Jesse Tait - An Olympian in the making

Jesse, a Year 4 student at QDE, knows what it is to dream big and then work hard to achieve his goal of being part of the Australian Olympic team in the future. He has set the bar high and is aiming for it in every way. He not only aspires to do well in his chosen field but he also has some learning goals which he would like to achieve in 2016. With these in mind, he is forging ahead and is motivated to do his best. Every child can connect, succeed and thrive at school and beyond. We can focus on giving our students a voice; to be active learners who develop strong character qualities to enable them to succeed, thrive and contribute positively throughout their lives to their families, their communities and their world. How lucky are we to have a hand in this process in 2016.

See you next year from all of us at QDE
The Queanbeyan Distance Education 2015 Yearbook is now being formatted and compiled and will be be sent to student DET email addresses. Some of you will receive a copy in your Dropboxes. There are some funny tales and pictures, travel photos and the like. Please enjoy reading about yourselves, your teachers and your fellow school friends. A huge thank you goes to all who tried and used the templates which was not an easy feat. Thanks to all.

QDE Web-based learning sites are open for all students to use over the holidays. Enjoy

Look around...under the bed, in the cupboard, behind the lounge and send all USBs and resources back to school....

We have a great number of bags out with families and very few with us here. We need them back!!!! Please return them to the DE even if it’s after holidays have begun. They are needed for 2016. USBs are out aplenty.......please return!!
**Hi there Distance Education families from**

**Charlie Ward in Year 3**

**My Bali Blog**
**23 of September 2015 - 24 October 2015**

Our first week in Bali was good. I got to see my poppy John and Yuni and my uncle Liam. We also spent a lot of days on the beach with our Bali friends I done a lot of surfing. We went to the skate park and the water park. I love being back in Bali because it’s fun at the hotels and playing at the beach so I can improve my surfing.

The second week in Bali my best friend Marley and his family arrived, my Dads friends arrived the next day also.

We all caught the boat to Nusa Lembongan and we stayed on the island for a week in our friend house. We ride on motorbikes, went snorkeling, we went surfing, lots and lots of swimming and adventures around the island.
Our third week in Bali we were back on the main land and staying at the Casa Padma. We went to the safari park which was amazing because there was this truck and we went inside the truck and drove through Africa, Asia and Indonesia so we drove around and were minters away from some of the deadliest animals like lions, Tigers, Bears, Hippos, Monkeys, Elephants, Rhinos, Giraffes, Zebra and a lot of different types of Deer’s and other animals.

We also went to the water park again it was cool because I had my friend with me and it was not the holidays so we didn’t have to line up very long and I went on every ride even the trap door rides and the flow rider.

It was also sad having to say goodbye to my best friend. Hope you’ve enjoyed my blog from Charlie

Your fees for 2016

Among other student purchases, your paid fees allow your students to access online learning sites. Please pay your fees at the beginning of the school year so that there is no interruption to your student’s online subscriptions. We have endeavoured to keep the fees as low as possible.

The fees are:

For each student resident in NSW or travelling in Australia = $50 per 12 month period or part thereof depending on length of enrolment. Each student living temporarily or travelling overseas and receiving work wholly electronically or through diplomatic post = $50 per 12 month period or part thereof. Each student living temporarily or travelling overseas and receiving work via the post = $100 per term.

A resource deposit for newly enrolled students of $50 is held in trust and refunded on the return of all resources.

Please Direct Deposit your fees to

Bank name: Westpac Bank
Account name: Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre Administration Account
BSB Number: 032-001
Account Number: 16-7845

Further information about fees can be obtained by contacting the office on (02) 62992966.

