Dear Parents,

Welcome back!

It was wonderful to see our returning students and our 19 new students – ten of which are Preps!

As of this morning, I am excited to inform you that we have 45 students this year. Double where we started last year!! This is due to our huge Prep numbers and our great new families that have joined us.

This means that we are currently very full in both our P-3 and our 4-6 classrooms. If we manage to achieve 53 students I can apply for an additional full time teacher, but this is not necessarily guaranteed after day 8 (today). If we do manage to gain a teacher, I will look at reducing the work load in the classrooms by splitting classes to create P-2, 3-4 and 5-6 classes. This would be ideal, but if we don’t achieve the third teacher, our fantastic staff will continue to do their very best to deliver the curriculum appropriately to your children.

Staffing in 2017 looks like this:

- Miss Erika Hassett—teaching 4-6 on Mon, Tues and Wed (Thurs and Fri – Principal admin).
- Mrs Sandy O’Sullivan—teaching P-3 Monday to Friday.
- Ms Mary Kemp—teaching 4-6 Thursday and Friday
- Mr Pickwell—PE teacher (whole school) on Wednesday.
- Mrs McCormick—Music teacher (whole school) on Wednesday.
- Mr Frank Belley—German teacher (4-6) on Tuesday.

Our Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy (STLaN) is still to be confirmed.

Teacher aide hours will be assessed over the coming week and hours adjusted according to our new student number. Our current teacher aides working with your children are:

- Mrs Mel Sutherland—4-6 Monday to Friday.
- Mrs Cheree Emmerson—Prep-3 Monday to Thursday
- Miss Sam Harch – Prep-3 Monday and Friday
- Miss Peta Hart – Prep-3 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Our other support staff have remained the same as the end of last year:
Administration officer – Miss Sam Harch – Tuesday and Thursday
Cleaner – Mr Wayne Jones
Groundsman – Mr John Millard
From the principal cont.:  

**P&C Meeting**
This is an open invitation for all families and community members to attend our first P&C Meeting next Tuesday night (7th February) with a free sausage sizzle MEET AND GREET from 6:00pm. P&C AGM at 6:30pm with a short general meeting to follow. Items to be discussed at the general meeting include staffing, camp update and funding options and our grant application and potential expenditure. It would be great to see every family represented.

**Assessment**
We have been collecting data on where your children are working in literacy and numeracy. Some students came back from holidays firing, others had a great break and need a little prodding to get moving.
If you wish to discuss your child’s individual progress, parent interviews will be offered shortly. Please keep an eye out in your child’s bag for this information and booking note.
The way we will operate our reading and maths groups this year will need to alter from last year, to accommodate our increasing size. The exact structure and routine will be discussed in a later newsletter.

**Pink Stumps Day**
We are very excited to inform you that we have booked our second Pink Stumps Day fundraising event for our school on Friday 31st March (last day of this term). As more details come to hand, please keep an eye out about how you can help raise funds and what cool ‘pink things’ you can wear to support the day. Please feel free to invite your family and friends along to the day, as it is sure to be great fun for everyone!

Welcome again to the start of an exciting school year for Thornton State School.
Until next fortnight,
Erika
Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new school year and what an exciting beginning with all our new enrolments! The Prep to Year 3 class are already very busy doing testing and overall classroom organisation.

In English this year, students in Prep to Year 3 will create a range of imaginative, informative and persuasive texts including pictorial representations, short statements, performances, recounts, narratives, procedures, performances, reports and poetry.

This term in English, we are learning about narrative and persuasive texts and our group level work will cover reading, punctuation, spelling, handwriting and editing. In reading groups students will work on their comprehension skills and oral reading in the STARS reading program along with the PM Readers in guided reading and Online Reading Eggs. In spelling groups we will use the LEM phonics and Words Their Way programs and, for the Preps, we are introducing the Jolly Phonics program.

In Science we are studying biology and concentrating on living and non-living things and in History and Civics and Citizenship we are looking at Australia’s history and celebrations and our family and traditions.

In Mathematics this term we will also work in group levels following the Maths Plus text book, Online Mathletics and the STAMS mathematics program.

In Visual Arts students will explore ideas, experiences, observations and imagination to create visual artworks and design, including considering ideas in artworks by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and artworks from different cultures and times.

In Technology, students will describe the purpose of familiar products, services and environments and how they meet a range of present needs.

Homework will be organised for the Junior class in the near future.

**Please note** If you wish to know the expectations of the Australian curriculum, especially for the Prep students, I will be doing a small presentation at the P & C meeting on Tuesday 7th February. I will also be at the school from 2.45 onwards on Tuesday. If you wish to speak with me specifically about your child’s testing and goals for the year, please send in a note with a time that suits. I will respond on a ‘first in best dressed’ basis.

*A reminder that library lessons will be with Mrs Sutherland every Tuesday. Students may borrow books each week if they have a library bag.

Please send fruit each day for your children as this will ensure they have a healthy snack if they are hungry in class time.

We look forward to our new year with the fantastic Thornton students!

Warm regards

Sandy O’Sullivan

Class teacher
Dear parents

I am a new teacher at Thornton State School working in the senior classroom on Thursday and Friday each week.

As well as supporting students in all learning areas I will be teaching History, Civics and Citizenship and Visual Arts in Semester 1.

We will be studying at early Australian History including convicts and the First Fleet, Indigenous perspectives and Early settlement. Civics includes the study of Rules and Laws and our roles and responsibilities as citizens of Australia. In Visual Arts students will respond to artworks of others and create their own. They will learn about elements of art and design and use a range of art materials in their work.

I am looking forward to being part of the teaching team and working in such a great learning environment.

