Our school at a glance

Dalton Public School is an excellently resourced small school located approximately half way between Yass and Goulburn in NSW.

Students

For 2012, 15 students were enrolled at the school. We had a mix of ages from kindergarten through to year 6: one year 1 student, five year 2 students, a year three student, two year 4 and six year 6 students.

Staff

The teaching Principal, Mr Dominic Jones was supported by Mrs Suzi Shaw in the classroom three days a week and by Mrs Kerry Foran one day a week. Mrs Shaw also provided learning support, library and computer instruction. Mrs Dinah Walker also supported the school every Friday as the Learning Support person and Mrs Michelle Manuatu was our Reading Recovery teacher throughout 2012.

Mrs Kerry England has been at the school for three hours each week as a specialist music teacher. We have the services of an excellent GA, Mr Richard Rayner, one day per week and access to a school counsellor when needed. Mrs June Pye has given the school 35 years of excellent service as our cleaner.

Significant programs and initiatives

Priority School Funding Program

Funding from PSFP has been used for staffing. This initiative allowed us to focus on individual needs in literacy, particularly writing, much more closely and engage students more successfully. It has allowed us to reach our goals in the school plan confidently in relation to literacy, in particular discussion writing, expositions and creative writing.

Messages

Principal’s message

2012 was a year of progress and success across the board at Dalton Public School.

If you look at the school setting for example, you only have to look as far as the school bush block where we’ve been proactive in our approach to maintaining and sustaining it. The long term plan is to turn it into an educational facility for the students and the community. We have developed solid relationships with Landcare and Greening Australia and with their help, we will be able to continue looking after it, by getting odd jobs done such as replacing the fence and putting together resource packages based on the plant and animal life.

We will also have up and running new solar panels installed on the BER classroom next year. This will hopefully reduce the schools electricity bills allowing us to put more money in our pocket to be used for educational purposes. The solar panels have generated some interest amongst the students and will give them first-hand knowledge of the processes involved in the use of solar energy.

The same measure of progress and success this year was evident in the school programs. For the first time, we’ve been able to offer individual music tuition through the Goulburn Conservatorium of Music. This came to fruition at the end of the year when the Dalton School ensemble performed at the Conservatorium to a full house.

The PBS (Positive Behaviour in Schools program) has been a vehicle for us to lay foundations for the core values of respect and responsibility across the school with all staff involved in this process.

The students have also progressed and succeeded immeasurably, by pushing...
themselves out of the comfort zones and daring to learn and do new things.

This was evident when Luke Miller read his own ANZAC poem in front of 250 people on ANZAC Day in Gunning and when Samantha Poidevin, Miki Thorneycroft and Brynn Matthews participated in the Lions Club Public Speaking competition. Samantha and Miki won their category while Brynn did exceptionally well.

These are examples of small and large successes that were celebrated in 2012. I’d like to also thank the staff for their pivotal role they have played in the small or large successes and progressions this year. I look forward to working with you in 2013.

I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school’s achievements and areas for development.

Dominic Jones

P & C message
Presidents Annual Report for 2012

2012 was another busy and successful year for the Dalton Public School P&C Association. We had an active membership of 15 parents.

We raised money through:
- Catering at the Gunning/Dalton athletics carnival
- Raffling a quilt donated by the Matthews family
- Selling fundraising chocolates
- Selling glow products at the Gunning Fireworks Festival
- Wood raffles and auctions donated by the Jones-Dowling family
- Spring Fair/Open Day.

Help with our fundraising came from the local community, including a donation from Greendale Uniting Church; cake and egg donations from local ladies and the Dalton/Gunning Uniting Church for the Spring Fair; sponsorship of the Spring Fair by the Dalton Post Office, Medway’s Garage and the Royal Dalton Hotel; and display of raffle quilt and ticket sales by the Dalton Post Office and the Gunning Merino Café.

Funds were used to pay for:
- Student and volunteer insurance
- An excursion to Canberra for a visit to the theatre, including a behind-the-scenes tour
- Postage on Good Samaritan boxes
- Sewing supplies, a camera and an answering machine
- A couch, ottomans and cushions for the library
- A set of sporting tops for students and teachers
- Books for the school and for students on Presentation Night.

