



# NORTH EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION



## TERM 4 NEWSLETTER 2024



A learning community  
that stretches  
far and wide



# Term 4 Newsletter 2024

## Contents

Acknowledgement of Country

Principal's message

Poetry Idol House Cup challenge

World Teachers' Day

Band Workshop

Term 4 Muster Days

2024 Presentation Assembly

Semester Two Student Reports

Launching into Learning to start 2025

Coming Up 2025

Contact Us





## Acknowledgement of Country

North East Public School of Distance Education acknowledges the Birpai people of Australia, who are the traditional custodians of the land where our school campus is located and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands where our students and family members are located.



Within the NSW Department of Education and as a NSW public school, we recognise the ongoing custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We celebrate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationship to Country and acknowledge the significance of their cultures in Australia.

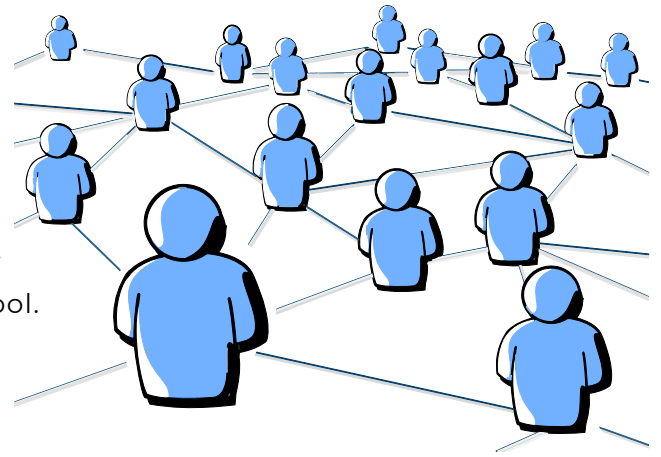


NSW Department of Education 2024

## Principal's Message

Congratulations North East Public School of Distance Education on another fantastic year of *Learning Together*. 2024 was our 20th anniversary as an autonomous Primary Distance Education School.

Our service within the range of services in the NSW Public Schools Education system, has been resilient through sometimes planned and many unexpected changes along the way. Like our community of learners, some aspects of our school culture has remained unchanged, whilst other aspects have been a part of our school for a moment in time.



*Learning Together* has been our school motto for all 20 years of our door being open to every K-6 learner who is eligible to access distance education through the range of enrolment categories. Together we learn the knowledge and skills of the Key Learning Areas. Together we learn how to adapt to our learning environments whether we are home based or travelling. Together we learn to communicate and collaborate with so many students, supervising parents / carers and staff members who become part of our classes and school community.

I have always been proud of being a part of the Public Education system in NSW, believing it can be all things to all students. I am even more proud that NEPSODE as a part of the Public Schools in NSW, can balance the needs of personalised learning for each student, with the art of *Learning Together*. I hope you have had a fabulous 2024 and have a safe and happy holiday break.

Debby Jackson

A scenic photograph of a beach with golden sand, turquoise waves, and a clear blue sky with light clouds. The text 'TAKE a Break' is overlaid on the image in a large, colorful, stylized font. 'TAKE' is in a bold, sans-serif font with each letter in a different color (pink, orange, grey, green). 'a Break' is in a cursive script font, with 'a' in orange and 'Break' in pink.

TAKE  
a Break



Whilst our school community might be made up of many different enrolment category pathways and different learning contexts - the connection to a school community and quality learning opportunities is a constant focus.



Student in the Overseas Travel Enrolment Category

To find out more about our school - please  
contact our office  
02 65841118  
[northeast-d.schools@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:northeast-d.schools@det.nsw.edu.au)



# Term 4 Poetry Idol House Cup Challenge

The term 4 House Cup focus provided students with the opportunity to take part in the annual NEPSODE Poetry Idol challenge.