Mary Kemp

UNIFORM NEWS:

Welcome back to school to our returning families, and of course to our new families. It’s great to see so many new faces and thank you for being patient with me regarding stock levels of uniforms. If uniforms are still needed, please don’t hesitate to come see me before or after school. I have all sizes in stock. Please remember that correct change is requested and uniforms must be paid for before I’m allowed to send them home with you or your child.

Prices for uniforms are as follows:

- Shirts $30
- Skirts $25 (red and black skorts available)
- Hats $15 (slouch and bucket hats)

Also, now is the time for you to let me know if you require a jacket for your child so I can finalise the order before it begins to get cold. I don’t keep any jackets in stock so, if you require one please indicate below if you wish to purchase one. Sizes are the same as the shirts and they must be paid for before you can collect them. Cost is $40 each.

(Please see order form attached to back of newsletter)

That’s all from me, have a great fortnight!

Mrs Emmerson

P&C Meetings:

Next Meeting 7th February 2017
6:00pm Meet & Greet Sausage Sizzle
6:30pm AGM
7:00pm General P&C Meeting

ALL WELCOME

(General Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00pm)
LIBRARY NEWS:

Book Club
The first issue for this year has been sent home with your children today. This year our Book Club ordering has changed slightly. By the end of this year, credit card ordering over the phone will not be available. Instead a program called LOOP is offered by Scholastic to help with your ordering. You will need to head to scholastic.com.au/LOOP to set up your personal login and be able to order and pay by credit card at the same time. Just follow the user friendly tips. The school will get confirmation of your order and all reward points will be added to our school. The books will still be delivered to the school to be sent home or picked up. Please have all your orders and payments completed by Monday 13th February. Please see me or call me at the school if there is any confusion. I'll do my best to help as I'm still learning too.

Book Fair
Our school will be hosting a book fair again this year. This will commence on Monday 27th February for approximately a week. There will be a variety of books available for purchase in our school library. Book Fair is open to our community members also. More details will come home next newsletter.

Library Borrowing
Library borrowing has commenced for this term on Tuesdays. Thank you to everyone that remembered their library bags.

Welcome back. It is lovely to see everyone's smiling faces.
Mel Sutherland
School Awards: Week 1 Term 1 2017

Junior:

Student of the Week: Cooper Roebig
Citizenship: Zoe Bould

Senior:

Student of the Week: Darcy Kelly
Arts: Monnie-Rose
Music: Chad Pollock
PE: Grace Regan
LOTE (German): Jett Emmerson
Resilience: Reuben
Community News:

FREE BINGO

Mulgowie Hotel
Thursday 16th February
6.30pm-8.00pm
$12.00 Meals Available.

LAIDLEY SOCCER CLUB
2017 Sign on Dates

Our sign on dates and timings for the 2017 season are in.

Please see below:

January: Saturday 21st and 28th, 9am-12pm

February: Saturday 4th—Come and Try Sports Day 8am-12pm

Wednesday 1st, 8th and 15th, 4pm-6pm

Muster Day for Non Competition Teams (U6-U11) will be 4:30pm
Wednesday the 22nd of February

Muster Day for Competition Teams (U12-U15/16) will be 4:30pm
Wednesday the 8th of February

We look forward to seeing you there
COMING & TRY SPORTS DAY!

FREE EVENT

WHEN:
Saturday 4 February 2017

TIME:
8am - 12pm

WHERE:
Laidley Recreational Reserve

Featuring:
NRL legend Kevin Walters
Queensland Firebirds: Romelda Aiken & Laura Clemesha
Ipswich Jets Rugby League
Football QLD
Cricket QLD
AFL QLD

FREE water slide

Come & have a go at a range of different sports!
Sign on and fees for 2017 Netball

Sign on dates:

Saturday 4/2/17

Come and try day at Laidley Rec grounds

Come on down and sign up and meet a couple of the Firebird players. You will find us under the Laidley Netball tents to sign on.

Thursday 9/2/17

3.30 -6.30pm we will be at the clubhouse for sign on. This will also be our representative players trial day. Players wishing to trial for representative teams should arrive by 4pm.

2017 fees for Nettas, Juniors & Seniors:

Nettas - $30 + $25 refundable shirt hire

Junior 1 - $60 + $25 refundable shirt hire

Junior 2 - $60 + $25 shirt refundable shirt hire + umpire fees (approx $20/$30 each this will be decided once games start as it will go on number of teams etc)

Senior - $60 + umpire fees (approx $30/$35 each this will be decided once games. Your team must be in uniformed shirts by end of trial rounds which is sorted out within your team.

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GATTON HAWKS
Junior Rugby League
Children born 2001 - 2011
Proud of our Past, Present and Future!

EXPERIENCED COACHES - 2017 HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

CLUB REGO FEES - 1 CHILD: $120, 2 CHILDREN: $220, 3 CHILDREN OR MORE: $300

WE GIVE YOU VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY:
- Best Facilities in the Competition
- Saturday Game Days ONLY
- Free End of Year Theme Park Trip
- 2017 High Performance Program
- Associated with Strong Senior Club

$60 FEES FOR THOSE BORN 2001, 2002 & 2003!

SIGN ON DAY
Meet your Coaches over a BBQ from 11am-2pm on 5 Feb 2017 at Cahill Park.

REGISTER NOW
Visit www.playnrl.com/register, click Players, search Gatton JRL and follow the prompts

ALL NEW CLUB PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A FREE SHIRT & SHORTS

For more info: www.gattonhawks.teampapp.com

Authorised by G. Pawey, 119 Woodlands Road, Gatton QLD 4343
## Term 1 Calendar Overview

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