THE P&C EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO NEW PARENTS

The first P&C meeting of the year was held last night and was well attended. There was discussion around our plans for the year and in particular the P & C plan that focuses on funding priorities for 2016 and the longer term. Particular thanks to Tom Alletson and Gina Brough for coordinating this. This will be finalized at our next meeting.

We were also introduced to one of this year’s key programs, “Parents for Shore”. This program aims to improve student’s social and emotional well being by encouraging and fostering close links between children, families and the school. We have a range of connect evenings and activities to help this happen. Marlena Basser will be working with staff and parents each Wednesday to facilitate this program. It is very exciting.

We have a huge array of talented members in our school community. If you have a talent to share, ideas or willing to spare a few hours to help our hard working P&C please contact the school. We value your support and together we can work to make OSPS an even better place for our beautiful children.

A reminder that our AGM takes place on 7 March. To be able to vote at this meeting you must be a financial member of the P & C prior to the meeting. ie You need to join before the AGM. (Membership is $2)

KINDERGARTEN

We were thrilled to welcome 60 new kindergarten students to our school last Wednesday. They have settled into their new classes very quickly and are enjoying time with teachers and buddies.

MATHEMATICS CLASSES

We will commence our graded maths classes for students in years 3-6 on Monday 22 February. Students will be placed according to assessments conducted last year and in the first weeks of school this year. We have set up structures to support students in all classes and placements will be reviewed on a regular basis. If you wish to discuss maths classes please contact Mr Stephens.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our swimming carnival yesterday was a great success. Thankyou to staff and parents for your work and assistance on the day and particularly Miss Christian for her excellent organisation. We had great weather and lots of fantastic support from parents. Students all participated well and displayed excellent sportsmanship.

We will have a full carnival report next week with all results.

There will be a special assembly on Thursday 18 February at approximately 1.00pm to present ribbons and trophies to our swimmers.

Many students qualified to attend the district carnival at the Mullumbimby pool this Friday 12 February. Miss Christian, Mrs Buckley and myself will accompany our team. The bus will leave school at 9.00am sharp as the carnival is scheduled to commence at 9.45am. Please ensure permission note and levies have been returned to school by Thursday.

Please note that the Zone Swimming carnival takes place on Friday 26 February at Murwillumbah.

Some of our happy junior boy swimmers.
SCHOOL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

We ask all families to make a contribution towards the costs of providing educational resources for your children. These funds are vital in allowing us to provide students the best possible resources across all curriculum areas. The amount can be paid in instalments. Contributions are:

1 student - $30
Family - $50

All families who have paid by Friday March 4 will go into a draw for a $100 school voucher.

All school payments by cash can be made directly to the school office or online by going to the school website.

MARKETS

Our markets program starts again on Tuesday 1 March with Ms Essery’s Yr 2 class attending. This program has been very successful and involves a different class each week travelling to the markets to shop for fresh produce. They return to school and then make a delicious, healthy lunch. It costs $6 per student which covers food costs and bus travel. We get fantastic support from the New Brighton Farmers Market and look forward to continuing that relationship.

STAGE 1 – HOME READING VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the parents already volunteering and listening to the children read each day. We would also love to involve any grandparents or relatives who may be interested in helping with our home reading program. For the program to be a success we rely on lots of helpers. In Stage 1, home reading is in the last session from 2.30pm – 3.15pm. Please come and see the classroom teacher if you are interested. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

STAGE MEETINGS

We have scheduled stage meetings to allow parents to connect with teachers and each other early in the year. Parents will receive specific information about meetings from stage leaders. Meeting dates are:

Stage 3 (years 5 & 6) – Thurs 18 February – 6.00pm
Stage 2 (years 3 & 4) – Wed. 17 February – 5.30pm
Stage 1 (years 1 & 2) – Tues 16 February– 5.30pm

SCRIPTURE AND ETHICS CLASSES

Scripture and Ethics classes begin on Tuesday 23 February. A letter re these classes is being sent home today. Parents need to choose for students to be involved in non denominational or catholic scripture lessons, non scripture lessons (a period where students read and complete class work) or ethics classes. Scripture classes are organized locally and taught from K-6 using a prescribed curriculum.

Kindergarten students enjoy time with their buddies.

CANTEEN

Our first day of canteen for the year will be Friday 19 February. A canteen information sheet is going home today. We are always looking for volunteers to help at the canteen. If you are available on a Friday please see the attached volunteers form and return it to the office as soon as possible or contact Michelle directly.

SCHOOL LEADERS INDUCTION

There will be an induction ceremony this Thursday 11 February for our school captains and vice captains, members of the school parliament, sporting house captains and vice captains and monitors. The ceremony will commence at 1.00pm in the school hall.

SCHOOL STREAM

Remember to download the school stream app onto your smartphone so you can receive important school information and alerts.

Zoe cheering for her house.

Thanks Chris