We have shown that even for a small school, when we have such committed parents and a supportive local community, great things are possible. I would like to thank the 2012 committee for their hard work and look forward to the 2013 school year.

Kath Vivas
President, Dalton Public School P&C, 2012
**Student representative’s message**

I love Dalton Public School because the people are great and we all get along so well. My favourite activity is tennis and our coach is Kevin. We also do a lot of other activities such as “My Kitchen Rules”, dance, sewing and school excursions.

Mr Jones is one of the best teachers because he joins in with everything we do and Mrs Shaw organises fun events such as the swimming carnival and athletics carnival, but the best day was the bike day where we learnt the road rules so we could be safe on the road.

Mrs Foran is a special person who is always there to help out. She looks after us when we hurt ourselves or when we are upset. She does a great job in the office.

Miki Thorneycroft (Year 6 student representative)

**School context**

**Student information**

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all students must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

**Student enrolment profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Structure of classes**

All students were taught in the new classroom by Mr Dominic Jones in a multi-stage classroom setup on Mondays and Fridays. Mrs Suzi Shaw worked three days a week in a supportive role teaching the K-2 group sharing the teaching load.

**Student attendance profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>96.8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>98.0</td>
<td>98.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>73.7</td>
<td>89.4</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>88.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>93.6</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>71.3</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>89.4</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>90.1</td>
<td>96.3</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Management of non-attendance**

Both informal and formal strategies are used in an effort to maximize student attendance. If students are not at school and it is of concern, direct contact is made with parents and formal reminders are sent home if absences are unexplained. The Home School Liaison Officer is contacted if there are no improvements.

**Staff information**

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all staff must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

**Staff establishment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Emotional Disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Reading Recovery</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of ESL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The National Education Agreement requires schools to report on Indigenous composition of their workforce.
Staff retention

During 2012, there was one change to the staffing arrangement already in place at Dalton School. Kerry Foran returned to the school as the permanent SAM.

Teacher qualifications

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial summary

This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary</th>
<th>30/11/2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>90,340.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>44,039.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>20,048.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>4,509.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>3,508.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>1,245.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>163,690.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditure**

Teaching & learning
- Key learning areas: 15,003.25
- Excursions: 624.27
- Extracurricular dissections: 4,374.07
- Library: 7,463.36
- Training & development: 1,422.26
- Tied funds: 16,903.72
- Casual relief teachers: 849.47
- Administration & office: 9,464.18
- School-operated canteen: 0.00
- Utilities: 6,745.01
- Maintenance: 17,121.49
- Trust accounts: 1,245.05
- Capital programs: 11,655.62
- **Total expenditure**: 92,871.75
- **Balance carried forward**: 70,818.87

A full copy of the school’s 2012 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

Phil Jones helps out at the Cross Country carnival

**School performance, education and achievements 2012**

School Culture – PBS

(Positive Behaviour in Schools Program)

From the beginning of 2012, the school culture at Dalton changed dramatically. All staff at the school agreed that the core values of Respect and Responsibility should be the backbone of the school culture. It had such a huge positive impact on all students, staff, parents and community.

Music

Mrs Kerry England continued to teach group music lessons every Wednesday to all students. Her dedication and calming attitude mixed with her love of music, always makes her lessons interesting and fun.
All students also had one-on-one music tuition with the instrument of their choice. This was done through the Goulburn Regional Conservatorium. Some of the instruments students chose were piano, trumpet and the violin. This is the first time private tuition has ever been offered at Dalton in music and it has been a huge success as previously families would have to travel to Goulburn for the same tuition.

Dance
Dance lessons were once again enjoyed by all students during term 2 and term 4. Students performed one of their dances on stage at the Goulburn Community of Public Schools (GCOPS) concert in front of 300 people in August.

