31 January 2017

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to our school year, another busy and eventful year is upon us. A huge welcome to our Preps for 2017, they are a lively group who have already settled in well and are learning new things every day. As the busyness of school begins we ask parents to be mindful of the importance of EVERY DAY COUNTS. So many learning opportunities happen every single day and if your child misses any of these it makes it can be very difficult to catch them up.

OFFICE HOURS

At the beginning of the year we had a change of staff, welcome to Mrs Sandra Walters who is working in our office. Thanks to Ms Deb Van Beek for her tireless years of service in our school, she will be greatly missed.

Sandra will be working in the office every day – this means that our office hours have changed. The office is open daily from 8:30 am to 3:30pm. If parents have any questions, need to notify of an absent student, want to buy uniforms or just need to let us know about collection of their child please don’t hesitate to ring on 4066 5540 or come to the school.

ATTENDANCE

From the beginning of 2017 we have had a change in the notification of absences. We are required to contact parents on the same day of an absence – this means that we need up-to-date phone numbers for every family. If your contact details have changed you are required to notify the office. We often have difficulty contacting parents, both for emergency situations and other school notification purposes. If you are unsure about whether the school has your current contact details call us on 4066 5540.

PLAYGROUP

The Murray Upper Playgroup began again today, we had a huge group of 12 children arrive to participate in some great activities. We encourage families to become a member of our Playgroup – there are many benefits including your child becoming familiar with the school prior to enrolling in Prep. Thanks to our organisers Nicola and Sam. If you need to contact either of the ladies for more information there are notifications on the Murray Upper Community Facebook Page or come along from 9:30 every Tuesday. All families in our community are welcome.

BEHAVIOUR

We have three easy school rules for our students to follow:

✓ I am safe
✓ I am respectful
✓ I am a learner

Everything we do and every interaction we have with students whilst at school is grounded in these rules. We ask students the questions around these rules if they are choosing the wrong behaviour: Are you being safe? Are you being respectful? Are you being a good learner? and What can you change to make your behaviour better? Depending on the behaviour depends on the consequence the student will have, there are many discussions during the consequence time where a student is taught the correct behaviour and what they could do next time. We like to be able to contact parents to keep them informed about their child’s behaviour (another good reason for contact details to be up-to-date) and the consequence for their actions. During these discussions with parents we often include the child to ensure we are all working towards the same goal. The students come to school to learn and we ask that the parents support us in this endeavour. If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate in contacting me.

Remember, DAILY ATTENDANCE is the key to success.

Kayte
Daily Attendance

Our attendance is a key issue and we need the support of parents to ensure students are attending EVERY DAY. Parents will be notified on the SAME DAY of an absence in 2017 or you can ring, email or send a note if your child is absent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Unexplained No. of days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>86.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to our Prep, Year 1 and Year 6 students – high attendance and low unexplained absences already this year! Well done to our Year 5 students will zero unexplained absences also.

We need to maintain this focus for 2017 – attendance enables your child to have learning success!!

PRODUCE STALL

We are again looking for donations for our Produce Stall – all funds raised allow our students access to opportunities that would be difficult in a rural setting. Please send in or bring to school any excess produce you have to put on the stall. Caravans and vehicles are pulling up constantly looking for produce. The produce stall funds will now be used to assist with bus trips for sporting events, swimming lessons and for the positive reward days for the students whose behaviour is exemplary.

A very big thank you to the families who support our fruit stall, our small school would not be able to offer the programs we do without this valuable support.

DATE CLAIMERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays 9:30 – 10:30 am</td>
<td>Playgroup – prep classroom area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays 2:00 – 2:30</td>
<td>Parade in library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10th Feb</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd March</td>
<td>District Rugby League &amp; Netball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 1
Class B

Me’Shake Page – for neat writing that informed us in detail of the things he did on the holiday.
Richadah Toohey – For following instructions and for enthusiastically getting her work done.

Class G

Nicholas Muriata – for settling back in well to school routines and being a good learner.
Armani Boon – For being a responsible leader and helping others.

Armani, Nicholas, Me’Shak and Richadah
Front Row: Noah, Emily, Andrew, Jairus
Back Row: Isla, Richadah, James & Rhyley

Newsletter Information
Don’t forget you can view this newsletter via our school website or if you download the QSchools app for your smart phones you can keep up to date with any new items that are uploaded to the website. If you download the QSchools app it will send you notifications of updates to the website and you can add any of these to your calendar in your phone.
If anyone would like further information about how to best use the QSchools app please don’t hesitate in contacting the school.
Website: https://murrivess.eq.edu.au/

QSchools app:

PMP activities