From The Principal’s Desk,
Welcome back for an exciting and educationally jam packed year of learning.
This year we have 25 students returned to school so far. Our magic number is 26 so if you know of any other new families taking up residence or requiring enrolment please let them know.
We would like to give a wonderful Argy welcome to our new students for this year. We have Jack and Eva in kindergarten together with Isobel, Kodi and Ethan joining us from out of state.
We would also like to welcome Mrs Susan Morris to our Office while Mrs Ryan is on leave. Mrs Morris will be here on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each week and every second Wednesday. I know you will give her a warm welcome as well.

At present we will be continuing with our two groups for the Literacy and Numeracy Sessions each day which effectively sees us running two classrooms until the end of recess each day. We have then organized for combined classes each afternoon for the following, Monday-Art with Mrs Guy, Tuesday PE and Personal Development with Mrs Guy, Wednesday Library with Miss Webb and Thursday Music and Assembly with Mrs Fitness and Miss Webb with two classrooms running Technology classes every Friday afternoon.
This arrangement has been trialed this week and went well.

This year we are also introducing Daily Physical Activities- (DPA) into our timetables. The students will all participate in a short DPA lesson together first thing each morning. Activities will consist of running, exercises and a variety of warm up and cool down routines.

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School Operating Times 2016.
8-45am  Morning supervision begins
9-10am  First Bell, lines and information
9-15am  DPA followed by morning class session.
11-15am First Lunch-eating
11-35am 2nd Lunch-play
11-55am Middle class session
1-30pm  Recess
1-50pm  Afternoon class session
3pm    Home Bell.

Please note that although the gates may be unlocked prior to 8-45am staff are not on duty until 8-45am when supervision begins.

School Security
If you have any concerns regarding security at the school over the holidays please ring 1300 880 021.
Thank you to our wonderful community for keeping their eyes open during the break. We were very fortunate to only have a small amount of inappropriate graffiti which has since been cleaned up.

School Merit Awards

Congratulations to all of our fantastic students who have earnt Merit Awards: Ash, Paige, Kodi, Paula, Nathan J and Casey. Great start to the year and well done. We will also be continuing to run our school Merit Award System this year and I know that some students are almost up to their first awards, great work. Together with our School Merit Award System we will also be running a school Home Reading Award. Students have already been issued with their Home Reading record booklets and after each 20 nights of Home Reading they will receive a Home Reading School Award. Once again I know that some students are off to a flying start with this and I hope to see everyone join in the reading fun.

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School Excursions.

We will be offering our years 5 and 6 students the opportunity to participate in a combined excursion to Canberra with Boolaroo, Teralba, Cardiff North and Fassifern in Term 4 this year. The approximate cost will be $350 however families are welcome to begin paying this off in small amounts from as soon as you wish to begin.

It is certainly a wonderful, rewarding and educational experience for them.

Reading Weeks.

This year we will be adding in some additional activities in our Reading program. Week 5, 22\textsuperscript{nd} February to 26\textsuperscript{th} of Feb will be ‘Grandparents and Family’ Reading week. More information on the dates and times closer to the day.

Canteen and lunches.

So far this year we have not been able to open our canteen as yet but we hope to be able to offer some additional alternatives each day. Students will be able to order a limited amount of food and drinks each day. Items such as cheese and bacon buns, muffins, drinks, ice-blocks and chips can be ordered each day. \textbf{Orders MUST} be placed into a bag or envelope with the student name, order and amount of money enclosed clearly written on the outside. Our senior students will be tallying the orders each morning. Staff will count all money so that students will not be handling this. We will then organize for these items to be sent out at lunch time and recess. Please note that there will be a limit of 1 ice-block per student for lunch time.

As we have very limited staff this year we would like to seek your assistance with \textbf{not} sending noodles which need to be prepared at school on any days apart from when the canteen is operated by a parent or volunteer. Unfortunately we are having difficulties preparing these on the spur of the moment when they are produced at lunch time. Students bringing noodle packs on other days will need to eat these as a dry snack.

If your child really has to have noodles and can not eat these as a dry snack could you please prepare these at home and send them in a thermos.

Hot weather and sandwiches also cause us some concern so we would like to ask that if your child has meat or another filling that should be refrigerated could they please

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give it to the teacher on duty in the mornings or hand it in to the canteen so that we can put it into the refrigerator to keep cool and safe.
We certainly want our children to eat healthy and safe lunches and would like to support you and them in any way we can. If you would be able to come up and assist on a morning with lunch orders we may even be able to operate the canteen on a few extra days.

Swimming Carnivals.

Small Schools Swimming Carnival. Years 3 to 6 students.

This will take place next Friday at Toronto Indoor Swimming Centre at a cost of $3-50 per student. Permission notes have been given out today with all of the information. We urgently need some additional assistance with transport as the school will be hiring a 12 seater mini bus but this will not accommodate all of our years 3 to 6 students. If you can assist please indicate this on the permission note.

Zone Swimming Carnival.

Tuesday 16th February. We will be taking a small team to represent our school at the Zone Swimming Carnival. Notes and information will go home next week for this.

P and C

A special note will be sent home regarding our first meeting. We look forward to seeing as many of our families represented as possible even if you do not wish to hold a position we need your thoughts and suggestions to continue to make this the best school for our children.

We look forward to seeing everyone here for a cup of tea and some afternoon refreshments.

Leanda Guy
Principal.

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