Dear Families

Welcome to the 2015 school year. The year has started well with our Preppies again being 'shining lights'. It is like they have always been at school and have transitioned to the new routines and structures very well.

Communication is key!

If you want to know something there is no harm in asking. My bulk family email list is growing and I find this to be a great way to quickly communicate with families. My families also email me directly, and now that my 'hand-me-down' new phone is configured for email there is instant communication.

Other communication avenues are our Website (looked after by Ms Clarkson), newsletters, parent calendars and various letters which will go home throughout the year.

I always promote face to face communication. Families can drop in to see me most mornings and I can talk with you if I am free. Alternatively, please don’t hesitate to contact me via phone or email to arrange a meeting time.

Newsletters from now will go home electronically through the bulk email distribution list. If you do not have email then your newsletters will be given to you in a paper copy. All correspondence which requires you to fill in a permission form or give your written permission will continue to be given to each family via paper copy. As a back-up I will endeavour to email you a copy as well.

This Tuesday staff will be given a list of email addresses for families in their class. They will also create a mailing list and will be able to correspond with you using email.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

STAFFING FOR 2015

Teaching Staff
Prep  Mrs Townsend  jtown3@eq.edu.au
P/1  Mrs Cumming  nlane2@eq.edu.au
Yr1/2  Mrs Cleary  tclea7@eq.edu.au
Yr2  Ms Holley  jholl9@eq.edu.au
Yr3  Mrs Seib  vseib2@eq.edu.au
Yr4  Mr McKenzie  amcke8@eq.edu.au
Yr4/5  Mr Willis  twill14@eq.edu.au
Yr5/6  Mrs Clarkson  eclar89@eq.edu.au

Curriculum Coach/Leader  Mrs Blanch
Support Teacher:  Mrs Best
SEP Coordinator:  Mrs Albrecht
Special Education Teacher (2 days)  tba

Teacher Aides
Mrs Muir, Mrs Beinssen, Ms Morrad, Mrs Winchester, Mrs Harding, currently we have two vacancies for Teacher Aides to fill.

Administration
Mrs Buchbach and Ms McCarthy

Specialist Staff
Music  Mr Allen  (Ms Cowie for 4 weeks)
LOTE  Madame Winyard  (Mr Hegarty for 4 weeks)
Library  Mrs Templeton
PE  Mrs Neville

Cleaner  Mr Gray
Groundsperson  Mr Holder

Website  Mrs Clarkson

Adventurers’ Club Camping Program
Ms Clarkson, Mr McKenzie, Mr Willis
Reminders…..
A few reminders:
- children must have a hat each and every day they come to school
- water bottles for inside the classroom and for breaks
- children in Prep must be taken to the classroom each morning from 8.30am
- other children must not arrive at school prior to 8am (unless permission from the Principal is given)
- children in years 1 to 6 must sit under the green shelter shed until the 8.30am bell goes
- children staying at school after 3pm must be accompanied by an adult and are in the sole care of the adult at this time (they must observe all normal school rules)
- parents must park outside the school grounds (no parking inside the school grounds)

Permission Slips
Students cannot attend an activity or event without the signed approval from their parent/guardian. Families will receive a letter stating all the details of the activity/event. On this letter will be a tear off section which should be filled out by a parent/guardian and returned to school.

Maths Textbook
Orders for the Maths Textbooks for years 3, 4, 5 & 6 are due now. Please forward your order form and payment to the office by Thursday 5th February. Payment plans are available, please contact the Principal.

Payment
Parents/guardians may enter a payment plan with the school for any excursions or school run events. Students will be unable to attend the activity unless a payment plan has been agreed upon. If a payment plan has been agreed to, then the student may be permitted to attend the activity with full payment being made at a later date.

Religion Instructions
Religion Instruction or RE lessons will commence week 4, at this stage. They will be held every second Friday for 30mins. RE is non-compulsory and teaching is based on Christianity.

Extra-curricular activities and lunch clubs
We will again provide before, after and during school clubs. We will offer Dance (Mrs Cleary), Drama (Ms Holley) and Environmental Club (Mrs Beinssen) during lunch times. Information about joining dance and drama clubs will come out shortly. All students are invited to attend Environmental Club and they should meet Mrs Beinssen and Mr Holder at the gardens each Monday lunch. Mr McKenzie and Mr Willis organise sport at lunch time. Students in years 4 to 6 are welcome to join. Music Clubs after school will commence once Mr Allen returns from leave in week 5. Mr Willis will also talk to the students about his morning Fitness Program for students in the upper school. We may be a small school, but we offer a wide range of activities for our students.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Each year we hold a parent information evening. This is a time to come to school, meet the teacher and hear about the year ahead for your children. The program is as follows:

Tuesday 10th February
6.00pm I will hold a 30min information session on our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students – all families are welcome to attend.
6.30pm Prep to Year 3 teachers will hold an information session in their classrooms.
7.00pm Year 4 to 6 teachers will hold an information session in their classrooms.

Should you wish to know more about this evening please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child’s teacher.

Swimming Lessons
Reminders that swimming lessons for students in years 4 to 6 have commenced. This is a 45min lesson this year and payment must be up to date for students to attend – unless you have entered a payment plan.

P&C MEETING
Our first P&C meeting and AGM will be held on Tuesday 17th February commencing at 6.30pm in the Library. Please come along as we will need all positions filled – President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. If you would like to know more about these positions please do not hesitate to contact me.
This year I hope to hold parent information sessions for the 45mins prior to each P&C meeting. I chose this time for purely selfish reasons – I have a staff meeting from 3.00pm to 4.30pm followed by P&C at 6.30pm. I stay at the school so it would be beneficial to hold information sessions throughout the year. I hope to put together a list of topics and envisage that I would briefly discuss each area and then take any questions or queries from the participants. The first information session will be at the Parent Information Evening on 10th February.

Please Note: there will be no information sessions prior to the first P&C meeting on 17th Feb. It is my daughter’s 15th birthday so we hope to have dinner overlooking the beautiful bay prior to the meeting.

That is probably enough information for now. Until next fortnight, stay safe and well.

Kim Schembri
Principal
Lota State School
Ph - 3906 6222
Fax - 3906 6200
Email - ksche9@eq.edu.au

Resilience Skills for a Happy Life!

Book now for Term 1 groups!
Confident Kids ® + teens is an innovative coaching program for kids 5-14yrs that aims to boost confidence, emotional resilience, social skills and brain power. Students discover their strengths, and develop resilient thinking skills to reduce stress, anxiety, worry, or negative thinking. Essential tools to navigate the teen years! Our team of experienced Psychologists will coach, encourage and support your child to be all they can be! Medicare and Private health fund rebates apply.

Register and Book online today at confidentkidsandteens.com.au Or contact us at info@positivefamilies.com.au for more details.

Mooroondu FC (Soccer) - Sign on now open!
At Mooroondu FC we are all about playing soccer with friends, having fun and learning the skills of our great game.
Sign on is now online at www.myfootballclub.com.au and more club info is available at www.mooroondufc.org.au.
If you have questions, we will be at the clubhouse, William Taylor Fields, Thorneside on Saturday between 2-4pm, or email admin@mooroondufc.org.au

P&C Meets – 3rd Tuesday of month 6.30pm (Resource Centre) - Tuckshop – each Wednesday and Friday - Admin open 8.00am – 3:00pm