



Dunvegan Nursery School

Let the learning begin

Newsletter No. 4

May 2025

Dear Parents,

A message from Patsy Whelan, the school Administrator

My association with DNS began way back in 2001 when my eldest daughter, Jessica started at the school. My brother's six children had all come through the school and he couldn't stop raving about the school and staff. In 2002 my youngest daughter, Samantha, joined in Mrs Parsley's class. My 4 years at the school were amazing. My children loved going to school. The caring nature of the staff led to happy, confident children and this confidence and love for learning set them both up to excel in later years. After my girls moved on to primary school it would be another 14 years before my path with the school would cross again. I joined the school as an aftercare teacher in 2018, once Samantha had matriculated and gone on to university. I loved being back at the school. The caring nature of the school was still intact. In 2019 I jumped at the opportunity to move from aftercare to administrator.

The office brought a whole new dimension to the school as I was able to see firsthand how the school was run. Although I don't deal directly with the children, I still get to keep in contact with them. Sometimes the children visit my office for a time - out. Sometimes they just need a hug or a quick chat. Sometimes they drop off their amazing baked goodies or a birthday cupcake. Most of the time I think they just come to visit the school cat, Tai. Whatever the reason these visits are very special to me. I feel very privileged to be part of this amazing family. Happy 70th birthday Dunvegan Nursery School!

A Message from Jessica Whelan

Walking through the familiar grounds of Dunvegan Nursery School is very comforting. I attended this very school as a child. Seeing the playground where I spent countless hours playing on the jungle gyms, browsing through the library for new books, and making new friends brought back a flood of memories. I couldn't help but notice that some things had remained the same, yet others had changed. The warm and welcoming nature of the school was still there. I love seeing my mom interacting with staff and children and nurturing young minds just as the staff had done for me all those years ago.

Looking back, my time at the school was a period that laid the groundwork for my future educational journey. The experiences I had, the friendships I formed and the lessons I learned have all contributed to the person I have become. I am so incredibly grateful to the school for the memories made, as well as to the incredible staff and teachers who helped shape my early years. Congratulations on 70 amazing years!



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Jessica



Jessica at an Easter function at the school

A Message from Samantha Whelan

As Dunvegan Nursery School celebrates an incredible milestone of 70 years, I find myself reminiscing about the fun times I spent there. I attended Dunvegan from 2002 to 2004 where I thrived and laid the foundation for some of my most treasured friendships and memories. Dunvegan has always been a place where friendships blossom. It was on Dunvegan's playground in 2002 that I met one of my best friends. Over two decades later, our friendship remains as strong as ever - so much so that I recently stood beside her on her wedding day. These lifelong friendships are a testament to Dunvegan's unique ability to nurture not just young minds, but also friendships. Amongst some of my fondest memories are the monthly hotdog days, birthday rings, which were always attended by my mom and gran, and the excitement of the bike rallies. These activities were a highlight from my time there. Even years after my time there, Dunvegan continues to have an impact on my family. Seeing my mom return to the school after nearly 14 years has been a reminder of the memories we have made at this place. As Dunvegan Nursery School celebrates its 70th anniversary, I want to congratulate the school on reaching this remarkable milestone and thank them for the wonderful foundation they have provided to so many children over the decades. Happy 70th birthday, Dunvegan!



Samantha & Mrs Parsley



Samantha



Samantha at Bike Rally



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Hotdog Day

The next hotdog day will be on Friday the 30th of May.

Mother's Day Celebration

Moms (or any other significant female) please join us on the 9th of May from 07:30-9:00 am as we celebrate you and your special connection with your little one/s.

Yvonne, our school photographer will be there to take photos.

Jumbo R 55-00

Magnet R 65-00

Digital R 60-00



Slipper Day

30th of May – Slipper Day is hosted by the Reach for a Dream Foundation to raise funds which are used to fulfil the dreams of children with life threatening illnesses. Buy a sticker and wear your slippers to school. You'll also get a FREE Famous Coffee from Wimpy on the day!

All proceeds raised from the day go to Reach for a Dream to help combat the gravity of serious disease by assisting in making children's dreams come true. Whether it's taking a plunge and swimming alongside dolphins, meeting an idol they admire, or getting that new doll house they've always dreamed of – these magical moments grant these youngsters and their families an invaluable respite from daily stressors associated with ill health. But more than anything else, what truly makes this experience special is how fulfilled dreams stir up much-needed courage and hope, helping these little ones believe that tomorrow is worth fighting for.

Extra – Murals

Mondays		
Little Lab Coats 12:00	Nadia	082-349-1481
Wiggle & Jam 12:30	Pascal	074-412-6503
Gymnastics 12:30	Laverne	084-023-1987
Tuesdays		
Build Em Bricks 12:30	Jade	082-903-4333
Wednesday		
Pottery 12:30	Angie	083-258-2804
Soccer Starz 12:30	Shane	084-293-3305
Dance Mouse 12:30	Demi	069 – 523 -9251
Thursdays		



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Karate 12:30	Bradley	082-926-9517
Playfit 12:30		076-795-9415
Friday		
Tumbling Tigerz 12:30	Jane	082-325-1256
Growing Beautiful Minds 12:30	Laura	072-796-7842

Lunchbox Ideas

This month I thought I would share a recipe that is a little more of a treat! Sometimes, a little indulgence is allowed. And with only 4 ingredients, they're quick, easy and you can get the little ones involved too. They freeze well and you can pop one into a lunchbox for an after lunch snack. For a crunchy 'outer' and a soft 'inner biscuit' - gently fold through the self raising flour - don't overmix. Store your Hokey Pokey biscuits in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 5 days (they will soften over this time), or they can be wrapped well in an airtight container and frozen for up to 1 month.

