



### Principal's Message

Happy New Year to all those who celebrate the Lunar New Year. May this year be happy and productive for everyone!

All the children are now in their new classes. By using our new classmaker program, we have ensured that all children who were at the school last year have at least one chosen friend with them. It was lovely to see them being put into their classes and being excited to realize that they had their friends with them.

As is always the case, we have had to form some composite classes. Where we have a mixture of children from two different year groups together, we do look carefully at the children and the teachers and consider all options. The children in the composite classes are not chosen on ability. We DO NOT place all the most capable children from the younger year group, or the less capable from the older year group, to put together. What we do try to do is to select children who are responsible and capable of independent work. We find that the younger children are often challenged by the older children, and the older children learn excellent leadership skills, as well as being challenged to "stay ahead" of the younger children. As is the case in all classes, teachers identify children's needs and cater for them in their programs. Most schools in Australia have composite classes, and in the country schools, there would be children who are in one every year - with no ill effects.

Our school is very full, as you would be aware, so please do not ask for children to be moved, as it is most unlikely to be possible. Children may take some time to settle down in their new classes. Please let us know if there are any ongoing issues or concerns.

KA	Miss Stock
KH	Miss Hearn
KK	Mrs Knedl
KL	Miss Arnold
KN	Ms Newton
KR	Miss Richards
KS	Mrs Samaan
1F	Mrs Frank
1G	Mrs Gatt
1H	Miss Hyun
1J	Miss Jacklin
1L	Miss Liu
1/2A	Miss Langhans
2B	Mrs Batac
2H	Mrs Harris
2L	Miss Jennens

2N	Mrs Negi
2/3S	Miss Stuart
3B	Mr Budden
3K	Miss Kay
3/4A	Mrs Abraham
4H	Mr Harrison
4S	Mrs Seccull
4/5C	Mr Clarke
5M	Mrs Marks
5/6J	Ms Jameson
6M	Miss McSpadden
6R	Mrs Rhodes
MC G	Ms Giles
MC S	Mrs George
MC T	Mrs Tanceski

### Learn about reading at school and meet the teachers

Next week we will be having meetings to share with parents our reading focus for 2016, provide you with some examples of what you can do to support your children, as well as give you other information about your children's classes and an opportunity to get to know your children's teachers.

Monday 15th : 5.30 - Kindergarten  
6.30 - Years 1 and 2

Tuesday 17th: 5.30 - Year 3, including 2/3S  
6.15 - Years 4 and 5, including 3/4A  
7.00 - Year 6, including 5/6J

MC will be held on Monday 15th at 5.30. It will be for all 3 MC classes (MCT, MCS, MCG)

### Book Fair

During the parent meetings there will also be a book fair in the hall. This will run from 3-4pm and from 5-6.30pm on both days.

### P & C meeting

The first parents' meeting will be on tomorrow from 9.00am. I look forward to seeing lots of you there. This is an opportunity to meet other parents, ask questions about what is happening at the school, and provide us with ideas / suggestions. The parent group also runs fundraisers and decides how to spend the money raised.

## Safer Internet Day

Tomorrow is National Safer Internet Day. It is important that children in today's society understand the positives and negatives of the cyber world, and learn how to stay safe. I encourage all parents to have regular conversations with children about being safe, model your own safe behavior, and monitor what your children are doing on the Internet. We cannot stop children going on line - that is not the answer. They need to go online for learning today, and as they grow older, for socializing too. This is their world. We don't stop children walking down the road because there are dangerous cars, we teach them how to be safe, and we monitor them until we are confident that they can do it alone. The same goes for using the Internet. If parents become aware of any unsafe behavior or cyber bullying involving our students, please let us know and we will help you deal with it.

With this newsletter is a calendar for the term, I encourage you to put it somewhere safe.

I look forward to seeing many of you next week,  
Anthea Donaldson  
Principal

## Stage News

### Kindergarten

We had a fantastic start to Kindergarten last week with the students getting to know their teachers, new classmates and school environment. This week we will continue to learn new routines and expectations. Please get your children involved in being responsible for their belongings. Let them pack their lunches and bags with you. This is a great way for them to learn to be responsible.