The challenge offered students a chance to create and perform their own original composition (poem) or recite a published work with the theme of water. Entries were submitted for viewing and after much deliberation the term 4 House Cup team decided upon the finalists. The finalist presentations were showcased and judged during the final school assembly for the year.

This year there were lots of amazing entries and a big congratulations goes to all those students who provided an entry. Thirteen of these high quality entries were selected for the final judging - selecting the winners in each section was certainly a challenge for Mrs Jackson and Mr Newman.

The winners were announced as part of our end of year Presentation Assembly - and we can now share these results.

## Congratulations to:

**Senior Original winner - Toma D**

**Senior Recitation winner - Lily S**

**Junior Original winner - Harrison P**

**Junior Recitation winner - Leo M**



Part of the challenge was to offer opportunity for students to submit artworks related to the 'Water' theme. These are a few samples of the many artworks sent in.



# World Teachers' Day



World Teachers' Day was celebrated in NSW on **Friday 25 October 2024**

World Teachers' Day celebrates quality teaching and inspirational teachers. There are over 170,000 primary, secondary and early childhood teachers working in NSW. The event is an opportunity to recognise all teachers.

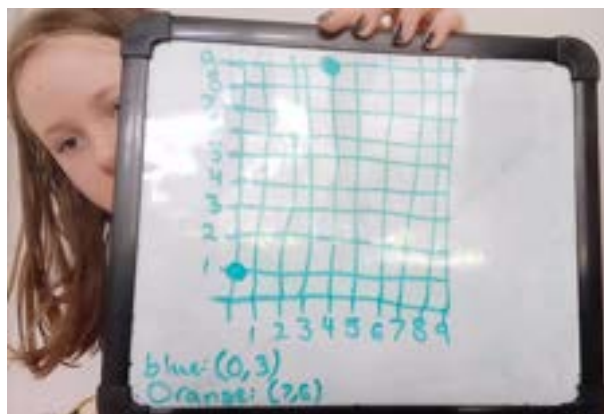
The NEPSODE teachers (and administration team) are fortunate to work in a setting where the connections with students and parents / carers is visible on a daily basis. We would therefore like to also acknowledge the amazing support and partnership provided by the parents / carers and think that in our school context, this recognition day should include our DE Supervisors.

A big thank you to our wonderful administration team for surprising the teachers with lots of tasty treats.





## Some samples of Term 4 learning contexts in our Community





# Semester Two Student Reports

## ***The NSW Department of Education Reporting to Parent Information***

*Reporting is a core responsibility of teachers and a key phase of the teaching and learning cycle. The reporting process is one avenue for teachers to reflect on individual and class achievement and can provide clarity on future directions.*

*Teacher judgements about student achievement should be based on quality evidence. The evidence used by teachers to make that judgement can include results from formative and summative assessments as well as teacher observations.*

*Schools can keep parents and carers informed on their child's progress between the formal reporting periods through a range of approaches. For example, this can occur through formal parent-teacher interviews, as part of the collaborative curriculum planning process, or informally via emails, phone calls and online collaboration tools.*

*Sourced from the NSW Department of Education.*

## **The NEPSODE Context**

We are fortunate in our school context to be working side by side with our DE Supervisors and therefore our teachers are in regular and constant communication regarding student learning and progress towards personalised learning goals.

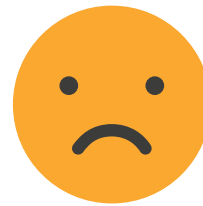
Our teachers gather and reflect on a range of feedback and data sources to summarise a student's performance and engagement against the appropriate syllabus standards. It is important to note that the degree a student engages in their learning and the regularity of the communication and feedback they provide to their class teacher, can effect the way our teachers are able to produce the required in-depth student report - ready to share with parents / carers. The teachers will always do their best to provide an accurate and professional reflection but this is greatly assisted with the partnership and engagement from our DE Supervisors and students.

