



First Days For Foundation

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On Friday 3rd February the foundation students started school, full of excitement, smiles and ready to learn.

Already we have had a busy start to the year with learning the routines at school, making lots of new friends and of course playing outside.

CORN:

On orientation day last year, the Foundation students received a pot of corn to look after and care for over the summer holidays.

Check out Charlize's corn, it is massive!



Jessica Boucher,
Foundation Teacher



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DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 10th Feb - Swimming Trials

Fri 17th Feb - 9am Parent Forum "Transition Into School"

Fri 17th Feb - Book Club Issue 1 Due

Mon 20th Feb-Mon 6th March - Grade 4 Swimming

Fri 3rd Mar - Pupil Free Day

Mon 13th Mar - Labour Day Public Holiday

Mon 20th Mar-Mon 24th Mar - Harmony Week

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Community Members of PGPS.

Welcome back to the new school year. It has been very exciting to welcome back existing and new students, staff and families to our school. We have had a very positive start with children and teachers settling well into their new year level.

On the first day it was magical to see the new school uniform on so many children. Thankyou parents for following the new guidelines that have been implemented over the past years.

ENROLMENT NUMBERS FOR 2017:

Parkwood Green's enrolment policy now in its third year has enabled us to manage our numbers and in 2017 we will see the student population stabilising at around 1120 students. Again we are structured into three Sub-Schools; Junior (Foundation and Year 1), Middle (Years 2, 3 and 4) and Senior (Years 5 and 6).

The Sub-School Principals are as follows: **Junior: Mr Keir Jasper, Middle: Mr David Allibon & Senior: Mrs Danielle Copeman.**

The Sub-School Principals are there to assist you with any enquiries you may have that cannot be answered by the Class Teacher. Remember, it is best to make a time with the class teacher to discuss any issue or to gain information. The teachers are required to supervise from 8.45am each day and may not be able to give their full attention to your comment or concern if they are dealing with students or preparing for the day's lessons to begin. This in no way indicates a reluctance to speak with you, it is an indication of their dedication towards teaching and your child's learning.

INFORMATION EVENINGS FOR THIS YEAR:

Again this year we are holding Information Evenings across the Sub-Schools so that you can gain valuable information to assist your child with their learning. These will be held in each double class and you will hear about the class routines and practices.

NEW STAFF FOR 2017:

I welcome back our existing staff members and introduce our new staff:

Junior Sub-School

Foundation: Casey Nocen and Kathy Giorgines

Year 1: Cat Stevenson. We also welcome back Adele Kuzmitsky (formerly Halligan)

Middle Sub-School:

Year 2: Welcome back to Dilek Kuzu and Amber Hodgett.

Year 4: Sharelle Brownbill, Kathy Pham, Andrew McIntyre and we welcome back Craig Thompson,

Senior Sub-School:

Year 5: Brooke Nicholls and Elyse Edwards

Year 6: Michael Fay

Specialist Program Teachers

Ms Brodie Ralli will be in Visual Arts for 2017. For part of Term 1 Mrs Yeliz Hasip will be taking Ms Ralli's role. Mrs Jennifer Gatt (formerly Bouzikas) will be offering LOTE/ Italian through Performing Arts to the Senior Sub-School and Year 2.

So it is a period of renewal for Parkwood Green which is very encouraging. We have been strategic in providing excellent teachers with a mix of skills and years of experience. Please join with me in making the teachers of every class welcome at our school, because after all, the teacher makes the difference!

USING THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS:

Parents of our Foundation students are reminded to use the School Crossings when crossing the roads to enter the school. This is not only the safest route to school but also models for your child(ren) the way to be safe if you are not with them. You are establishing a new safety habit. So far I have only had to redirect (in a loud voice) two families. Please use the Crossings and ensure you and your child are safe.

UNIFORM POLICY DETAILS:

As already mentioned thankyou to our parents for adopting the new aspects to our Uniform. The main colour is still GREEN, with the black adding a very smart addition.

Again I mention that there will be NO uniform pass for NETBALL SKIRTS or SKORTS as these are NOT on our Uniform List (in fact have never been) so your child will be asked not to wear them. Please help us out in this way.

Black leather shoes are ENCOURAGED. This means that Black shoes are the preferred over any other colour. Please when buying shoes for school, choose BLACK. That is plain black runners, leather shoes court shoes or T-Bar sandals for girls. Other coloured runners can be worn for PE and Sport of course. For those looking for black shoes some stores still have half-price shoes for boys and girls including runners.

Uniform supplies at the Uniform Shop have been intermittent at best. We are working closely with our Uniform Representative to ensure that the supplies are coming for you. Thank-you for your ongoing patience and support in this matter.

THE BACK ENTRANCE TO THE SCHOOL:

You may have noticed that the back entrance to the school is now enclosed. Visually the fence and gate are not too intrusive but enable students to see the boundaries. We are working on adding a logo to the gate to badge our school within the community.

This gate along with the others will be closed at 9.15am each day and opened at 3.10pm for your convenience.

Thank-you to Silvio and John who consulted with the supplier around the design and opening logistics.

ENTERING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY:

Parents of all students are reminded that if you are coming into the school during the school day you are to enter via the GENERAL OFFICE on COMMUNITY HUB. Generally, if you have something to give your child we take it at the General Office and the child will be called to collect it. As we don't want learning interrupted, parents don't generally go to the class during the school day. Signing in and gaining a **Visitors** sticker is required if you are assisting in a classroom or in the Kitchen.