Ingredients

- 60 g unsalted butter
- 115 g (½ cup) golden syrup
- 60 g (½ cup) brown sugar
- 225 g (1½ cup) self-raising flour sifted



Method

1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees celsius (fan-forced). Line 2 baking trays with baking paper and set aside.
2. Place the butter, golden syrup and brown sugar into a microwave-safe bowl and melt on 50% power, stirring each 30 seconds, until melted. Stir until all of the sugar has dissolved. Set aside to cool.
3. Note: Alternatively you can melt the ingredients in a saucepan on the stovetop over low heat.
4. Sift the self-raising flour on top of the melted butter mixture. Stir until a soft dough forms.
5. Form tablespoon sized balls with the dough and place onto the baking trays.
6. Note: If the mixture is too soft to roll into balls, add a little more flour and mix again.
7. Press the dough balls down lightly with a fork.
8. Bake for 10 minutes or until just golden.



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9. Leave on the baking trays for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.
10. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 5 days (the cookies will soften over time but still as delicious!)

Overheard in Class

Child to teacher: "I love Kruger Park. I saw so many animals there." My favourite was the tyrannosaurus rex.

Child to teacher: "Teacher, my glue is gone. I can't find it. It disappeared into the shadows."

Child to teacher: "Teacher, I think I'm getting wisdom teeth."

Teacher: "Why do you think that?"

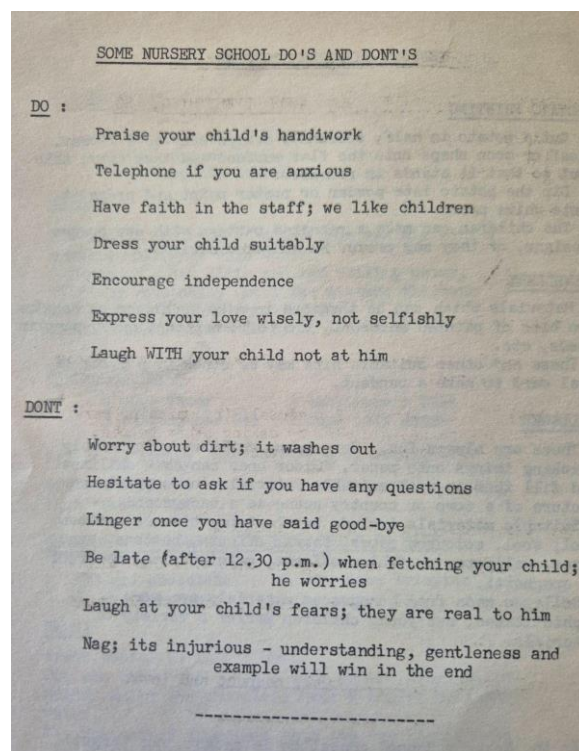
Child to teacher: "Because I'm getting clever. Do wisdom teeth make you clever?"

Thank You!

A big thank you to Lee-Anne and Sophie Greenfield for their generous toy and stationery donation. We have created a beautiful new dolls' corner in the Blue Group with your gorgeous dollies, clothes and accessories. The children are so excited!

Blast from the Past

Page shared in the Dunvegan Nursery School magazine circa 1974. Advice still sound.



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Lost Property

Please mark everything. The children often have similar items of clothing and shoes. Please check the lost property regularly. All unmarked, unclaimed belongings are donated to charity as we are unable to accommodate the large volume. We encourage a sense of responsibility in the children. The teachers remind children to place their own belongings in their lockers or bags, but do not do so for them.

This Month's Dates:

Date	
9 th of May	Mother's Day tea 7:30-9am
23 rd of May	Dog show for the kiddies
28 th of May	Opposites Dress - up Day
30 th of May	Hotdog Day & Slipper Day

This Month's themes	Purple group	Younger Groups	Older groups
5 th – 9 th of May	Wild Animals	Shapes & colours	3D Shapes
12 th – 16 th of May	Wild Animals	Music	Music
19 th – 23 rd of May	Pets	Pollution/Recycling	Pollution/Recycling
26 th – 30 th May	Pets	Opposites	Opposites

We operate on an open-door policy and are more than happy to discuss your child's progress and any questions that you may have. However, it is not always possible for the teachers to chat during the school morning. They are more than happy to make an appointment for a suitable time when they are not busy with the children.

Please feel free to email me on admin@dunvegannurseryschool.co.za or call me on 011-453-7969 should you wish to discuss any matter. If I am not available, I will get back to you as soon as possible.



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Yours sincerely
Cindy Keet
Principal

You have received this newsletter because you have a child who attends our school and we are committed to keeping all parents and/or guardians informed. If, however, you would prefer not to receive any further newsletters from us, please notify the Office Administrator by email: admin@dunvegannurseryschool.co.za.



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