Dear Parents and Friends,

The School Association would like to thank all who attended this morning’s meeting. This information sheet is to outline some of the issues discussed and to share some ways to help make a positive difference in our school community.

Our Principal Jeanagh Viney shared some areas where the recently announced budget cuts will specifically affect our staff and students at Deloraine Primary School. The changes are as follows:

- Several teachers will lose their teaching positions, or have a reduction in their teaching load.
- Larger class sizes – between 24 and 29 students as beginning numbers
- No learning support teacher
- We will have 2 days of PE rather than 3 – effects on our swimming program
- There will be an increase in the teaching load for Senior staff
- We will have less capacity to have programs/activities such as CELO, SRC, Aussie Sports Leaders etc
- A reduction in Library technician hours
- A limited capacity to continue Musical activities and Bands
- Most teacher assistants will have their hours reduced.
- Most teacher assistants will be required to have a greater student learning focus
- Reduction in support for classroom resources (e.g. laminating, art gallery etc.)

This is a difficult situation for all Tasmanian schools and the effects of these budget cuts will be widespread and long lasting. As a school community we can constructively share our views with those involved making these decisions.

If you wish to write a letter expressing your views you may direct them to your local member of parliament or the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Education Union.

You may also wish to visit the Facebook page of the *Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations*. They regularly post information about issues that affect school communities and also provide details of public information sessions.

Deloraine Primary School has always had a strong and supportive school community and we encourage all parents, carers and friends to continue in these efforts. We have attached a pamphlet entitled *Get Involved in Your Child’s Education* which outlines some of the positive ways we as parents and carers can make a difference during our children’s school experience.

If you wish to further discuss any of the matters raised in our meeting please contact the School Association via the office or schedule a time to speak with Ms Viney.

Thank you again for your support. We wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday season and look forward to an exciting year of opportunities ahead.

Sincerely
Suzanne Walters
Deloraine Primary School Association