Kids Matter

Australian Primary Schools Mental Health Initiative

You can continue to access a wealth of information directly from the Kids Matter site through our homepage. Topics on family issues, child behaviour and emotions are readily available, are short, to the point practical. You may have time over the holiday period to make yourself familiar with this site so you can draw on it if and when the time or occasion arises. Go to http://www.queanbeyan-d.schools.nsw.edu.au/supervisor-support
**Children’s holiday reading**

**Kids – experience reading joy!**

Research has shown that all children experience reading joy where they can immerse themselves in the narratives of all sorts. Conversely, they experience loss of reading skill if they don’t read over the summer holiday vacation. You can maintain your child’s reading skills if you encourage daily reading.

Suggestions for holiday reading are:
- To borrow from your local library and
- Parents – read with your children daily.
- Purchase a magazine that is of interest to your child or
- Re-read favourite books that may be at home.

Children of all ages love to have stories read to them. Reading chapter story books on a daily basis is something for your child to look forward to. Listening to a story being read is fully engaging. If your child is already an avid reader, make sure there is plenty of reading material available and time made for reading in a busy day. As parents, if you like to relax with a book or magazine, encourage your child to do the same especially when having down time indoors.

**Happy holiday reading to all**

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**During the hols make sure you...**

**Play creatively and curiously**

It’s not surprising why people are drawn to play. Psychologists say fun is a basic human need. When we are having a great time we are energised. When we are enjoying ourselves we are in the moment. Play **cubbies** or use lots of things in the **sandpit**. Play **water games** or make some **Goop** or **Slime**. These recipes can be readily found on the web and are so much fun.

**Play mathematically**

- Play board games or computer based games together.
- Talk about how mathematical ideas (especially chance and data) can be used to play a game, as well as develop successful strategies.

**Chess, Tic Tac Toe, Snakes and Ladders** and **Ludo** are great and children love board games. They are really about building family bonds. Play **Boggle**! It’s Eloise’s favourite. It’s a word game but requires quick thinking and strategy and it’s two birds with one stone. It’s heaps of fun and Max never wins!

**Play musically**

- Listen to music together and sing to your heart’s content. You may have **Karaoke** or a few CDs that you love to **sing and dance** to. Music lightens the heart and is a great way to learn to develop a sense of beat, rhythm, harmony, pitch. The list is endless when it comes to music. Did you know that musical ability is linked closely with mathematical ability? Well, now you do!
students do lots of things

Liam Potter – also a great cook

Angelina Scarth-Johnson rock climbing

Natalia Guarnaccia and her family at Lake Como

Lyndal with the Rawlings family in Alice Springs

Chaelee Short after the big one!

Charlie Heness loves building!
The QDE app is has arrived

Download it today!

It’s for all devises – for iPhone, iPad, Android & Windows App - Email Subscriptions

Please download our new enews app. Then go to the subscribe tab and register to receive newsletters, notes and other specific and periodic information via email and also access information and receive push alerts via our new Queanbeyan Distance Education enews app.

So that you can be up-to-date and informed, We would prefer that you receive the news electronically as there are many advantages in doing so including:

- easy and direct reminders straight to your email account;
- simple to use mobile apps with alerts;
- your child can’t forget or lose the newsletter;
- access to the newsletter if your child is absent from school;
- reduced photocopying and administration time costs to the school; and
- supporting our global environmental initiatives

Get school news via our app AND receive instant alerts!

For an iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch app - Open the App store, search for Queanbeyan Distance
For an Android app - Open the Play store, search for Queanbeyan Distance
For a Windows and Windows Phone app - Open Windows Store, search for School Enews

Subscribe to receive emails

1. Visit our website - www.queanbeyp-d.schools.nsw.edu.au
2. Click the Notes and Newsletters heading (top menu)
3. Under the Subscribe heading, tick on the Newsletters list and appropriate other lists
4. Enter in your name and email address
5. Click Subscribe
6. IMPORTANT: An email will be sent to your email address, you MUST click Activate Now which is in the email sent to you. You’re done and ready for 2016

This is the image you will see once you have downloaded to ipad and android devices

Nicholas Hedger has again, blitzed the scores not only at QDE but in the state. Max, his teacher, says the gains have been huge for Nicholas in his literacy and numeracy learning. Good on you Nicholas. You’ve got the edge now. Be savvy and do yourselves a big favour and do at least 3 sessions a week on Skoolbo and you too will notice a big difference in how much easier things like spelling, recall of times tables, identifying English words and using them will become.

