



On behalf of all the staff I would like to welcome you back for the new school year: a particular welcome to our new families who have joined us in 2013. I am looking forward to meeting with the school community over the coming weeks. I am very excited to be part of such a strong school community, as we work together to provide quality teaching and learning for our students

We look forward to another busy and productive year of successful endeavour and achievement as a school community of students, staff and parents.

I believe we have worked hard to ensure our students start the year in a settled and calm manner. Again this year we are not sure whether we will have 16 or 17 mainstream classes. Our structure will depend on how many new enrolments and how many unexpected leavers we have this year. Class structure is formed in schools through a strict formula and a series of guidelines that need to be followed specifically. Your child is our first concern and therefore we want to ensure the best possible start with the least amount of disruption.

I appreciate your confidence in our professionalism and your patience while we move through this short transition period.

If there are any concerns or you need further clarification do not hesitate to contact me, my door is always open and two way communication is the best method to address any concerns, questions or requests.

I look forward to strengthening and forging new partnerships between us.

### Bell times this year

*Morning Supervision 8.45am*  
*Morning Session 9.15am – 11:15am*  
*Break 1 (Lunch Eating) 11.15am - 11.25am*  
*Break 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Play) 11.25am – 11:45am*  
*Break 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Play) 11.45am – 12:10pm*  
*Middle Session 12:10pm – 1:40pm*  
*Recess 1:40pm – 2:00pm*  
*Last Session 2:00pm – 3:15pm*  
*End of school day 3.15pm*

### FRUIT BREAK

At 10:00am until 10:15 **ALL** students K-6 will participate in **FRUIT BREAK**. Students will get their fresh fruit, vegetables and water to crunch and sip while reading or working on normal classroom activities. Please remember when packing fresh fruit and vegetables they need to be small and simple items to enable students to be able to keep working and learning through this time.

Some popular items already have been carrot and celery sticks, strawberries, cut up orange, watermelon pieces, apple pieces, grapes and mandarins.

Larger apples and oranges are difficult for the children to get through in this period of time.

### ANAPHYLAXIS

Allergic reactions are becoming more prevalent and can be life threatening to some people. Some students are very allergic to peanuts and have additional allergies to egg and dairy products. We have students and staff who have nut allergies.

What does this mean for us? To minimise the risk of contact with these foods we ask for your cooperation by NOT sending your child to school with: peanut butter, nutella or other nut spreads. Also avoid muesli bars, cakes, biscuits and slices that contain nuts. Lastly, please avoid whole nuts or similar combinations with dried fruits as snack food for your child.

Even if your child enjoys these foods for breakfast make sure he/she washes his/her hands before coming to school.

Foods labelled, “may contain traces of nuts or contain egg” may be brought to school but would not be able to be eaten by the allergic children. We

understand these requests could cause some inconvenience, but also know that if your child was diagnosed with anaphylaxis you would very much appreciate our support.

### ***School Terms 2013***

<b>Gazetted school days</b>	<b>2013</b>
Term 1	Tuesday, 29 January to Friday, 12 April (inclusive). Students return Wednesday 30 January.
Term 2	Monday, 29 April to Friday, 28 June (inclusive). Students return Wednesday 1 May.
Term 3	Monday, 15 July to Friday, 20 September (inclusive). Students return Tuesday 16 July.
Term 4	Tuesday, 8 October to Friday, 20 December (inclusive). Students return Tuesday 8 October.

**School Development Days occur at the beginning of Term 1, the first two days of Term 2 and the first day of Term 3 and the last two days of the school year.**

### **You are welcome at school**

Children love to see their parents at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued.

Ways you might get involved:

- help in the classroom
- listen to children read
- help children on computers
- help with school excursions
- prepare food and serve children at the canteen
- coach a sporting team.

### **Tips for packing their lunch boxes**

- Pack food that is easy to open, easy to eat and not messy.
- Write their name on their lunch box, water bottle and any other containers.
- Include a frozen drink bottle to keep food cold. Wrap it in a tea towel in case it leaks.
- Use insulated lunch boxes or cooler bags.
- Avoid using plastic wrap because children find it hard to pull apart, paper bags are better for the environment too.

- Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise.
- Remind your child to wash their hands before eating and use the toilet at recess and lunch.
- Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.

### **School Uniform**

We have a school uniform, approved by our parent body, and it is expected that students will wear it every school day. Our uniform is Green or Grey shorts (summer) Summer Dress, Green or Grey pants and Green Tunic (winter) and a Gold shirt, enclosed black shoes or sport sneakers. A green brimmed hat, **not baseball caps** – these provide **no cover** for ears, the side of the face and neck.

A "No hat, play in the shade" policy is in operation, and we recommend sunscreen be placed on students before coming to school. **Teachers do not apply sunscreen to students at school.**

### **Hats**

Hats may be purchased from the front office at a cost of \$7.00.

### **Don't forget to label your child's belongings**

You can:

- use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels
- go through your child's bag with them each night
- check that labels haven't faded with washing
- if something doesn't come home, ask at the office where your school's lost property area is.

Have a great week  
Vicki Muscat  
Principal

*Our whole school rules are:*

**RESPECT - Be caring and polite**

**SAFETY - Be safe and learn**

**RESPONSIBILITY - Be accountable**

