Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We have begun the year with a wonderful start and are thrilled to have Stephanie Olsson and Louise Page to help us continue to provide the best education for our children at Darlington. Our main focus this semester in the classroom will be to improve our reading and spelling levels so that we have a greater percentage of children achieving in the upper two bands of standardised tests. The other item on our improvement agenda is to increase attendance at school so that we have more than 95% of children attending school every day. We all understand that we must not send children to school who are contagious, however absences for other reasons should be kept to a minimum. Every day at school counts. These goals for our improvement agenda are ambitious, however having high expectations for ourselves and for those around us, helps to achieve great things! This year as part of the Improving 4 Success funding we will receive approximately $9000. This money will go towards funding new reading resources for guided reading, staffing for individualised support, our reading eggs and maths on line subscription and finally the IMPACT project which this year will be available to all students in years 4 – 6.

This Friday 4th March at 2:40pm we would like to have our first parade for the year and we would really appreciate if you were able to come and join us. Have a great week.

Claire Roberts
Miss Steph is settling into the classrooms nicely. The children have started learning some very exciting things in science about butterfly life cycles. They even have their own caterpillars to watch go through the transformation from grub to chrysalis to butterfly.
The year 4-6 children had a wonderful experience on their recent trip to Mount Barney Lodge to participate in the new ‘Nature Play’ program. Keep watching for the Creek to Coast program on channel 7 as our seniors will be starring on this show soon!

Run Club has been a big hit with the children training twice a week for the Christmas Creek Cross Country. Well done everyone keep it up! Please complete a parent permission form if you have joined the club recently and wish to continue to improve your fitness for the cross country event next term.
The children will also be entering into the South East Region Principal’s Music Challenge. The children will perform and be recorded for this competition.

Attached is flyer from the Braveheart’s Program which has been organised through our guidance officer to be run on the 8th March 2016 at 10am. This program is designed to educate our children about personal safety and equip them with tools to stay safe. Please read the attachment for more information and we welcome all parents to come and watch the program.

Young Leaders Day for years 4-6 will be on 14th March 2016 with the attached permissions to be returned to the office before then.

We have also been fortunate enough to receive a sporting schools grant of $1800. This will be used to delivery another fun and exciting Dance Fever program in Term 2.

Earn and Learn sporting equipment has been delivered to the school so we are hoping to have the Woolworths team come to our parade on Friday and present the wonderful things we were able to purchase with our stickers.

I do not have all of the Student Cards returned as of yet. I need these back by Thursday at the latest as I need to update all emergency folders at school. Even if there was no change I require the form returned with a signature to be held for audit purposes.

I was asked by some parents to provide a time table of events which are schedules so far for this term. Please put this on your fridges as an easy way of keeping track of daily events.

School Photo’s this year will be in Term 2 week 3 on Wednesday 27th April at 9am.

As you know I have been in contact with Natasha from Pro Performance Tennis. As they were so kind to modify their program to accommodate our school I think it is only fair that we be courteous back. As it stands at the moment very few parents have made payments for their child/ren or returned the form even though it had the fixture prices on it – they still need these returning for their records and insurance purposes. Please return these and make payment ASAP otherwise we will not be able to have the transfer option available to us and everything will be set up as a direct debit from their banking institute.

Please return all permission forms to the office promptly.
AGM Meeting to be held on 14th March 2016 at 3.15pm

**UNIFORMS:** If anyone is requiring more uniforms please contact Jane Hohl on 0404 485 743 by **THURSDAY** as she is placing the order on Friday. From now on there will be only a few uniform orders placed a year as we need quantity to keep the costs down and the school will only be holding a small number of each size shirt going forward. **Please keep this in mind if you need shirts in the near future order now.**

Even our P & C President loves Run Club – GOOOOOO Jody !!!!
Fish Awards

Be There – Nicholas Stephens & Max Hohl
Play – Chevy Agafonoff & Tommy Martens
Choose Your Attitude – Tylar Rogers & Alex McGhee
Make Their Day – Nicholas Stephens & Madison Loweke