



# "Learning Together"



*A community of active thinkers who can achieve their dreams.*

*Caring, Respectful, Learners*

Issue No. 39

Term 4

Week 40

15th December 2023

## *Student of the Week* Congratulations to:



**Zaylen C:** For always trying his best with everything that he does. Well done.



**Charlotte M:** For always putting in her best effort with her reading and showing kindness towards others in the classroom. Well done!



**Marley T:** For his fantastic effort on his story writing and being kind to others in the classroom. Well done!



**Lincoln H:** For his determination and hard work during assessments, as well as always being a good friend. Great effort Lincoln!



**Emmy G:** For amazing persistence catching up on all of your assessments.



**Ava C:** For representing our school at the Chess Tournament with pride, enthusiasm and excellent sportsmanship. Superstar Ava!



**Minssa A:** For always going out of your way to show kindness to others.



**Mark G:** For showing a positive attitude towards all of your learning this term - keep up the great work!

### IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 20th December—Last Day of School Year (2.15pm finish/Pickup from 1.30pm; **no buses**)

Tuesday 23rd January—school office open from 10am to 5pm for parent payments

Tuesday 30th January—First day of school for students



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



## Dear Parents and Carers

This week has been a very busy week at Drouin South Primary School. On Tuesday we held our Transition Morning for 2024 classes. We know that this can be a bit stressful and can cause some anxiety however it is also an exciting time and provides an opportunity to get used to changes. I wish to thank parents for supporting your young people through these and helping them to navigate change and build resilience.

Our Christmas Concert was changed to the Tuesday night due to weather the weather forecast. We thank all families for being flexible and for coming along to enjoy the night. It was a great celebration and it is terrific to see all kids from Prep to Grade 6 performing on the night.

Our Christmas Fair was a resounding success on Wednesday with lots of games and prizes on offer. Over \$1100 was raised by the SRC and I know this will be put towards some great things for next year.

Lastly our Grade 6 group were farewelled on Wednesday evening with a celebration at school. They then spent Thursday together celebrating on their "Big Day Out". We will certainly miss all of our Grade 6 students and we wish them well for their secondary school years.

## End of Year Reports

December reports are being sent home with students today. We ask that you celebrate your child's results with them and be proud of their effort no matter what grade or score they were awarded in each subject area. The general comment is always the area that provides a written summary of your child's attitudes, effort and successes.

## Thank you

I would like to say a big thank you to all parents and families for the support of your children this year. Well done to our parent volunteers in School Council and Parent's Club as well as all parent helpers in classrooms and at various events throughout the year. throughout 2023. Our school relies so much on the support of our wonderful community and our staff really appreciate it.

Thank you to all of our teaching and support staff who have worked tirelessly this year to provide education, support and support to all of the students in our care.

## Leaving Staff

I wish to acknowledge to contributions of Bethany Allen, Lyn Taranto and Donna Kumeraperu for their valuable work at Drouin South PS. I wish Bethany and Donna all the best for a great 2024 at their new schools and I'm sure we will see Lyn back throughout the year next year.

## Last Official Day of School

Next week our staff will be cleaning and organising rooms for the new year. All students at school will be provided with supervision during these days. The last official day of the school year is Wednesday 20th December. The official finish time is 2.15pm however students can be collected from 1.30pm. No buses will run on this day.

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Lastly I would like to wish all families and staff a very happy and safe Christmas time. With all the atrocities that are going on around the world at present, it is a time when we can reflect on the importance of family and friends and really be grateful that we live in a beautiful and peaceful part of the world.

*Michael Smith— Principal Caring, Respectful, Learners*

We would like to acknowledge those first nation families who cared for and used this land for many generations. We will commit to **caring** and using the land our school is built on in a **respectful** way. We are grateful to have this land where we can **learn** together.

*(Developed by Drouin South PS students and SRC 2023)*



## A message from our Chaplain.....

Here we are the last Newsletter for 2023! One of my family's Christmas traditions is that I read "*How the Grinch stole Christmas.*" to them on Christmas eve. The Grinch's revelation at the end is a reminder that behind the hype there is a deeper reason to celebrate...



Whatever your "more" is I pray that you have a wonderful Christmas season and I look forward to what next year brings to our community at Drouin South Primary School.

## Hayno - Chaplain DSPS

### Reminder—Parent Payments

All families should have received a letter several weeks ago with the recommended voluntary financial contributions for 2024. All information was provided in the letter sent home. Copies of these letters are available on the school website.

We encourage payments to be made using the unique Bpay details on the letter(s) sent home, but if you prefer EFTPOS please note the school office is open on **Tuesday 23rd January from 10am to 5pm** for this purpose. The Department of Education discourages cash; if unavoidable please ensure correct amount as no change is held.

*Library* Please return all overdue books ASAP!

*Lunch Orders*

*First day in 2024—Tuesday 6th February*





CONGRATS

Happy Graduation!



On Wednesday evening, we officially farewelled our 2023 year 6 students. We had a great time partying with music, games, pizza, ice cream, popcorn and slushies.

Congratulations to our graduating Year 6 students. Have fun in Year 7!

You did great!

- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Ryan      | Xander  |
| Campbell  | Oscar D |
| Tayla     | Bella   |
| Russell   | Ethan   |
| Will      | Dylan   |
| Ryely     | Lexi    |
| Tyler     | Jack    |
| Cody      | Hudson  |
| Nate      | Charlie |
| Oscar P   | Vincent |
| Jackson P | Livvi   |
| Harry     | Lilly   |
| Oscar S   | Liv     |
| Belle     | Penny   |
| Ryder     |         |



CONGRATS





CLASS  
OF  
2023

Congrats!



# Christmas Carnival

WE JAM PACKED WEDNESDAY FULL OF CHRISTMAS FUN! THE JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL, HAVE BEEN BUSY LITTLE ELVES OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS, DESIGNING AND CREATING GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE CARNIVAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED PRIZES, SOFT TOYS, AND LUCKY DIP ITEMS WE HAD A NUMBER OF PARENTS COME TO HELP OUT TOO. WE REALLY DO HAVE A WONDERFUL DSPS COMMUNITY.



Mr Moore's always a good sport!



We raised over \$1100 which will be used for JSC initiatives in 2024. Stay tuned!







Popcorn, Popcorn  
& Slushes



Games, games  
& more games



Activities galore!



Great Shot!



Bullseye!





# DSPS 2023 CHRISTMAS CONCERT



It was an exciting evening on Tuesday with DSPS News reporting live from the DSPS oval on the news that Santa was missing. Thanks to our news anchors Caitlin and Archie with their team of reporters on the ground, Santa has been located and will be ready for Christmas Eve!



Well done everyone! What a fantastic evening we all had on Wednesday at the Christmas Concert. After practicing, making props and costumes, all students were so excited to present the 2023 concert. Thanks to our DSPS community for being flexible with the day change





Thank you  
Mrs Phillips!



# Easy Cucumber Christmas Trees

*Ingredients (makes 8):*

- 1 large carrot
- 1 whole cucumber

*Method:*

Peel the carrot, discarding the top and bottom.

From the thicker end of the carrot, cut 8 rounds, around ½ cm thick.

Using a mini star-shaped cutter, cut a star from each piece of carrot.

Divide and cut the remaining piece of carrot into 8 pieces, which will form the trunks of your cucumber trees.

Set the carrot stars and pieces to one side.

Using a vegetable peeler, cut long strips from the cucumber, the whole length long.

Starting at the smallest end, carefully fold a strip of cucumber back and forth, starting with small folds and getting gradually bigger with each one, until you have created a tree shape.

Push the folds together, and push a cocktail stick through to skewer them from top to bottom.

Push the cocktail stick into one of the carrot pieces, big fold side down.

Push a carrot star onto the other end of the cocktail stick.

Carefully separate the folds a little so that the cucumber fills the space between the two carrot pieces.

Stand your edible Christmas tree on a plate or serving tray and repeat until you have made as many cucumber trees as you need.

Serve immediately. Enjoy!



Note: I used plain cocktail sticks topped with carrot stars for my Christmas trees, but you can find some lovely [food picks](#) with decorative tops to save you the trouble of cutting out stars.

From: [Easy Cucumber Christmas Trees - Healthy Christmas Party Food for Kids - Eats Amazing.](#)



