Dear Parents,

Busy start

A busy few weeks already as we settle in to our school year. Thank you to our great parents for your support in ensuring your children are coming to school prepared and ready to learn. It is wonderful to see and hear that they are getting enough sleep and that they are bringing their healthy lunches to school. Your support is greatly appreciated.

While we are still getting used to the current structure in our school (still hopeful of more teacher support time as our number of enrolments is now 49!), we are always supportive of any parents or family members who wish to come into our school to assist where possible. Whether it be reading with a small group or helping photocopy and bind some booklets, all extra hands help. Please feel free to come up and ask where you can help out, or speak with me regarding the best times to come in to the classrooms. Generally, the morning sessions each day except Wednesday are the times we do our Literacy work (reading, writing, spelling, handwriting) and the middle sessions is where we do our math work. The afternoons are usually spent delivering the other curriculum areas such as Art, Science and Technology. Please come on in! All help is welcome.

Homework reading clarification

Mums and dads, your children are asked to read each night as part of their homework (even if you have opted ‘out’ of receiving standard homework, we ask you read each night with your child please. Just to clarify, for some parents have already asked, Junior students will be sent home with home readers. These books are meant for the week and are meant to be read and re-read throughout the week. The principle being that students are to read their book (or page depending on ability level) each day. Then they repeat that book the next day (getting less caught up on words that are corrected). The next day they are more proficient and more confident in their reading. Then the day after they are feeling the success of their reading and experience mastery of that text. This activity is about building the confidence in our readers. Please support this process at home with homework and if you require more clarification around its implementation, please speak with a staff member. (Senior students are not sent home a reader and are expected to read any material/book that they have at home – including a book borrowed from the school library).

Professional Development for staff

Today, Mrs O and Mrs Emmerson are at a training day to learn more about Jolly Phonics. Jolly Phonics is the phonics based program for early literacy learning. Our two teachers are away from school to become better informed about the program and its implementation in the school with our students.

They are demonstrating that we are all lifelong learners. Thank you.
From the principal cont.:

Other professional development that the staff are all undertaking is our cluster of schools Behaviour Support workshops. These workshops are to assist our teachers and teacher aides in classroom management and organisation, understanding the implications of poverty, disadvantage and trauma, and the purposeful use of the data we collect in our OneSchool system.

All of these professional learning opportunities mean that our staff are continually working to improve the way in which they deliver the curriculum content to your children.

Election of Sports Leaders

It was decided at the P&C meeting that we would offer the students in the 4-6 classroom the opportunity to nominate for a new position of leadership in the school. This position is Sports Leader. In 2017, there will be two sports leaders voted in by our student and staff body. Students nominating for the role will need to deliver a speech to their peers on Friday morning (17-2). This speech will see them introduce themselves, explain why they would make a good sports leader and how they will fulfil the role successfully in the school. We are looking forward to hearing the speeches from our up and coming leaders in the school. Best of luck to all candidates.

Have a great fortnight,

Erika

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**FREE BINGO**

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

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P&C Meetings:

**Next Meeting 18th April 2017 7:00pm**

ALL WELCOME

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

We are working very hard in all subject areas in the P-3 class and testing and group organisation is almost complete.

The Prep students have settled into school life extremely well and we are so pleased with their progress.

In case of any mishaps it would be beneficial if the Prep parents packed a spare set of clothes in their child’s school bag. This does not need to be a school uniform just a spare t-shirt, shorts and underwear.

In our Health lessons we are learning about healthy foods and drinking lots of water in the heat. Can you please remember to pack fruit and healthy sandwiches and also water bottles for your children?

We encourage you to read to your children as much as possible. Next week we will commence sending home readers for you to read to your child in Prep, and for the Years 2-3 students to read to you. We will send the readers home in a folder each Monday with a Reading log for you to complete and sign. We hope you will enjoy reading with your children.

As part of our History unit we are investigating and exploring our personal and family histories and how each family is unique and special. Our first task is to investigate our own families.

Could you please provide us with the below/attached slip and return it to school.

We would also like you to provide a family photo (past or present) for your child to share with their classmates. You may like to discuss the people in the photograph with your child, prior to sending it into school.

Thank you so much for your support.

Warm Regards

Sandy O’Sullivan

Name: _____________________________

I have _________________ people living in my home.

The people who live at home with me are ________________________________
LIBRARY NEWS:

**Book Club**
Issue 1 of Book Club has now finished. Issue 2 will be available shortly. I hope the ordering system, LOOP, has not been to difficult. Please come and see me after school if you need help setting up your order profile online.

**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. Sales will be available from 2.30pm to approximately 4pm each afternoon. Each purchase earns us reward dollars to purchase books for our library.

Mel Sutherland

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**Uniforms**
I would love to order the jackets next week so they can hopefully arrive before the end of Term 1 in readiness for the colder weather. If you have not yet returned your expression of interest forms which were attached to the back of the last newsletter please do so by Monday, so the order can be placed on Tuesday. If you have misplaced your form, a handwritten note or text (to the school mobile) indicating quantity and size wanted will suffice. Be aware that the jackets cost $40 each and must be paid for before collection. In other news, prep parents may have noticed an iron-on picture transfer stuck on the back of their child’s preferred school hat. This is to help the preps identify their hat quickly. If the transfer seems to be lifting, please stitch on yourself to ensure they are not lost.

Thankyou, Mrs Emmerson
School Awards: Week 2 & 3 Term 1 2017

**Junior:**

**Student of the Week:**  Zoe Bould (2) & Caitlin Harrigan (3)

**Handwriting:**  Caitlin Harrigan (2)

**Great Work:**  Heath (2), Dylan Podham (2), Pippa Harrigan (3), Anna-Belle (3) & Caleb Regan (3)

**History:**  Darcy Lyons (2) & Rick Pollock (3)

**Art:**  Graham Millard (2) & Olivia Foxlee (3)

**Senior (Week 3 only):**

**Student of the Week:**  Lincon

**Great Effort:**  Jennifer Beezley

**PE:**  Isaiah Bould

**LOTE (German):**  Damien Jones