Public Speaking
2012 was a remarkable year for Dalton School at the Lions Club Public Speaking competition in Gunning. Our three entrants, Brynn Matthews (Yr 3) Miki Thornycroft (Yr 5) and Samantha Poidevin (Yr 6) competed against students from four other small schools.

Brynn achieved a second place, while Miki and Samantha both won their categories.

Anzac Day
Anzac Day 2012 was evidence of outstanding student and community participation in the Anzac Day March. All students marched and carried the flag proudly representing their school and community.

The standout was Luke Miller (Yr 5) who read out his own Anzac poem in front of a crowd of 250 people. Congratulations Luke, an outstanding effort.

Anzac Day
There, there the ANZACS are there, 
Marching to war for our welfare.

One by one they went to fight, 
For our country with all their might.

They did us proud the battle was long, 
And today we play their Remembrance song.

LUKE MILLER (YEAR 5)

Sport / PDHPE
Swimming
Our strength across the pool in all events at the Dalton / Gunning swimming carnival was testament to our student participation. Every student participated and did so competitively bringing home a very close second spot to Gunning. It is always a successful and enjoyable day.
Athletics

Students always love participating in the athletics carnival because it is one of the enjoyable challenges that students encounter once a year. This year there were some standout performances from students such as Samantha Poiyev in the 100 metres and Luke Miller in the shot put.

Ned Jones wins the 100 metres at the athletics carnival

Tennis

Tennis lessons with Kevin Murphy continued throughout 2012 for every student, paid for by the school. Kevin is an excellent coach and a fantastic person to have mentoring the students because he teaches the students so much more than tennis. Students always look forward to lessons with Kevin as they often win prizes for improving and Kevin puts on a BBQ lunch at the end of term.

Sewing

Parents contributed to the school in many ways during 2012 and sewing was one area where parents and students worked together on a project. Special thanks to Kath Vivas and Kahli Weir who worked with students to make a small bean bag each which can be used as a heat pack and also a personalised sewing picture of their choice. Students experienced using both a sewing machine as well as hand sewing.

Cooking

In 2012, students participated in the first Dalton cooking competition where students paired up and created a meal of their choice from scratch. Students were given a time limit and when finished, had to present their dishes to the staff judges.

Multicultural Education

Dalton School continues to provide programs to educate all students about Aboriginal history, culture and contemporary Aboriginal Australia. Aboriginal perspectives are taught across all grades K-6, predominantly through the HSIE syllabus and are included in relevant assessment tasks.

GCOPS (Goulburn Community of Public Schools)

Students had the opportunity to meet other students from the Goulburn area whilst attending the GCOPS concert. Dalton students participated in the choir and also contributed their own dance routine which included all students from Years 3-6 in a hip-hop routine.

Dalton Spring Fair

The community involvement at the Dalton Spring Fair is always an all-in affair. Each person plays a part in a big day of celebrations, to
make things go according to plan. All money
raised in 2012 from the Spring Fair was for the
P&C and although numbers were down on last
year, the spirit was fantastic.

One of the special events this year was the
release of psyllids in the school bush block to
help control the noxious weeds Tagasaste and
Cape Broome. This is a step to ensure the
longevity of the school grounds which involves
the community. A fun day was had by all who
attended the Spring Fair.

**Students taking part in the Dalton cooking
competition**

**ACADEMIC**

The My School website provides detailed
information and data for national literacy and
numeracy testing (NAPLAN).
Click on the link [http://www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au)
and enter the school name in the *Find a school*
and select *GO.*

**Progress on 2012 targets**

**Target 1**

**Outcome for 2012–2014**

**NUMERACY - Increased levels of numeracy for
all students.**

Our 2012 achievements include:

- All staff trained in Count Me in Too
  mathematics program to be implemented into numeracy
  programming in 2013 for all students.
- Naplan numeracy results increased from students who participated in
  numeracy Naplan in year 3 and then
  year 5 from a score of 400 to 440.
- Staff use SMART data to inform
  programming.