Please also note that you will also be asked to sign our Child Safe Policy before entering the school grounds. You only need to sign this ONCE, but this is a MUST before entering our school grounds. A copy of the policy is located in the general office for your reference.

PARKING AT AND AROUND SCHOOL:

There is a Parking Guide on the windows of the Learning Centre for those who are unsure. Please be reminded that arriving at 2.30pm and parking in a **10-minute park** will get you a Parking Ticket. The Kiss and Drop is for all parents to use, but particularly if you have children in years 1-6. This frees up parking for parents of Foundation students who need to take them to their classes especially in their first year of school.

Parents are reminded that they are always welcome at school, but let's arrive at 3.10pm when the gates open.

LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL:

Last year we had many children leaving school early and arriving late. In 2017 our focus will be on students arriving at 8.45am so they can get organised and relaxed before the learning day begins AND staying until the end of school; not missing the last session of important learning. If your child is to attend a doctor or dentist please make the appointments before or after school if possible. I understand that this cannot be avoided, HOWEVER, if you are collecting your child so that you don't have to battle for a car park, then early dismissal isn't an option. Remember we have the Kiss and Drop for your convenience. When you request an early dismissal for your child, please don't be offended if we asked about the reason. Being at school every day for every hour optimizes your child's learning and that is what your school is on about!

Well that's about it. Remember the Newsletter is the main piece of communication to home. Please stay up to date so that you know what is happening and can participate.

Until I see you in person.

Sincerely,

Kerri Simpson,
Your Principal.

LIBRARY REMINDERS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just a few little reminders from the Library:

- The Library is situated in the BER at the back of the school.
- All students have a weekly borrowing session and are encouraged to borrow on a weekly basis. Your child's classroom teacher will be able to advise you of the exact day.
- Students are required to have a library bag in order to borrow.
- Loans are for a 2-week duration.
- The Library is open before and after school each day for additional borrowing.
- If books are damaged or lost, we request a nominal \$10 replacement cost.

If you have any queries in regard to the Library, please drop in and see any of the staff or contact Sandra King via Compass.

Looking forward to seeing you when you visit with your child,
Library staff

HAPPY READING

SCHOOL BANKING

Hello and a big welcome back, Looking forward to a big year in school banking. Please find attached a newsletter article for you to place in your upcoming newsletter. Your School banking Co-Ordinator has also received additional flyers to use for newsletter & or App reminders.

We've prepared an article to give your school community an overview of the Future Savers program. Please download the attachment and include in your next school newsletter as per the attached.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope your students will have fun exploring the future with School Banking in 2017.

KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

As we welcome the Grade 4's to the Kitchen Garden program this year we'd like to ask for any support families are able to offer regarding **volunteer support, or any clean glass jars with lids, kitchen equipment, utensils or recipe books** you may have that you are not needing. Please know that any volunteer support is appreciated and you are welcome to join us regardless of the year level of your child – if you are interested in supporting students to learn how to prepare and share fresh, seasonal food we'd love to have you! Speak with the office staff or visit us in the kitchen for more information. Thank you.

Andrea Houlden,
Kitchen Specialist

Fact or Fiction???

Is the student population of Parkwood Green PS from years Foundation to Year 6 1116 students?

Answer: Fact



Stars of the Week!

1AK - Sidd

1LK - Amelia

1BC - Benjamin

1GS - Hayley

1SH - Andrej

1CS - Teagan

2TA - Nathan

2KK - Kayla

2HC - Malik

2AB - Holly

2AH - Selina

2IB - David

3PS - Zane

3SC - Zach

3LW - Maddie

3KW - Alana

3AP - Jragan & Sarai

4ST - Adam

4NE - Luke & Ella

5BK - Yeshua

5EC - Maddison & Julian

5EE - Jarryd & Romeena

5SD - Hudson

5KL - Ashleigh

6GR - Caysha & James

6MF - Aydin & Dhimanya

6VB - Joshua & Caitlyn

6BC - Eddie

6BD - Ethan

CHESS TOURNAMENT WINNER

Congratulations to Myiesha who won the Under 12 girls Chess tournament at the Anglican Church Grammar School in Brisbane over the school holidays. Myiesha has been named the Australian Junior Under 12 Chess Champion.

Approximately 316 students from 8-18 years of age were involved in the tournament and PGPS are extremely proud of Myiesha's effort. Myiesha has been playing chess since she was 6 years old and attends weekly chess lessons with Frank at Parkwood Green's Chess Club (provided by Chess Kids).

Congratulations Myiesha!

Administration



We are eSmart

eSmart[®]
Smart. Safe. Responsible.

Our school is proud to announce we are now officially an eSmart school.

Since we first registered with the program, we have introduced many new policies and activities to improve the way our school manages cybersafety, bullying and cyberbullying.

We feel confident our students, staff and the wider school community are now well supported to be smart, safe and responsible users of digital technology.

We encourage everyone in the school community to continue to uphold and promote eSmart behaviours, at school and at home. If you are aware of any incidents of bullying, cyberbullying or risky online behaviour, please contact the Principal or our eSmart coordinator.



EXCELLENCE & OPPORTUNITY