number assessment in which all students have shown pleasing progress and are finalising the chance assessment where students are required to know and understand the likelihood of everyday events occurring and be able to identify dependent and independent events.
In history we have begun to write our historical narratives, where students are asked to write a recount from the perspective of a chosen convict. As such, they are required to write in first person. Students have found this unit on Australia's past most interesting and we are keen to see what they produce.

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In science, we are also finalising assessment on weathering, where students are required to predict outcomes, carry out an investigation, draw a diagram and write about the results, using scientific language.
Writing a chapter for The Twits by Roald Dahl is also in the final stages with students thinking of many devious tricks the characters could possibly play on each other.
A couple of reminders for the end of term.
· Cross country on Wednesday of week 9
· Swimming carnival on Thursday of week 9
· Last week of swimming is week 8

Thanks to all parents and caregivers who have responded to the invitation to meet and discuss progress of your children. We look forward to meeting with you and sharing progress over the term.

Regards, Mrs Diane Waine-Barclay, Mrs Lisa McHugh and Miss Nikita Maiden and Mrs Jane McColl

Year 5
We are over the half way mark in the term and heading towards a very busy last few weeks. Over the next few weeks, attendance is crucial as we are completing end of term assessment pieces. All students should have purchased a portfolio from the office and brought them into class ready to fill with our work for term 1. Thank you to all parents who have booked a parent teacher interview. We look forward to discussing your child's progress with you.
Have a great week!

5B - Miss Wedmaier will be away for the last two days of term as she is having surgery to remove her tonsils. We wish her a speedy recovery!

Regards, Mrs Leigh Robinson, Miss Rachael Wedmaier and Mr Wade Thompson

Year 6
The end of term is quickly approaching! Students have been working hard at finishing assessment tasks and applying themselves to reasoning and explaining answers. Many of the student leaders and seniors have been involved in the preparation and sale of icy cups over the last couple of weeks. They have worked really hard and have done an amazing job. It is great to see their willingness to be involved and give back to their school community. Next week students will participate in cross country and swimming carnival. Please ensure your child brings plenty of water, has a hat and is wearing sunscreen on both of these days.

We wish you all a safe and refreshing Easter.

Regards, Miss Pauline Dunn
Parent teacher interviews begin this week, Thank you to all the parents who have returned their forms you should have received a conformation slip last week. If you have not received one please see me to confirm your appointment. For those parents who have not returned the forms already please come and see me as I still have appointment times available. Please be prompt to your interview time as we have a strict time frame to stick to. I look forward to chatting to you about your child’s progress.

Regards, Miss Amanda Potter

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**PE & Sport House News**

**DENISON ANNUAL INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2016**

Denison will be holding our annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival for years 4-6 on Thursday 24th March week 9 at the Emerald Aquatic Centre. The carnival will be held in the 50m pool commencing at 9am-2.15pm. This event provides an opportunity for students to have some fun representing their sports house with their fellow team mates and to show their swimming skills. It will be the last swimming carnival for the year 6 students at Denison so we encourage all students to participate and make it a great day! All students are expected to attend as it is a normal school day. Even if you cannot swim well you can still cool off, join in the fun events and score bonus points for your sports house using lots of flotation devices which will be available for use.

Students will take to the water to battle it out for the various Age Champion Medallions, the Best Supporting and Decorated House Shield and the Overall House Champion Shield. In addition to the formal races in each of the swimming strokes there will also be fun novelty events provided for all swimmers to take part in. Presentation of awards will be made at the pool before the buses depart back to school in time to catch early buses as per normal routine.

Students will be taken to and from the pool by Emerald Coaches. Buses will be departing the school at 8.50am for the pool and returning from the pool at approximately 2.15pm. It is required that students attend with their class groups and travel in the buses as organised. Students are not permitted to ride their bikes to and from the pool for this event.

**SPORT TRIALS RESULTS**

Congratulations to these students who are successful in being selected into an ED or CH sports team. Well done students!