Parents / caregivers should receive these reports at the end of week 10 Term 4. If you have any questions related to the student reports, please contact the school to discuss with the class teacher. For further detail about the reporting structure and requirements please see the link provided below.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/reporting-to-parents>



# Student Learning and Engagement



In a regular mainstream school student attendance is a constant focus and students in the mainstream context are noted as attending if they physically turn up to the school site.

In DE and specifically in North East Public School of Distance Education (NEPSODE) - the focus is on student engagement in their learning. This requires students to provide regular feedback to their teacher and demonstrate quality engagement and participation in the learning opportunities provided.

This engagement and participation can be evident in many different forms depending on a student's learning context and the personalised learning design. The photos included are two examples of feedback and engagement on show from some of our students.

A couple of wonderfully creative AI generated original book covers to go with a narrative a Yr6 student wrote and an example of a synchronous literacy based lesson for a student in the Australian Travel Category.





# Band and Parent / Carer Art Workshop

Students who were able to join us for the face to face Band Workshop had an opportunity to participate in full day of tutoring with Mt Pole, Mrs Jackson, Ms Geihe and Mr Hinton at the Laurieton Band Hall. The NEPSODE band works hard through the year with students attending individual lessons remotely and then coming together only a few times each year to perform as a group. A special mention for Mr Pole our band coordinator and tutor for not only managing the workshop as part of Muster, but the consistent support provided for our students throughout the year.



Our Term 4 Muster Days included an opportunity for parents / carers to touch base and participate in a planned art workshop. The goals of these school community moments are to provide a means of connecting as a school community and establish a networking opportunity with other parents / carers in an informal and inclusive way.



The art workshop offered a chance for parents / carers (and Mrs Jackson and admin staff) to express their 'creativity' and produce art pieces related to an aspect of the NEPSODE context. While we recognise that our school community does indeed stretch 'far and wide', the focus on building a sense of community remains as a key area of focus for our school. These face to face opportunities are just one of many ways we embed this focus in what we do.

The completed canvases will be now on show within the school - so if visiting you may get see these creative pieces for yourself :)







# Term 4 Muster Days



The Term 4 Muster was all about HOBBIES.

Over the course of two days the students designed, created, built, painted, glued, collaborated, shared, tested and played a wide range of hobby-related games and learning tasks. There were hobbies ranged from old fashioned playground games such as marbles and elastics to creating tick tac toe from clay, and the potting of the students' very own bonsai trees.

Some of our Stage 3 students took on leadership roles and did really well in planning and running sessions for the rest of the students. These included a focus on Zines (mini magazines), lego design and guided drawing.

Morning tea and lunch time presented a chance to test out some of the hobbies / games and the giant jump rope and hopscotch were especially popular.

Thanks to all the teachers and admin staff for the organisation and running of these Muster Days and to our parents / caregivers and students for being a part of these busy face to face days.





# 2024 Presentation Assembly



The 2024 Presentation Day Assembly took place as part of our Term 4 Muster.

To accommodate our students, family members and our staff, we needed to use an off site venue to run this celebratory school moment. Rydges of Port Macquarie was used as the location for this year's presentation.

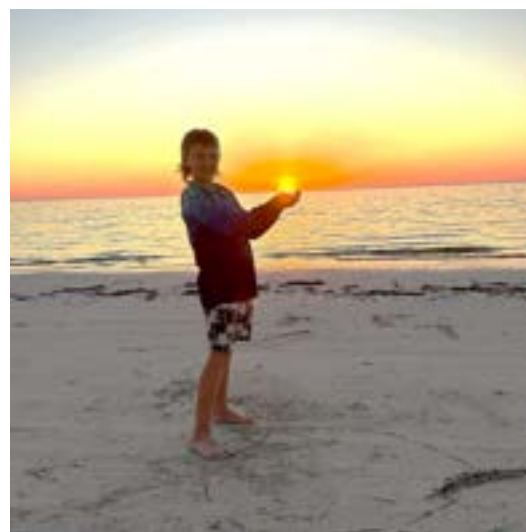
The presentation assembly is an opportunity as a school community to look back and celebrate student achievements over the year. It also provides a moment to acknowledge the DE Supervisors and the important partnerships they create with the school. Well done to our NEPSODE band for an enthusiastic performance - an impressive job considering this is one of the few moments of all being in the same place to perform as a group. A special congratulations to Peta Collins for her impressive solo performance.

