Welcome to the 2015 School Year

Dear parents, carers and students, welcome to the 2015 school year. The children have settled into their new classes and routines and expectations are being established. Parents and staff all agreed that our equity funding would be best used to create an additional class teaching position. This has meant that we have not had to form a class with a mixture of Years 4, 5, 6 and class sizes are more manageable. Class organisation is on the following page.

Changes to Student Absences

The Department of Education and Communities has changed the guidelines for when student exemption for attending school can be granted. Students who are absent for reasons of family travel or holidays are no longer granted exemptions. The student’s absence will be recorded as absent on leave (L) or absent for an unacceptable reason (A). The number of days absent appears on student records. If you are planning an overseas trip please ask at the office for an extended leave application form. Further changes are detailed on the next page.

Thank you
Thank you parents and carers who have paid for their children’s book packs.
Class Name    | Teacher
------------|--------
KK          | Mrs Kawalos
KM          | Ms Miles
1B          | Mrs Beadle
1K          | Ms Kyriacou
1/2A        | Ms Angell
2HW         | Mrs Hatzis M, T
              | Ms Wallington-Jones W, Th, F
2J          | Ms Jade - Assistant Principal
3/4 B       | Mr Beh
3/4 H       | Ms Halwani
3/4 K       | Ms Kelman
3/4 M       | Ms McCrudden - Assistant Principal
5R          | Ms Russo
5/6F        | Mrs Findlay
6W          | Ms Wuromus
K/1 W       | Mrs Whitson - Assistant Principal
1/3C        | Ms Connor
2/5M        | Mrs Macky
4/6R        | Ms Raptis
4/6S        | Mr Snopek
RFF         | Mr Fitzpatrick - Assistant Principal
Arabic       | Mr Shehata
Librarian    | Mrs Hashanayake M-Th
EALD        | Ms Richardson
RFF & EALD  | Mrs Barmakellis
LAST        | Ms Thame

RFF= Release from face to face teaching for teacher preparation.
EALD= teacher who supports students who speak English as an additional language or dialect.
LAST= learning and support teacher who supports students with additional learning needs.

**Student Absence Continued**

If your child is absent from school you must provide the school with a verbal or written explanation within 7 days of the first day of absence.

**The importance of arriving on time includes:**

- Ensuring students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day.
- Helps students learn the importance of being on time
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

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**Do Your Children Know Their Times Tables?**

Students in grades 3-6 are preparing for a times tables competition at the end of the term. **The winner in each grade will receive a $50 K-mart voucher.** You can help by encouraging your child to practise his/her times tables.

**Healthy Food Guidelines**

The canteen managers are trying very hard to provide healthy food choices for your children. Canteen operations are guided by Food Regulation rules set by the government. These rules state that any food brought to school by children cannot be re-heated by the managers of the canteen. These are legal requirements. If the canteen managers breach these legal requirements they could lose their licence to operate or be open to legal action. Your understanding and cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

**Stage 2 News**

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Meet the Teacher on Wednesday evening. We are looking forward to getting to know you and working with you in the education of your children this year. A few notes for those who could not attend:

- All Stage 2 classes are composites. Our teachers are Miss Sarah Kelman (3/4K), Miss Laila Halwani (3/4H), Mr Mark Beh (3/4B) and myself, Miss Alana McCrudden (3/4M). I am the Relieving Assistant Principal for Stage 2 for 2015. If you have any concerns please contact your child’s classroom teacher as a first port of call.
- If your child is absent for any reason please contact the school by telephone or send a note in when your child returns to school.
- Please ensure your child is at school by the 8:55AM bell to ensure they settle easily into our morning routines.
- Homework is distributed on a Monday and due back on a Friday. If your child has difficulties with the homework please make a note in their book and we will address the issue in class.

Stage 2 Library day is Wednesday and Mrs Hasta is working to support our HSIE unit for this term “Australia, You’re Standing In It”.

This year, in Term 2, our Year 3 students will be completing the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for the first time. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.