- **ED RUGBY LEAGUE** - Lachlan V, Hayden S and Jaidyn C.
- **ED TOUCH FOOTBALL** – Tommy G
- **CH SOCCER – Jason L**
- **CROSS COUNTRY and FUN RUN EVENT**

Denison State School will be holding our annual School Cross Country in week 9 on Wednesday 23rd March from 8.45-10.30am on the school oval and grounds. The main focus of this event is on participation and having a go. Students in the cross country can run and alternate walking with jogging around the track and battle it out for places, points and ribbons in their age group. Students who place in the top 5 in each age group have an opportunity to attend the Emerald District Cross Country event in term 2, week 1. All parents/carers and family members are welcome to attend the School Cross Country at the school to cheer on their children or assist in the running of the event.

Remember to stay active over the holidays and have a fabulous, fun break!

Miss L

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**Special Education News**

Thank you for the warm welcome in my first two weeks at Denison State School. I have been enjoying my time in getting to know the students and their families, and look forward to many more positive interactions.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will commence in Queensland from July 2016. This is a national scheme that aims to provide individualised support for people with a permanent or significant disability. In order to establish participant readiness, the Community Resource Unit (CRU) has established a website to be used as a resource to share key ideas, resources and information. A link to this information can be found via the website [http://thegoodlife.cru.org.au](http://thegoodlife.cru.org.au).

Best wishes,

Tegan Ryan
A/HOSES

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**Healthy eating tip:**

- **Chicken Wrap**
  Spread low fat mayonnaise and Dijon mustard onto wholemeal pita bread. Add chopped cooked chicken, grated reduced fat cheese, grated carrot and apple and diced celery and roll up.

- **Bean Treat**
  Put baked beans in a container, top with grated reduced fat cheese and serve with a wholemeal bread roll. An easy lunch idea.

- **Tuna Pasta Salad**
  Mix together cooked pasta (spiral/shell), canned tuna (spring water, drained), corn kernels (drained), sliced onions, diced capsicum and celery, chopped fresh parsley and low fat mayonnaise.

- **Leftover Dinner**
  In a rush? Pack leftover dinner into your child’s lunchbox, like pasta bake, frittata or fried rice.

**Tip:** Add a freezer pack in the lunchbox on warm days to keep food cool until lunchtime.

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**PERFORMING ARTS NEWS**

All classes are in full swing in the Dance unit of the Performing Arts this term focusing on International dances. The Preps and Grade 1s are doing Australian Bush Dancing and starting to learn the Continental Drift. The Grade 2-6’s are Cha Cha-ing, Salsa-ing and Conga-ing their way into the unit and are loving every moment. So if you hear your child singing “Heel and Toe, Heel and Toe, Slide, Slide, Slide, Slide!” or “Cha, Cha, Cha” or “Ole” around the house then you will know where they have got it from!

The Preps are still learning “Advance Australia Fair” so please help them learn it by singing it with them - even in the car is a help! The Grade 2-6 Mothers’ Day Choir is sounding lovely too with new actions added just last week and the students are looking forward to performing it on Parade for all the Mums on May the 6th.

Look out for your child’s Parade Performance….

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Performance Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Friday, 15th April</td>
</tr>
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<td>Friday, 29th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Monday, 2nd May</td>
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</table>

**Mother’s Day Choir Performance**

Friday, May 6th

Yours in Dance and DSS talent,
Monique Podolak
Library News

Bookfair has once again provided a sensational boost to our library funds. This year we have received just over $2000 in rewards. This money will be spent in purchasing many new titles and old favourites for our library.

We are very grateful to the volunteers who assisted at Bookfair and to the many people in the Denison community that supported Bookfair by making a purchase. Your support is truly appreciated and the students at Denison will benefit greatly from your support.

We are very happy for parents to visit our library to view our titles. We just ask that you visit before school after 8:20am.

Happy Reading
Maree Heslin and Jean Self

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If you can’t make the day you are rostered on for, can you please let Leanne know to arrange a replacement by phoning 49807333.

A text message will be sent the day prior.

2016 Annual General Meeting

Denison State School will have it’s AGM on Monday 14th March 2016

Starting at 6pm.

It will be held in the Staff Room and all are welcome.

All positions will be available.

