Why have new giant Murals been painted on Kavney Hall?
They have been painted as part of the Dalby SS School Wide Positive Behaviour program. This is to encourage students to make positive behaviour choices and also follow our school values of Respect, Safety and Learning. The emu in the paintings is the school mascot.

What is the significance of the animals chosen to be part of the murals
Eddie the emu has been an icon in the past. Eddie has always been linked with our behaviour program. He symbolises our motto: ‘Ever Onwards’ because emus cannot walk backwards. We should all look to the future and be better tomorrow than we were yesterday.

By Grace Butters

Who painted the new murals and why?
Mr Graeme McCullough, a local artist and sign writer, painted the murals. He has previously painted other murals at our school. Mr McCullough has a strong connection to our school as his children attended Dalby SS.

What do you hope the students will get from the murals?
Students will understand the importance of following our school values and that everyone takes a positive stand around making good behaviour choices in our school.

35 years of Darling Downs School Sport.
Dalby State School’s Darling Downs representatives recently attended a breakfast function in Kavney Hall to celebrate 35 years of Darling Downs School Sport. Pictured with the guest speaker, former Bronco Darren Burns, are our school’s DD reps (front from left) touch footballers Cameron Marini, Kaylee Fermor and Karla Sankey (back row) Darren Burns, Keanu Dunrobin (rugby league), Sam Rasmussen (rugby league) and Jake Rynne (swimming).
Mr Hordern’s Wriggly Worms

We interviewed Mr Hordern about the fantastic worm farm at our school!

Why do we have a worm farm at school?
We have it so we can reuse all the waste from students’ lunches and the tuckshop. (Fruit and vegie scraps)

What do you use the worm farm for?
We use it to collect worm tea and worm castings so that we can fertilize our vegetables.

Since we got the worm farm has the quality of the vegetables improved?
Yes. Last year we had a very hard time growing stuff however this year we have had an abundance of produce.

How often do you feed the worms?
Daily

What sorts of vegetables have been grown because of the worms?
We have a variety of broccoli, cauliflower, sugar snap peas, snow peas, spinach and spring onions.

From here what are your plans for the future?
We are currently planting an orchard that we are planning to use the worm tea on, which we hope will teach the students how to grow quality fruit and veg.

Was the worm farm expensive?
We were lucky to receive a grant from Arrow Energy which has enabled us to purchase a worm farm with the growing space of a cubic meter.

Are you planning to install any more things like the worm farm?
If we can receive more funds we would love to install an aquaponics plantation so that we could grow plants in water instead of soil. This would mean that we could grow a larger variety of vegetables.

As you can see, our school has been very lucky to have been able to install this worm farm thanks to Arrow Energy! We can’t wait to taste all the yummy produce Mr Hordern and his helpers have grown!

In October 2012 Dalby State School commenced LIFT Playgroup. Our LIFT (Learning is Fun Together) Playgroup has been a HUGE success with lots of new families attending each term. We are really excited by how popular it has been and love meeting new families as well as welcoming back our regular families each week.

LIFT runs on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday. The aim of our playgroup is to provide wonderful learning activities but have fun in a safe play environment for children from birth to five years. On Fridays Mr Music Man visits our LIFT families and provides parents and children with a fun filled music session.

Mrs Amos said “I love seeing all the children each week, watching them grow and build in confidence. It is a great social atmosphere for families. Watching children being creative with craft activities, outside play and music is rewarding.”

Last year our school launched LIFT OFF. LIFT OFF is our very own Pre Prep Program aimed at getting children ready for learning at Dalby State School. Our pre prep program happens on a Wednesday and Thursday and is run by Mrs Allen and Mrs Amos. This term parents have attended with their child but next term children will stay by themselves in preparation for transition to Dalby State School Prep.

Mrs Allen said “Helping children transition from home or kindergarten to school is important as well as starting them on an exciting journey for learning.”

Dalby State School is pleased to be part of so many young children’s lives. We enjoy watching parents and children have loads of fun playing with others and making new friends while learning. Really, Learning is Fun Together at Dalby State School.

By Nancy Brown