FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to all the children who did a fantastic job last night at the Circus. We were really fighting against some ordinary weather conditions, however they trooped on and did a great job! The circus as a term theme is a huge undertaking as it embraces all of the elements as children discover and then take action. They made all of the decisions relating to what was going to happen, when and why and communicated with one another. They used P.E. time and developed their routines and practiced them as well as sorted out the music for their routines. In their groups they looked after back stage, costumes, food and marketing to prepare for the night. Together in art they developed the midway games and rules.

They finished off with a fabulous performance and were again challenged by the weather and consequently some things happened that had not happened before, however they trooped on.

Well done to all of our children on an excellent job!

On Thursday is Healthy Eating Christmas lunch and the students will be cooking Christmas lunch. If you would like to attend please let us know.

On Friday there will be an assembly to finish the day at 1:15pm, with the day concluding at 1:30pm. Please note that the bus run will run 2 hours earlier on Friday, so please ensure there is someone to meet the children when they arrive home earlier.

Please remember an extra set of clothes so the children can change and a towel to dry themselves, after they get wet. As it often ‘rains’ on the last day, we don’t want anyone to be left in wet clothes and they need to have dry clothes to travel on the bus.

This concludes my time as Principal at Redesdale Mia Mia P.S. It has been a pleasure to work here with the children and to be able to put my personal stamp on the things we do here at Redesdale-Mia Mia. I will be looking to move on next year but will miss the wonderful atmosphere of this school. Over my 12 years at this school I have developed my teaching ethos and learnt that children with a voice can do amazing things. We have had many successes and I am proud to say I was part of it. Thank you to all of those who have supported me.

I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year and a safe holiday period.

Thanks,
Sally Gill, Acting Principal.
**FAMILY PAYMENTS**

Payments can still be made to the school. If you prefer, online payments can be made directly into the school’s bank account. If making payments to the school this way, please identify it with your family name and what the payment is for, eg, COOPER-BOOK CLUB.

The school bank account details are:

- **BSB:** 063517
- **Account Number:** 00903062

Regular payments can also be arranged with your bank or your employer to pay directly into the school bank account. $10.00 per student per week would adequately cover the total amount required.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

The Sausage Sizzle is every Wednesday. Students can purchase a barbeque lunch for $3.00 (sausage in bread, drink and fruit). Extra sausages can be purchased for $1.00 each. There is no option to not have fruit or drink.

**Prices per student are as follows:**
- 1 sausage in bread + drink + fruit = $3.00
- 2 sausages in bread + drink + fruit = $4.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>Cooking</th>
<th>Fruit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 4th</td>
<td>K. Munro</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 11th</td>
<td>L. Smith</td>
<td>K. Sundblom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The roster hasn’t been drawn up as there have been very few offers of help. Thank you to those who have offered to assist. If you would like to help out by either cooking or providing fruit, please let us know before Thursday please.

Thank you again.

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**SILENT AUCTION**

Unfortunately the Silent Auction for the children’s art work didn’t attract any offers at the Circus yesterday.

It is stressed that the materials for the works cost $35.00 for each of the works.

If you would like to make a bid for the works, please contact the school before the end of the term.
Redesdale Hall @ the Agnes Mudford Reserve

Enquiries: Alwyn - 0419 513 976 or Carolyn - 5425 3194
~ Outdoor Stalls Available ~

Redesdale Bush Market

Sunday 8th March
8.30am-2pm

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

REDESDALE & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION Inc.
Community Chest
Christmas special
Raffle

Meat $30 voucher
Fruit & Veg $30 voucher
Wine, Beer, Spirits $30 voucher

Tickets available at The Redesdale General Store
1 ticket $3
2 tickets $5

Drawn Saturday 20th December
Often family differences are contained during the year but spill over when normal routines cease over the holiday period.

You don’t need an instruction manual to make the most of the school holidays. After all, holidays are about kicking your feet up, relaxing and getting away from the usual routines. Right?

But the holiday season can be stressful. For many parents the prospect of keeping children occupied for up to six weeks can be daunting. Kids who kept busy with school, after school activities and weekend sport suddenly have time on their hands and look to you to keep them busy.

Christmas can also be a difficult and lonely time for some. Sole parents and step-parents usually experience particular challenges at this time of the year as family catch-ups cause conflict, and disputes can arise over who children spend their time with.

Often family differences are contained during the year but spill over when normal routines cease over the holiday period. High maintenance children who’s behaviour is bearable when they are at school can suddenly seem very challenging indeed when you spend 24/7 time with them.

Here are some ways to help reduce tension over the festive season and make the holidays enjoyable and fruitful for all.

1. **Be creative with how festivities are organised** For instance, two or more Christmas dinners may be needed so everyone is included. If you are flexible with your arrangements as well as your thinking then the potentially tricky times will flow more easily.

2. **Mix up the routines** The best part about holidays is the move away from the routines of school-life. Some kids feel comfortable with the routines of school-life and can feel a little lost until the new holiday routine kicks in. Be patient with these routine-junkies! Also make sure you begin adjusting the routine as a return to school comes closer so kids are prepared for going to bed and getting up at earlier times.

3. **Mix ‘me’ time with ‘them’ time** Plan a mixture of outdoor activities or trips with quiet at-home activities where you can relax and recharge your own batteries. The holidays are chance to spend time as a family but you also need to take some time for yourself each day. It helps to let your kids know that you are having some timeout too.

4. **Resist being your child’s home entertainment machine** Give children opportunities to keep themselves occupied or think of inexpensive, fun ways to keep themselves amused. “I’m bored” is an invitation for kids to keep themselves occupied rather than for you to keep them amused.

5. **Team up with other families**. Whether it is sharing celebrations with other families or just holidaying with friends, holidays offer the chance to broaden your child’s social circle. Create opportunities to spend time with other families preferably with children the same age as yours.

Make sure you provide the three types of activities that children want with their parents – i.e. **rituals and celebrations**, including family mealtimes; **one-on-one activities** where you spend some time alone with each child; and **unstructured, impromptu activities** such as playing simple games, story-telling and walks around the neighbourhood. These are important relationship-building activities that bind families together and enable you to build up emotional collateral with kids as they move into adolescence.