Parking available in Stop, Drop & Go

Get involved in the School Banking program

Denison State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

The rewards available during 2016 are:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

School Banking day is Wednesday. Each week you need to put your bank book with your money into the commonwealth banking satchel in your classroom.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

Crazy Hair Day

Friday 18 March

The Student Council is having Crazy Hair Day to raise money for The Leukemia foundation. This money goes towards helping families who are facing the challenge of blood cancer and helps Australian researchers find a kinder and more effective treatment. Please bring a gold coin donation and your craziest hair.

Vest & Jumper Orders

Are due Friday 11th March 2016

There was a misprint on the forms Sorry.

You can pay: Cash, Online or Credit Card

(uniform person will contact you for card details)

Uniform Shop Hours
If you need to try on Mondays 8.30am-9.30am
Or Thursday 3.00pm-3.30pm

You can drop the order forms to the office or at the uniform shop.

Library News

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<td>11 Cody H &amp; Dee H</td>
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<td>14 Jan B &amp; Melanie M</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 Vanessa L</td>
<td>17 Ange D &amp; Jan B</td>
<td>18 Robyn M &amp; Dee H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Cody H &amp; Melanie M</td>
<td>22 Christine R</td>
<td>23 Vanessa L</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to everyone who has put their name down to help.

If you can’t make the day you are rostered on for, can you please let Leanne know to arrange a replacement by phoning 49807333.

A text message will be sent the day prior.

2016 Annual General Meeting

Denison State School will have it’s AGM on Monday 14th March 2016

Starting at 6pm.

It will be held in the Staff Room and all are welcome.

All positions will be available.

Parking available in Stop, Drop & Go

Get involved in the School Banking program

Denison State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

The rewards available during 2016 are:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

School Banking day is Wednesday. Each week you need to put your bank book with your money into the commonwealth banking satchel in your classroom.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.
Prep A Claire H
Her enthusiasm towards all class tasks. Claire is always willing to have a go and tries every activity with a fabulous attitude and a wonderful smile. Claire is a joy to have in our class as her energy is so uplifting.

Prep B Amber C
Your outstanding effort given to all work tasks. You are a focused and energetic learner. Keep up the great work!

Prep/1C Daniel H
Always working to the best of your ability during class tasks.

1A Maya W
Always following directions straight away. Awesome work!

2A Phoebe S
Phoebe’s positive attitude towards everything she does. Phoebe always has a go and helps others. Thanks Phoebe.

2B Noah J
Your fantastic ideas and persistence during the poetry assessment task. You are always working hard!

2C Payton W
Your hard working approach to school. I’m very proud of the effort you are putting in.

3A Connor B
His improved involvement, focus and listening skills in class. Connor is paying closer attention and becoming a real times tables champion too.

3B Tyler H
For Tyler being an all rounder top kid! You are respectful to adults, friendly to peers and try your hardest in every task that you do.

3C Samuel S
Using high modality words in his persuasive writing.

4A Shian A
Your consistent effort in the classroom. You are always willing to have a go and do your best. You are a great role model to your peers.

4B Jack S
Your fantastic achievement on your maths assessment. Keep up the hard work!

4C Tiali N
Your amazing imagination which helped you plan a ‘dynamic’ new chapter for The Twits! Your great plan will enable you to write in an engaging way!

5A Braith K
Your excellent work in Maths. You have been finding efficient ways to solve multiplication and division problems. Well done Braith!

5B Lleyton F
His creative and fascinating noun groups. Lleyton has the neatest handwriting and should be very proud of his efforts.

5C Bianca B
Her brilliant justifications in maths. Bianca clearly explains and gives reasons as to why she uses maths strategies. Great work Bianca!

6A Halimat O
Your thoughtfulness towards others. You are always there for your classmates to listen or give assistance. You are a positive role model for your peers. Thank you!

6B Krystal C
Your creative and descriptive stories. You always leave me in suspense and I look forward to finding out what happens next. Keep writing!

Prep A Mackenzie H
His commitment to being a respectful learner. Mackenzie always uses whole body listening. He raises his hand to speak and is respectful of his and his classmates learning time. Well done Mackenzie!

Prep B Sebastiaan V
Your amazing use of scientific terms and your knowledge of things that are living and not living. You are a “Super Prep Scientist”!

