

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome Back

I would like to start this Newsletter with a big 'Welcome Back' and a warm Welcome to our new students and parents. I hope you had a wonderful break and you are all ready for another great year. Our beginning has once again been a smooth one thanks to the preparation by our staff. I'm sure that the year will be a positive one for all of us and hope that you all approach it with enthusiasm and optimism.

New staff members

The beginning of the new school year has brought a number of new staff members to Woodlands. We welcome the following to our school community.

Kristy Miller

has taken on the position of Leading Teacher in charge of Teaching and Learning. Kristy comes to us from Lang Lang P.S. and brings a wealth of experience from various schools and roles. Her expertise is in Instructional coaching, curriculum development and leadership.



Katrina Hooke

has been appointed to our school as our own Wellbeing Coordinator. Katrina has worked in many Networks, systems and educational settings. She comes to Woodlands from a position of Support Services within the department where she worked as a Psychologist.



Anna Whelan

will be a very familiar face to many. Anna is not really a new teacher having spent the majority of last year in the Year 2 team. This year she takes on the same role but with her very own class.



Emily Eldridge

will be a familiar face to some. While Emily is a graduate teacher she has done work with us here at Woodlands during 2016. She is excited and very enthusiastic about her new role in the Year 2 team.



Caitlyn Hughes

has joined the Year 4 team. Caitlyn is a graduate teacher with a passion for the outdoors. She will be working in the Year 4 team.



Parking and Traffic

Given the size of school, it is a given that traffic and parking will always be an area of great concern, particularly at the very busy times of 'drop-off' and 'pick-up'. I ask our parent community to be diligent in ensuring that the area around our school is as safe as it can possibly be. This means driving and parking within the regulations and being patient and courteous. While regulation and monitoring of the traffic is not the direct responsibility of the school, we make every endeavour to regulate and encourage safe practices and orderly behaviour. I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Parents on site

Woodlands is a community school. We love the involvement of community members and particularly welcome the contribution made by our parents. This means that there are often adults, parents, grandparents and family members here in the school grounds mixing amongst our students. I would ask every adult that comes in to our school, to be mindful of the importance of ensuring that our students feel safe and without threat from anyone, particular adults. This in turn means that students should not be approached by adults who are unknown to them, as this can often cause a child to feel anxious or uncomfortable.

SPORT REPORT

DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS 23RD FEBRUARY

Calling all Squad Swimmers Grade 4-6 for this year's district trials.

Please contact Mr Dowling or Mr Birnie for further details.

We will be handing out newsletters and having a meeting with the students interested on the 13th of February at lunchtime.



ARTROOM NEWS

The Junior and Senior Art Rooms are up and running with students starting lessons this week. A reminder that smocks are needed in order to protect clothing.

I would like to say thank-you to those parents who assisted with donating tissues, cleaning cloths, spray and wipe and also hand gels. We are always in need of these cleaning agents.

Junior Art homelink- encourage children to look at family hair and eye colours.

Regards Lisa Block



CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund) application forms are now available at the office.

This is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

The annual CSEF amount per student for primary school is \$125.00

Please apply as soon as possible.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 1

- 6th Feb** Gr6 Camp
- 8th Feb** Gr5 Dolphin Research exc. Payment due
- 10th Feb** Gr6 Camp return
- 13th Feb** District swim trial meeting @ lunchtime for interested squad swimmers (grades 4-6)
- 16th Feb** Gr5 Dolphin Research excursion
- 23rd Feb** District Swim trials
- 8th March** School photos
- 9th March** School photos