



From the Principal's Desk...

WELCOME BACK TO 2016

The school year has started off in a calm and focussed way. Most students have settled in well and are really starting to enjoy the challenges a new class has given them.

The first two weeks will have a major focus around the school value of RESPECT and around setting up a strong basis upon which the year operates. The relationship between the teachers and students is critical to a successful time together. After these first two weeks our academic program will kick in fully and we will be down to business in a big way.

We welcome some new staff here for 2016.

A big welcome to Ms Beverley Littlehales. She will take one of the Year 6/7 classes. She will be with us for the first 6 months of the year (Semester 1) as Mrs Griffith is in the Library replacing Leanne Marjanovic who is currently on sick leave.

A big welcome to Ms Harinder Kaur who joins us as our Year 1 teacher. This is a permanent appointment and so Harinder will be with us for a longer period of time.

A big welcome to Mrs Jackie Williams who has a 0.4 (2 days per week) appointment here for the year. The main role is to support some teachers in the class as part of a newly appointed teacher scheme.

We are currently advertising for an Aboriginal Education / SAASTA Co-ordinator and a new role, Senior Leader in Intervention and Student Support. This is a trial position as we look at moving forward in to 2017.

Mrs Ratcliffe will oversee and support CPC to Year 8 students and their teachers in Semester 1. Mr Kenny will oversee and support Years 9 – 12 students and their teachers in Semester 1.

In 2016 we are operating a different structure for our classes than in previous years. Most classes in the Primary section of the school have 2 year level groups in each class and two teachers per grouping. For example, 2 Reception classes, 2 classes of Years 2 and 3, 2 classes of Years 4 and 5 and 2 classes of Years 6 and 7. Only Year 1 has only 1 class. The idea behind the structure is to enable teachers to plan and work together in the delivery of the school curriculum. It also ensures that what is planned for one class is also planned for the next class as part of each grouping of year levels. This will give us some consistency across and within our classes.

We will use common assessment tasks to ensure that marking and grading of student achievement remains consistent as well. We are very confident that this structure will enable teachers to work together and maintain the consistency that we desire.

We plan to hold an Open Classroom evening coming up in Week 3 of the school term. It is on Tuesday 16 February and classrooms will be open from 4.30 to 6.00 pm and parents and caregivers are most welcome to drop in and meet the teachers and look at the working spaces.

Please save this date in your diary so that you don't miss the chance to attend.

Please find attached a letter from the Minister for Education and Child Development with a welcome message for 2016.

Mark Ireland

Upcoming Dates to Remember...

Open Classrooms- 16th Feb 4:30pm to 6:00pm