## Christmas Tree Ornaments

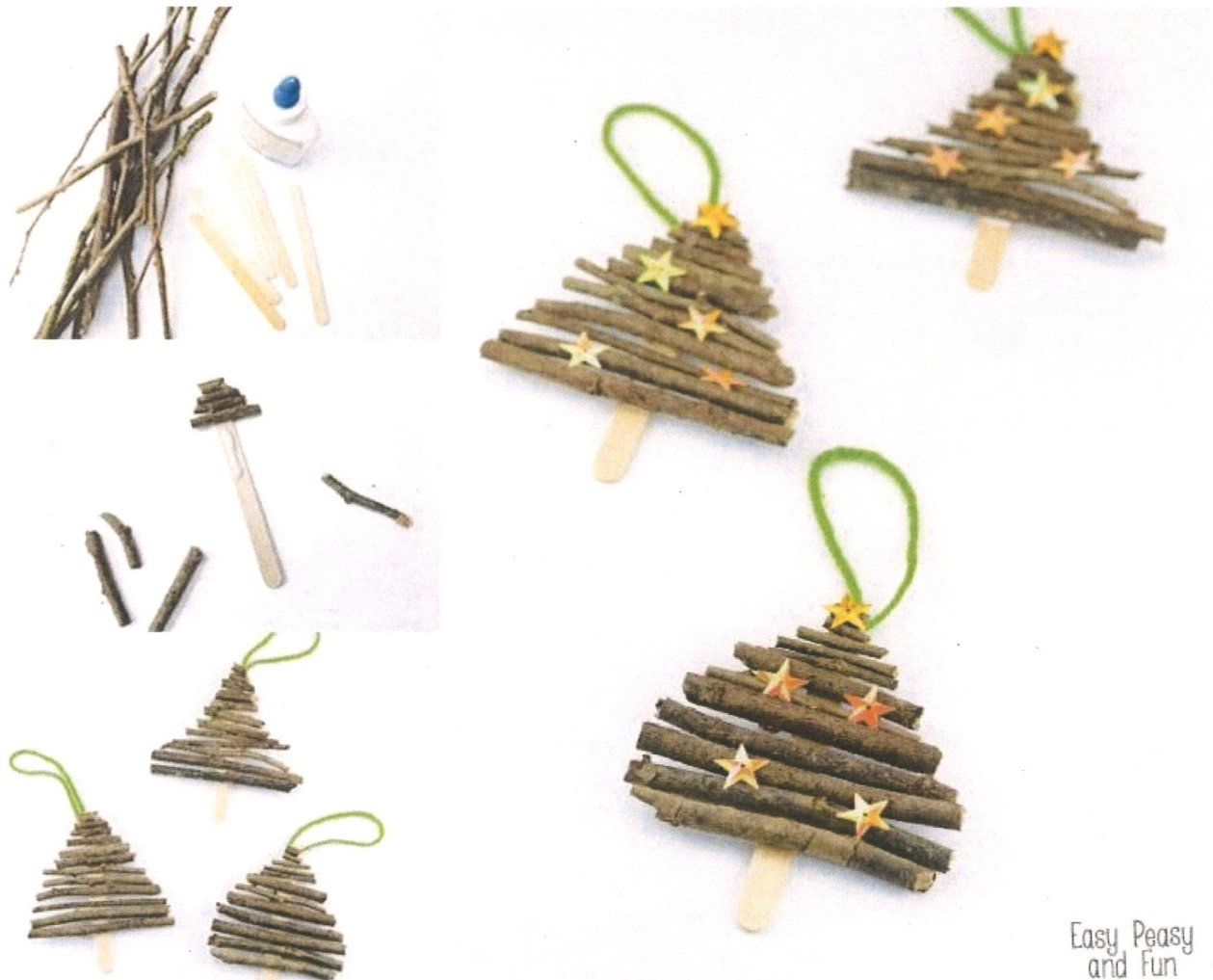
This is such a fun craft to make and you really don't need much... what you'll need:

- craft popsicle sticks
- twigs and branches
- white school glue
- scissors
- wool
- sequin or other decorations

You can start with a lovely walk in the nature collecting all kinds of sticks. If the sticks aren't dry, dry them first (you can dry them at a low temperature in the oven).

Break up the sticks to get different lengths, use scissors when you can.

Apply a generous amount of glue along 3/4 of popsicle stick. Put glue on the broken down sticks starting with the smallest on the top, adding larger ones till bottom. Let it dry completely. Glue on yarn on the back side if you wish to hang this popsicle stick tree ornament. You can leave them as they are or take it a step further and decorate with sequin, pom poms or anything else that will make these popsicle stick and sticks Christmas tree ornaments look even more festive.



For video tutorial visit—<https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/popsicle-stick-and-twigs-christmas-tree-ornaments/>

Easy Peasy  
and Fun

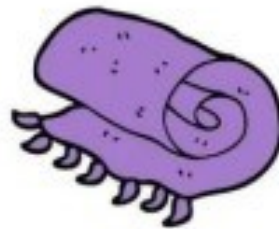
# Sensory Overload

From <https://hes-extraordinary.com/sensory-overload-in-kids>

## STRATEGIES FOR SENSORY OVERLOAD



Noise reducing headphones



Weighted blanket



Calming nature sounds



Dim the lights



Drink of cold water



Quiet activity or break alone

he's extraordinary  
TOOLS FOR RAISING AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSON

**Talk to your GP or paediatrician about your child's sensory challenges.**



# Desire To Sketch FREE Scavenger Hunt!

☆ December 24th 11am - around 1.30pm  
☆ Civic Park Drouin, Near the Playground!

Just over \$1700 worth of Art Supplies and Candy Canes to be found  
and fun to be had!

Scavenger Hunt! Free Art Supplies! Team Up! 2x Face Painters!



Drouin Lions Club,  
sausage sizzle!

Lil Easel Arts  
Chalk Art!

Candy Canes,  
Presents!

The place to be-  
Coffee Van!



SPONSORED BY

- Desire To Sketch- Keira sloetjes.
  - The Robin Hood Inn, Drouin.
  - Allstar Pool Tables, Dandenong.
  - In2Frames, Warragul.
  - Sean Field Painting, Brisbane.
  - Birchgrove Park Agistment.
  - Western District Carpet Cleaning
- Thank you!



Ages 5 -18 will get the art supplies presents from the scavenger hunt and can be involved in all the other activities below.  
For ages 5 and under there will be candy canes, chalk art, face painting, coffee van and a Sausage sizzle!

**So we can cater for numbers**

**Please Register here**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/desire-to-sketch-free-scavenger-hunt-tickets-771373989367>

**Includes**

Scavenger Hunt, Free Art Supplies/Candy Cane Giveaway and Chalk Art run by Desire To Sketch.

2x Face Painters including -Sians Face Painting and Twinkle toes Face Painting.

A Sausage sizzle run by The Drouin Lions Club!

The place to be COFFEE VAN