



NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 CALENDAR

Thursday 1 April

Easter Hat Parade

Last Day of Term

12 February 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to everyone, I have been hearing about all the wonderful journeys everyone undertook over the holiday period, it sounds like everyone had a fabulous time.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us on Thursday for our information sessions and to meet one of our newest teaching members. We have now secured two very experienced and enthusiastic teachers who will join us very soon.

On Monday 22 February, we welcome Ms Kulsoom Ahmed who will be taking our 3 – 6 class. She has extensive experience teaching a range of students, especially in the primary years and is looking forward to meeting everyone in due course. Ms Ahmed is moving from the Coffs Harbour region and has many years' experience working in a small school.

Then, on Monday 8th March we welcome Mrs Janet Bhardwaj, who will be working predominately with our K - 2 students. Mrs Bhardwaj also brings with her over 10 years of teaching experience and a wealth of skills and knowledge to support student and teacher literacy skills. We welcome Mrs Bhardwaj and her family from the Newcastle region.

Mrs Bishop will continue to take the Kindergarten students Monday to Thursday for English and Mathematics once Ms Ahmed and Mrs Bhardwaj have joined the school.

Once both teachers are on board and have had a chance to settle in, we will arrange a meet and greet for everyone. Until then, I know everyone will do their very best to make both of our newest staff members feel welcome.

Homework will begin next week for all students. Years 1 – 6 will receive a two-sided revision sheet. Side A will contain spelling words with a 'look/say/cover/write/check'. Math revision will be a feature of Side B of the worksheet. Kindergarten will also be receiving homework which will be specific to their learning. Homework will be sent home on a Monday and is to be returned on the Friday, please.

Home reading will begin in the coming weeks. Until this is in place students can read any of the books you have available at home. Students are encouraged to read between 15 – 30 minutes a day. If you have nothing available at your child's reading level, please enjoy some quality time reading to them. Listening to a story and discussing the images, language used, and spending time discussing comprehension, will help to support student's as they learn how to decode a variety of texts.

A big thank you goes out to Mr Bettens who has gone above and beyond, again, to ensure our school is looking fabulous for the start of the year. The same thank you goes out to Carol, our fabulous cleaner, who has also gone above and beyond to help ensure the school grounds are immaculate as staff worked throughout the holidays to paint and remodel just about every space in the school for a fresh start to the year. Thank you Mrs Hobson and Mrs Promnitz for the extra time you put in while children were not at school.

As our **swimming** carnival did not proceed at the end of last year due to ongoing COVID restrictions, students were not able to record a time for any swimming legs that may see them move to zone. If you feel your child is a strong swimmer and you would like to see if they can qualify for zone, you will need to supply the school with the event your child wishes to swim in and their most recent best time for a 50 metre lap of their stroke of choice. Children must be 8+ years to go to zone. This information will need to be supplied to the school no later than Friday 19th February.

We will endeavour to hold our swimming carnival at the end of this year, ready for the following year as we had previously planned.

Playtime Activities:

Free play is encouraged during recess and lunch times as a break from structured class lessons.

Also available for the students will be:

Monday to Friday: Sporting Equipment available.

Monday: Dolls and Prams available

Friday: Trucks available



Gardeners and those happy to help out: Lazy Daisy has taken up residency in the front garden and looks very lonely on her own. Our lovely garden beds are ready for plants. We are looking for a person or group of people who are interested in volunteering some time and to take ownership over this area to design and plant in the space that Mr Bettens and the children created last year. The school will supply everything you need to complete the job. If you would like to be involved in this project, please let me know ASAP.

Wanted: Towards the end of 2020 the school purchased new readers for use across the school. We have hundreds of new books that must be covered and stamped before we can start to use them. **You do not need to be good at covering books as we also purchased a fabulous machine to make the covering process a dream (no contact involved).** We just need a willing person or group of people who are happy to sit in an airconditioned space, be provided with tea, coffee and biscuits, all while stamping books or loading the book covering machine. Anyone with computer skills who is happy to help set up our readers into usable resource boxes would also be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help out or would like to explore this a little further I would be happy to demonstrate how easy it all is. Please let me know if you have some free time and are willing to help out.

Robyn Bishop

Principal (Rel)

Assembly Notice

The first assembly for this year will be on **Friday 19th February at 2:30 in the library.**

Please remember to sign the visitor book AND use the QR code. Social distancing still applies.

Newsletters

Newsletters will be sent out fortnightly this year. In Term 1 this will be on Thursdays.

Canteen News

Attached is the Canteen Menu for 2021.

Volunteers are needed for the Canteen each Friday. Please contact Deb Cooper 0439 873 812

to go on the roster for Term 1. Parents, grandparents or community members are welcome, however must have completed all the volunteer paperwork before beginning.