**Target 2**

**Outcome for 2012–2014**

**LITERACY – Increased skill levels of writing for
all students.**

Our 2012 achievements include:

- All teachers use the PM Writing
  Program in all facets of literacy
  programming.
- Daily explicit teaching of writing genres
  focusing on grammar, punctuation and
  persuasive writing.
- Explicit focus on individual
  programming and assessment for
  students with help from SLSP, Principal
  and casual teacher 3 days a week.
- Improved reading and writing skills by
  all K-2 by students through the use of
  ICT, particularly the use of literacy
  programs such as PM Writing and
  Reading Eggs.
- All students have jumped up 2 or more
  benchmarked reading levels over a 1
  year period.
- All students plotted on the Best Start
  continuum and showing good progress.

**Students learning the road rules for bike safety**
Target 3

Outcome for 2012–2014

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND RETENTION –
To improve school culture and to involve the whole school community in creating an environment that respects and responds to needs, thereby fostering greater student engagement in school programs.

Our 2012 achievements include:

- All staff completed Positive Behaviour in Schools (PBS) training module 1.
- PBS implemented by all staff across 80% of areas across the school with huge success. This includes increased positive school culture and a 70% decrease in behavioural related problems from the previous year.
- A focus on the values of respect and responsibility by all stakeholders.
- Increased community involvement in the school assisting to create a positive school environment.
- Increased student engagement and retention with the highest attendance rate since 2008, up by an average of 5%. Attendance has been around 95% for 2011 and 2012.
- Students monitoring own and others behaviour linking in with respect and responsibility.

Target 4

Outcome for 2012–2014

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT – By 2014
Literacy and Numeracy syllabus documents and programs reflect the requirements of the Australian curriculum.

Our 2012 achievements include:

- Working groups formed with surrounding schools to work together on the implementation of the Australian Curriculum by 2014.
- All professional learning available was attended.
- Staff discussion / meetings on SDD regarding the implementation of literacy and numeracy for 2014.

School evaluation

NSW public schools conduct evaluation to support the effective implementation of the school plan. In 2012 our school carried out evaluation of school culture as well as the curriculum area of Mathematics.

EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

SCHOOL CULTURE

Background

In 2012 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

The area of School Culture has been evaluated by parents and community members completing a survey adapted from the School Map surveys. The aim was to help determine the opinions of parents regarding the school culture within our school. Surveys were provided to all school families, with 80% of surveys returned.

Findings and conclusions:

- 50% of respondents thought that school leaders ALWAYS had a positive influence on school culture, while the other 50% thought this USUALLY occurred.
75% of respondents thought the school **ALWAYS** praised and rewarded successful individuals, while the other 25% thought this **USUALLY** occurred.

100% of respondents felt they were **ALWAYS** proud of their child’s school.

**Future Directions:**
The school has made a commitment to focus more on school leadership and success within the school with a particular focus on leadership in years 3-6 and student success recognition from K-6. This will be achieved through the PBS program already in place at the school.

**CURRICULUM - MATHEMATICS**

**Findings and Conclusions:**
- 100% of respondents were satisfied with the mathematics programming and syllabus and agreed that their child had enough mathematics homework.
- 100% of parent respondents agreed that their child found math homework worthwhile.
- 100% of student respondents agreed that they found math homework worthwhile.

**Future Directions:**
Continue to make mathematics school work and homework as interesting and relevant as possible to students’ lives.

**PARENT, CARER AND COMMUNITY SATISFACTION**

Parents, carers and community members were also surveyed about their involvement in the school and if they thought students’ needs were met.

**Findings and conclusions:**
- 90% of respondents thought the school catered for the learning needs of the students well.
- 100% of respondents agreed that the school is continually finding ways to improve what it does.

**Future Directions:**
To continue to work with parents, carers and community members to find new ways to involve them in the day to day activities of the school.

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**Professional learning**
Throughout 2012, the Principal, all teachers, the SAM and the General Assistant participated in professional learning.

All staff completed the PBS (Positive Behaviour In schools) program. The principal and the SAM attended their conferences and the GA attended the Chemical Safety course.
School planning 2012—2014

The school planning policy provides direction for the preparation and implementation of school plans including the identification of priority areas, intended outcomes and targets that are consistent with the NSW State Plan and the Department’s planning documents.