Prep/1C Siarra W
Being a respectful class member. She always waits patiently and shares the equipment.

1A Tige P
Working conscientiously to complete tasks and for taking pride in your book work.

1B Jackson B
Your excellent behaviour this term. Well done for always making good behaviour choices. Keep it up!

2A Yishan G
The interesting noun groups Yishan is sharing with the class and adding to her writing. Great work Yishan.

2B Lara B
Your fantastic reading and writing skills. You are working so hard this year. Keep it up! Thanks for always getting along with others too!!!

2C Mia R
Being an amazing classmate—you are a great role model!

3A Thomas W
Always having a go at tasks even when they seem difficult. Thomas tries his best and asks questions when he needs help.

3B Cody R
Cody’s persuasive letter to his parents. It was full of high modality words, entertaining vocabulary words and persuasive phrases!

3C Chelsea A
Her thoughtful contributions to class discussions.

4A Jordyn M
Your continual focus in class and willingness to try all tasks. You always do your best. What a great role model you are!

4B Hamish J
Your wonderful contributions to class discussions. You have been providing clear and well thought out responses. Keep it up!

4C Cartaar W
This impressive chapter you wrote for the English assessment. Your story was sequenced well, used tension to build the story, which held the interest of the audience.

5A Kiarra T
His excellent recall of number facts. He uses effective strategies to quickly and efficiently work out the answer.

5B Blake R
His willingness to answer questions and ability to explain and justify the way he reached those answers. Great work Blake.

6A Will M
The effort you are putting into improving the presentation of your booklet. You are reading and listening to teacher feedback and ensuring your work is presented neatly. Bravo Will!!

6B Jason L
Your great attitude and enthusiasm in class. You always listen, ask questions when stuck and give 100% effort to everything you do. Awesome work!
Hello from Mr G

In Chaplaincy this year we will be involved with a number of projects:

- QLD Father of the Year (one of the finalist were from Emerald last year)
- Chappy Week
- Backing our Youth

Backing our Youth Project is a partnership with Vanderfield and SU Qld. The Artesian foundation have created a campaign to raise awareness and funds to support young people in regional and rural Queensland through school chaplaincy. This campaign will raise $50,000 by 30 June 2016 for school chaplains in country Queensland. This money will be raised primarily through the efforts of Vanderfield dealerships through the sale of tractors, t-shirts and donations. Funds will be directed to Artesian Foundation and distributed to SU Qld chaplains through a grants process.

This campaign is a catalyst for local businesses to support chaplaincy and invest in your communities. We are focused on supporting the growth and resilience of young people in regional, rural and remote Queensland – and we need your support to make this resilience a reality.

On another note if you have any loved but still useable uniforms lying around after your children have graduated, and are thinking of throwing them out, please don't. We have a cupboard of clothes for children who need emergency uniforms. Please drop them at the office. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to a great year
The Chaplain Mr G

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

SHEP

Congratulations to Hayden S and Kelly H who will travel to Rockhampton later this month to participate in the Middle schools State Ensemble Program run by the Conservatorium of Music (Friday March 18 to Sunday March 20). This program involves middle school students from 26 schools and will be conducted by Ms Maureen Cameron (Wind Ensemble), Ms Emma Dron (String Ensemble) and Ms Joanne Wright (Vocal Ensemble). The program will conclude with a Grand Finale Concert at 1.00pm on the Sunday at North Rockhampton State High School, Berserker Street, North Rockhampton; with entry being open to the public, via gold coin donation. Past Denison students Corey S, Chloe G and Katelyn H will also be in attendance and we wish them all the best.

Leanne Hilder, Instrumental Music Teacher

Emerald and District Athletics Association Inc
2016 Season Sign-On
Sunday March 20th 4.00pm–5.00pm
Club House - Marist College Oval
Athletes 5 yrs and over Welcome
Sign on $100.00 per Athlete
Birth Certificates are required for new registrations only
Season commences Sunday April 10, with a Come and Try Day
1.30pm for a 2pm start
For more information, please contact us at Emerald Athletics Club facebook page

Happy Easter