PRINCIPAL’S PEN

29 January 2016

Week 1

Dear Parents

Welcome to the 2016 school year! Students across the school are pleased to be back at school and are settling into new classes very well. This week teachers have spent time reinforcing school rules and establishing classroom routines and expectations so that optimal student learning can occur each and every day throughout the year.

This year we welcome two new teachers, Miss Sophie Herbert and Miss Jessica Perrett. Both teachers have been busy getting to know their new students, parents and the school. We also welcome Cassie Hickey has also joined our staff. Cassie will work as a Teacher Aide on Mondays and Tuesdays this semester replacing Vickie Pearce who has taken leave.

Finally I would like to welcome all new families to our school. We hope you enjoy being involved in our school community. Please drop in and see me if you have any concerns.

We look forward to a great year ahead.

Angela Heslin
Form teachers mark rolls each day, deliver pastoral care/guidance, support students with their learning goals and are a point of contact for parents.

STUDENT DAIARIES
All students from Years 3-10 have been issued with a Taroom P-10 State School dairy. Information regarding the use of the dairy can be found on page 2. Students are expected to have their diaries with them at each lesson and to record homework in them. We ask parents to sign them each week to keep informed of their child's learning and requirements.

HOMEWORK CLUB
During the coming week, staff who have volunteered to coordinate Homework Club will be finalising details and this will be made available in the next newsletter. Parents will be asked to register their child’s attendance. Information and registration forms will be sent home once the program is finalised. At this stage it is envisaged that the club will run for students from Years 3-10.

TAFE
Arrangements are underway for the 2016 TAFE year for Hospitality students. All new students (e.g. Year 9’s) will require a Unique Identifier Number (USI). This can be obtained by visiting the following website link and registering under the I AM A STUDENT link. Some form of identification is required such as a Medicare card. Once students have received their USI number, please record and give to Mrs Wolski. Enrolment forms for TAFE will be forwarded shortly. The first TAFE Day is 17th February.

Alternatively, Mrs Wolski is happy to organise this but will need students to bring in a Medicare Card with the details required for identification purposes.

WANDOAN STUDENTS
In the spirit of school partnerships, sharing resources and finding rural solutions to staffing specialist school programs, Year 9/10 students from Wandoan will join us on Wednesday’s to participate in Hospitality and Furnishing electives. We are fortunate to have two experienced specialist teachers in Mr and Mrs Adamson whose expertise and enthusiasm will no doubt benefit the Wandoan students. In return, we are able to access facilities at Wandoan that we do not have in Taroom such as welding bays and a laser cutter. Larger class sizes ensure the continued long term existence of valuable school elective subjects and generates more creativity and ideas amongst students. Two teachers from Wandoan will also accompany their students to provide extra support in the classroom and oversee reporting processes.

PERMISSIONS BOOKLET/FORMS & DOCUMENTS
The 2016 Permissions Booklet went home with each student on Wednesday. These permissions are essential for the smooth running of the school across all programs. We would appreciate them completed and returned to the school Office during the next week. Many forms and documents will be uploaded to the school website in the coming weeks and can be obtained from there as well.

SECONDARY CAMPS & PROGRAMS
We are currently discussing a proposed camp option for Year 9/10 students for later in the school year as well as other programs during the year in line with leadership, resilience and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) initiatives. All will be revealed in the coming weeks.
Thank you Michael Smith and his troop of dedicated workers for paving the primary eating area and resurfacing the entry to the school over the school holidays. We are very fortunate to have talented and hardworking Dads who are willing to volunteer their time, skills and effort for the benefit of our students and school. Thank you also to our adopt-a-garden families who ensured their gardens were well presented for the start of our new school year.

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**P & C News**

I am still looking for workers and cooks to complete the tuckshop roster. If you can help out please send me a quick email or text billncas@bigpond.com or 0409 279 360. **Tuckshop** will start operating on Wednesday, 10\(^{th}\) February but may need to close later in the term if the roster cannot be completed.

**Swimming Carnival** – tuckshop will be operating at the swimming carnival on Friday, 5\(^{th}\) February. Any donations of biscuits, slice, watermelon or eggs would be great. Please remember that it will be hot and we have no fridge space, so something that won't melt would be best. We will be providing bacon and egg sandwiches for breakfast and steak sandwiches, sausage sandwiches and sausage rolls throughout the day. If anybody is able to help out during the day it would be greatly appreciated.

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**AGM - Monday, the 22\(^{nd}\) of February at 3.30pm followed by a General Meeting.**

**LEICHHARDT VILLA VALENTINE’S DAY DANCE**

The Villa will be holding a Valentine’s Day Dance for the residents on Friday 12\(^{th}\) February. If you have some long ball gown style dresses that you would be happy to loan to the Villa please contact Karen Ball on 4628 6166