Keep going on Skolbo we say!! If you don’t know your login details, ask your teacher.
A few reminders for the new year

Download the QDE app

QDE enews app is ready for your device in preparation for all the news and views in 2016. Keep up-to-date and keep informed about everything. Push notifications (if you tick to receive these) will alert you to things you will need to know. Please find and follow the instructions in this newsletter. It’s an exciting step forward for us.

Who’s in whose class? We won’t really know this until the first week back in 2016.

Our DE student enrolment fluctuates; particularly at the end and then beginning of each year. Your student’s teacher will be in contact with you as early as possible in the new school year. Many thanks for your patience.

Where your student has online learning programmed for them, it is expected that it will be completed. It isn’t an optional extra.

It constitutes learning for your child. If you are unable to access the online databases as you are directed for any reason, please negotiate change with you’re the DE teacher. Online databases are up and running during the holidays. Please continue with Skoolbo.

Mark the Maths every day There’s not much point in going on if the next day’s work is incorrect and not understood. That’s why answers are supplied to supervisors.

After each daily session of maths learning, supervisors are expected to mark the work with the student. Immediate correction of work is necessary so that a problem can be identified before proceeding to any further maths learning. Answers are provided to supervisors for this purpose. Students are encouraged to show their working out at all times.

Pack your work up properly!!

No more ‘throw it in the bag’ – upside-down, screwed up, pages without names and all mixed in together! It’s a bit of a nightmare sometimes. Take time to organise it with care. When returning work to school please do it respectfully. The program sheet is to be returned with the corresponding, highlighted set work underneath it. Place it in the plastic bag provided or whi the rubber band around it. This is important and helps delineate where more than one student’s work is returned in the same parcel. Please only complete the work in the set for the fortnight.

USBs are sent so you can use these to upload student work. They are to be returned with each set.
**2016 School Calendar**

TERM 1 - 11 weeks  
Thursday, 28 January 2016 – Friday, 8 April 2016  
(Staff Development Day on Wednesday 27 January 2016)

TERM 2 – 10 weeks  
Wednesday, 27 April 2016 – Friday, 1 July 2016  
(Staff Development Day on Tuesday, 26 April 2016)

TERM 3 – 10 weeks  
Tuesday, 19 July 2016 – Friday, 23 September 2016  
(Staff Development Day on Monday 18 July 2016)

TERM 4 – 10 weeks  
Tuesday, 11 October 2016 – Friday, 16 December 2016  
(Staff Development Days on Monday, 19 December and Tuesday 20 December 2016)

NB: Staff Development Days are teacher meeting days. Students do not attend school on staff development days. Staff are also not available by phone on these days.
We want to say a very big thank you to all supervisors who have given countless hours to the education of young people. In general ‘education’ literature, you will be thrilled to know you don’t even get a mention and so we shout it from the rooftops here – Thank you and thank you again for your dedication and friendship. We applaud you for the very necessary job you do out there.

Have a happy holiday and thank you to all students, supervisors and parents from all of us at Queanbeyan Distance Education Centre

Eloise Julie Ryan Gillian Max Lyndal Michelle Jo Petah Kathy Natalie Isabel and Vicki
For holiday thinking about - a verse so true

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.

If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.

If children live with cruelty, they learn to be shy.

If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.

If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.

If children live with patience, they learn to feel courage.

If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.

If children live with fairness, they learn to appreciate.

If children live with security, they learn to have faith.

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.

If children live with acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love.

“Children Learn What They Live”
Dorothy Law Nolte

Institute for Safe Families
Health Partners
Health Foundation

www.institute4safefamilies.org