School priority 1

Outcome for 2012–2014

LITERACY IN 2013: A continued increase in writing skill levels for all students with a particular focus on grammar and punctuation that is measured with regular in-class assessments.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Continued focus on specific writing genres with an explicit focus on punctuation, grammar, sentence types and paragraphing to build student competence and awareness.
- Continue use of ICT to improve writing.
- All students to move up by at least 2 benchmarks for reading.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Individual Educational Programs for writing and reading in place for appropriate students.
- Use the PM Writing, Bug Club and the Reading Eggs program as well as assessment strategies and benchmarking to inform all facets of programming.
- Deliver short, explicit writing lessons in small groups 3-4 times a week with regular class testing.
- Work together with teaching staff and learning and support staff with programming and planning.
- Continue plotting students on Best Start as well as K-6 literacy continuum and using the continuum as well as SMART data to inform planning.

School priority 2

Outcome for 2012–2014

NUMERACY IN 2013: Continue to improve and increase students’ mathematical strategies across the syllabus and as a result increase student skill levels and competence.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Implement Sena testing as a foundation to build numeracy programming for K-6.
- Implement regular assessments around the programming to give measurable results on student improvement.
- Begin plotting students on the numeracy continuum and use it to inform all numeracy programming as well as SMART data.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Teachers employ use of resources from CMIT and SMART.
- Short, explicit lessons in small groups with a focus on each area of the syllabus.
- All staff work together on implementing Sena testing effectively.
School priority 3

Outcome for 2012–2014

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND RETENTION IN 2013: Continue to improve school culture and involve the whole school community in creating an environment that respects and responds to needs, thereby fostering greater student engagement in school programs and to lift attendance.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Clearly re-define values of respect and responsibility for 2013 to all stakeholders through the PBS program.
- Complete and implement the Live Life Well program focusing on fundamental movement skills.
- Formulate a matrix against the values and display them wherever possible throughout the school such as on the school newsletter, school website and letterheads.
- Formal minutes to be kept from all meetings.
- Attend any further training required and any new PBS implementations at school.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Continue the “dot” system as an incentive for behaving responsibly and respectfully and to encourage students to continue to self-assess their own behaviour as well as those around them.
- Value system to be shared with ALL staff including GA, SASS, tennis coach, bus driver.
- Clearly define and document a system for addressing problem behaviour.

School priority 4

Outcome for 2012–2014

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT IN 2013:

By 2014 Literacy and Numeracy syllabus documents and programs reflect the requirements of the Australian curriculum and are implemented Day 1 2014.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Implement a timeline to reflect a step by step approach to implementation that allows a piece by piece approach allowing implementation on Day 1 2014.
- All staff complete all professional development and support programs available.
- Keep parents and community informed about the new curriculum.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Ensure regular monitoring through meetings and discussion occurs to ensure staff are on track to deliver new programs Day 1 2014.
- Regular meetings with staff and surrounding and partner schools to plan the timeline together.
- Plan to complete all professional development modules using the extra SDD in April with all staff and surrounding and partner schools.
- Organise parent and community meetings to keep informed and include regular updates in the school newsletter.
**About this report**

In preparing this report, the self-evaluation committee has gathered information from evaluations conducted during the year and analysed other information about the school's practices and student learning outcomes. The self-evaluation committee and school planning committee have determined targets for the school's future development.

Dominic Jones  Principal  
Suzi Shaw   Teacher  
Kerry Foran   SAM  
Joy Blackman   Relieving SAM  
Richard Rayner  General Assistant  
Kath Vivas  P&C President  
Miki Thorneycroft  Student Representative

**School contact information**

Dalton Public School  
Jobson Street Dalton  
Ph: 02 4845 6210  
Fax: 4845 6203  
Email: dalton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
Web: www.dalton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au  
School Code: 1723

Parents can find out more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the reports and have the opportunity to provide feedback about these reports at:


Bike Safety Day