Kindergarten sport days are Mondays and Fridays. Please make sure the students are dressed in their sports uniform for these days. But students NEED to have a hat EVERY DAY! They will miss out on lunch time play without a hat and this makes them very upset when their friends are playing.

Let's hope that this week is just as fun as last week and we hope to see you next Monday evening for meet the teacher!

Miss Richards

### Year 1 and Year 2

Welcome to a fabulous year of learning in Stage 1!

Our team of teachers are very excited to have their new classes and are looking forward to getting to know their students and challenging them this year.

We will be starting our stage sport program this week. Sport is every Thursday. Please make sure students are dressed in their full sport uniform, which includes their hat and a water bottle. Make sure everything is labelled clearly please.

More information about other important days and things you need to know will be shared at our 'Learn about reading & Meet the teacher' night next week. We hope to see all of our Year 1 and 2 families at school on Monday, 15th of Feb, at 6.30pm. Information about where to go on the night will come later this week.

Have a wonderful week!  
Miss Langhans

### Year 3

Welcome to Year 3! It was wonderful to see all of the students' smiling faces as they found out who their new teachers are on Friday afternoon. The Year 3 teachers for 2016 are Miss Stuart with 2/3S, Mr Budden with 3B, Miss Kay with 3K and Mrs Abraham with 3/4A. All of the Year 3 teachers are excited for what will be a fantastic year of learning!

On Wednesday 17th February (next week) we will be holding our Meet The Teacher night at 5:30pm. I encourage all of you to come along to meet your child's teacher and find out about what will be a major focus for the year - READING! During our 'Learn About Reading' session you will hear about our Student Reading Challenge for this year, as well as tips to help your child when reading at home.

We will be creating an online learning community using Edmodo this year. This is a fantastic way for students to connect with their teachers and learning, and is also a great way for you to see what is happening in our classrooms. More information to come!

Have a fabulous first week of Year 3!  
Miss Stuart

### Year 4 and Year 5

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all our returning families and the new families who have joined our school this year. We are looking forward to the 'Meet the Teacher' next Wednesday where we will be discussing the year ahead and passing on all relevant information. This is also a great opportunity to get to know your child's teacher.

Classes will be going to the library this week. Please ensure library books are returned regularly and that your child has a library bag. Classes will be visiting the library on the following days:

Wednesday's 4H & 4S, Thursday's 3/4A & 5M and 4/5C will be visiting on Friday's.

Congratulations to the students who have selected in the PSSA teams. Training will start this Thursday.

Finally, I would like to remind parents it's important for every child to bring their hats and drink bottles to school, especially when the days are quite hot. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me at school. Enjoy the week.

Mr Clarke

## Year 6

Year 6 classes have now been formed, consisting of 6M with Miss McSpadden, 6R with Mrs Rhodes and 5/6J with Ms Jameson. We welcome our students into their final year of primary school and have planned a year of high expectations, great learning experiences and high school preparation.

It is essential that all students are equipped with the right tools for learning. Please ensure your child has everything requested on the 'Equipment List.' There are more copies available in the office if you did not receive one.

Reading will be a major focus throughout the year. We **MUST** build the reading stamina of our students and expose them to as many books as possible. You will hear more about the 'Reading Challenge' in the next week.

Your child may be telling you all about Edmodo. This is our educational online communication tool that year 6 will be using. A permission note will be sent home to parents this week. The students will be connecting to their class group as well as the Year 6 group. It is solely used for educational purposes and we encourage kids to be online as much as possible. It will assist with organisation, building learning networks and building technology skills. We will show you more about it at the 'Meet The Teacher Night' on Wednesday 17th February at 7pm. We would like to see as many parents as possible. Strong links between the home and school enhances your child's learning.

Please don't hesitate to come and talk to us about your child or the year ahead.

Mrs Rhodes

## Library News

Please remember that everyone needs a library bag to protect their books in their school bag.

In Week 4 we will be having a mini bookfair - it will be open on Monday 15th and Wednesday 17th from 3pm - 4pm and 5pm - 6.30pm in the hall. Would love to see you there.

9th February is the last day for bookclub orders.

## Parent Tutor Reading Program

Parent helpers are required for our Tutor Reading Program.

See attachment to this newsletter.