On Tuesday a total of 58 Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 students embarked on a great adventure from Dora Creek to visit several exciting places and learn more about ‘Transport’.

We left Dora Creek train station early and visited fourteen railway stations including busy transit stops including Fassifern, Cardiff and Broadmeadow before reaching the end of the line at Newcastle. The train was fast, new and very comfortable. At Newcastle we had our morning tea in the Honeysuckle Rail yard near a delightful pond and grassed area. Students enjoyed the play equipment after morning tea and witnessed the working harbour of Newcastle in action seeing tug boats and large container ships come and go in the Newcastle Harbour. We also saw the harbormaster pilot boat racing to join the tugs in guiding a massive coal tanker into Newcastle.

Our next stop was the ferry wharf which we reached after a fifteen minute walk along the edge of Newcastle waterfront.
The ferry ‘Hunter’ took us over the busy waterway to Stockton on the northern side of Newcastle. We then caught our bus which was the mode of transport to take us to the Royal Australian Air Force Base at Williamtown. The Air Force base and airport were very exciting places with many commercial, domestic and military aircraft landing and taking off from the runway at Williamtown. During lunch there was a huge noise overhead when two jet fighters called Hornets roared overhead while taking off. After lunch we all entered ‘Fighter World’ where many older planes were on display and our students were allowed to sit in the cockpit of planes, press all sorts of buttons and enjoy the viewing platform which overlooks both the base and the airport. Finally, we boarded our coach for home and arrived back at Dora Creek, tired, but happy to have spent the day learning all about transport. Thank you to Mrs Green for your hard work organising this excursion and to the parents who volunteered their time to travel with us. Congratulations to everyone, for a great day.
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Southlakes Out of School Hours Care** will be running a Vacation Care program at St John Vianney School in the April holidays. The timetable is available from the school office or by calling the centre on 4973 7005.

**Toronto Netball Club** urgently needs players turning 8 and 12 years in 2014, to join their club based at Ron Hill Oval courts. No experience needed. Contact Tracey on 0402 507 121.

**Eraring Public School** will be holding their 90th Birthday Fair on Saturday March 29 from 11.30am - 3pm. There will be lots of stalls, a jumping castle, an historical display and the Eraring School book launch. There will also be a Bush Dance from 5.30pm - 9pm. Entry to both events is free and food and drinks are available for purchase. For more information contact 4973 1196.

**Morisset Childrens Centre** located opposite Morisset High School in Bridge Street, is a not for profit community based Early Childhood Centre. The centre is open from 7.00am - 6.00pm Monday to Friday offering high quality education and care for children six weeks to six years in a fun, safe environment. The centre has been caring for local children 30 years. For further information contact the Centre on 4973 3244 or www.morissetchildrenscentre.org.au.

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**FREE MULCH** - IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COLLECT SOME FREE MULCH FOR YOUR GARDEN, CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

March 28 - Therese/Kristy
April 2 - Therese/Debbie E
April 4 - Therese
April 9 - Nikki
April 11 - Therese

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**School Crossing Reminder**

Please be aware of the crossing, parking zones, bus zones and parking restriction times at the front of the school. **Please do not park, drop off or pickup in the crossing area.** The fines for this are large and fines include demerit points.

The safety of our students is paramount.

**Newcastle Writers Festival Excursion**

An excursion to the Writers Festival at the Newcastle Library has been organised for students in Year 3, 4 and 5 on Friday April 4.

The students will be viewing the original paintings, drawings and the animated film of Australian author Shaun Tan’s, “The Lost Thing”. They will then participate in a workshop with Australian comedian and author of “Thai-riffic!”, “Con-nerd”, and “Punchlines” books, Oliver Phommavanh.

Cost is $8.00 and includes train fare. Adults are also invited to attend.

**The closing date for permission notes for this excursion is tomorrow Friday March 28, 2014.**
**Newcastle Library will not take any additional students after this date.**

**School Contributions**

Government funds provide the basic framework for our resources. However, we rely on parent contributions to provide additional items. School contributions at our school are $10.00 per child per term. **Payment of school contributions is greatly appreciated.**
Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Staff, Terrific Students and Supportive Community

I am forever grateful to our hard working team here at Dora Creek Public School, as evidenced by all the wonderful activities happening on a daily basis. We are fortunate to have Mrs Kay and Mrs Close in the office answering questions and phones, solving dilemmas, typing notes and the list goes on. The dedicated teaching staff are implementing the new Australian English Curriculum, trialling the new Mathematics syllabus and completing upcoming professional development in the new History curriculum. As well as all the additional tasks that provide your children with a full education. We also have extra lunch time activities, excursions, and much more, that need staff supervision and organisation. And to our community. Our volunteers are wonderful; changing books, helping in classrooms, at carnivals, in the canteen and where ever needed.

A BIG thank you to all.

Please promote our wonderful school. We still have that empty classroom that I would love to fill with another class. Currently it is being utilised as a meeting room and a flow over room for small group work. An extra class and teacher would be brilliant.

Mrs M Warham
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

04/04 Newcastle Writers Excursion
11/04 Last day of term 1
29/04 Students return for term 2

NOTES SENT HOME

05/02 Canteen Volunteer Request
13/03 Yr 3 - 5 Newcastle Writers
21/03 - Raffle ticket books

HOME READING

Jett Good 25
Mia Good 25
Rhys Good 25
Tyler Good 25
Ella Good 25
Kade Good 25
Charlotte Great 50
Lexi Great 50
Zoey Great 50

Josaiah Terrific 75
Joshua Terrific 75
Keira Super 100
Liana Silver 175
Liana Gold 200
Liana Almost Book 225
Bayden Almost Book 225
Liana Book 250
Che Book 250

We would love to have more Easter eggs donated for the P & C Monster Easter raffle. Donations can be made to the school office until next Tuesday.

Raffle tickets were sent home last week with the newsletter and more books are available from the school office.

The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term - Friday April 11, 2014.

Creating a Climate for Growth and Harmony