Our attending Year 6 students had an opportunity to say farewell to primary school with streamers, a graduation Bear and cake. Year 6 students not able to be present were provided their own graduation pack to celebrate with us remotely.

After all the points were tallied from the range of House Cup Challenges throughout the year - The 2024 House Cup was awarded to EAST House! Congratulations - we are looking forward to continued friendly house cup competition for 2025.



# Learning contexts at NEPSODE





# launching into Learning



During the last few weeks of term 4 we need to begin planning for the start of the new school year. During this time, our teachers are still managing and supporting their current class of students while looking ahead to the start of the next year. This planning for the start of the new year is needed to make sure our students are engaged and supported in their learning as of day 1 term 1 2025.

The planning is a balancing act for our school as we are looking forward to welcoming continuing students as well as those students just starting with us. We also need to adjust to some changed staffing structures as some staff take planned leave and other staff rejoin us after returning from leave.

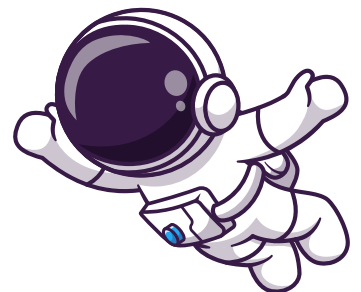
To make sure that all students are well supported through quality syllabus-aligned learning opportunities, we are providing our Launch Into Learning design that will run for the first 2 weeks (and 2 days) for the start of Term 1 2025.

This learning has been designed by our teachers at the end of 2024 and is structured to support meaningful learning covering all key learning areas (KLAs). Students will find out who their class teacher is day 1 Term 1 2025 and their teacher will be providing individual support and guidance related to the Launch Into Learning sequence.

We are looking forward to lots of great learning feedback for teachers as we 'blast off' into the new school year.

When you receive the launch Into Learning packs and look to begin this as of day 1 Term 1 2025 - please make sure to ask if there are any questions. Your class teacher will be ready to work side by side with the students through the process.

Office contact 02 65841118





## Exploring and learning within the NEPSODE community





# Important Dates for TERM 1 2025

## Coming Up For Term 1 2025



Here are some important dates and events to make note of for Term 1 2025.

- Students start Thursday 6th Feb
- Launch into Learning packs - 12 days of learning for the first 3 learning weeks of the year
- Best Start Kindy assessments run during the first half of term 1
- Term 1 House Cup Challenge (Theme to be advised)
- NAPLAN assessment window runs week 7 and 8 term 1
- Harmony Day is Fri 21st March

For more detail about any upcoming event or opportunity please contact our office.

Ph 02 65841118

Email [northeast-d.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:northeast-d.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



# We welcome enquiries, questions and feedback



## Contact Us

For enquiries please contact our school.

**Phone**  
02 6584 1118

**Email**  
[northeast-d.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:northeast-d.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Website**  
[northeast-d.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://northeast-d.schools.nsw.gov.au)

**Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/northeastpublicschool>

**NSW Education Parent App / Free download from Apple or IOS stores**



**NEPSODE Website QRcode**



NOTICE ON MATERIAL REPRODUCED OR COMMUNICATED UNDER STATUTORY TEXT AND ARTISTIC LICENCE  
FORM OF NOTICE FOR PARAGRAPH 135ZX(a) OF  
COPYRIGHT ACT 1968  
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
Copyright Regulations 1969  
WARNING

This material has been reproduced and communicated to you by or on behalf of NEPSODE pursuant to Part VB of the Copyright Act 1968 (the Act).

The material in this communication may be subject to copyright under the Act. Any further reproduction or communication of this material by you may be the subject of copyright protection under the Act.

Do not remove this notice.