Dear Parents, Grandparents and Community Members,

Welcome back to 2017 at Mullaley Public School. I hope everyone made the most of the holiday season.

We have 40 students this year across K-6 and not since 2007 have our student numbers been this high. Yesterday we welcomed four new kindergarten students – Will Schutz, Jemma D’Hudson, Leah Wilkins and Gus Simpson. All four left school yesterday afternoon a little weary but very happy, after their first day of school.

No need for me to tell you that we have been experiencing some very hot weather this week and according to predictions, these conditions are going to continue into next week. The Department does not have a specific policy on Weather Extremes. They do however advise schools to do their best to keep students as comfortable and protected as possible, during such occurrences. Our school air conditioning is working and serviced regularly however it is (I’m led to believe) well over 30 years old and simply cannot cope with the combination of high temperatures and high humidity. The fans are making a difference so thank you to everyone for responding so quickly to my request via School Dojo on Monday evening. On behalf of the students, thanks also to Sarah Tulloch for supplying water ice blocks for everyone on Tuesday. They were a real winner!!

Mrs Marie Kelly will no longer be with us each Friday as the property her husband was managing was sold at the end of last year. Marie and her family subsequently made the decision over January to move back to Queensland. We will miss Marie very much and certainly wish her and the family the very best of luck in the future.

Mrs Jackie Sheridan will be replacing Mrs Kelly and we are all thrilled to have Jackie on board.

Sandy, our music teacher will be at the school each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday this year. Individual student times have been posted on Class Dojo. Class music times are on Thursdays. Our Thursday lunch time has been changed (1.15 – 2.00pm) enabling the whole school to go straight into choir after lunch, for an hour. Sandy will also be speaking to some parents in regard to their child/children sitting music exams this year. At our meeting last Friday, Sandy and I also tossed around a few other performance ideas (these would occur outside of school time). Any such ideas however, will be taken to future P&C meetings (by both Sandy and myself) for initial discussion with parents.

Easter is a little way off yet but this year we have again decided to have an Easter Hat Parade but all hats will be made at school, on a day set aside solely for Easter Hat making/decorating. So in the meantime, we are asking that all children start to put together some bits and pieces which they think would look great on their Easter hats. Children can bring in an actual hat (along with their bits and pieces) to decorate on this day or they can actually make a hat and decorate it also on this day.

Following the Easter Hat Parade we will be holding a voluntary Talent Quest for mums, dads and students. So if you would like to do something with your child (tell
jokes, recite poetry, a short skit, magic acts, clever animal performances etc) please feel free to start planning and practising. Items to be no longer than 3 minutes. Children have also been given the option of performing with other children as well. More about this in weeks to come!

All schools in NSW are in the process of implementing a new finance system known as LMBR. Mrs Crawter and myself will be heavily involved in its implementation with readiness activities beginning in Week 6, Term 2. Intensive training in the new finance system will begin for us in Week 3, Term 3 with additional weeks of training in weeks 4 & 5 of Term 4. It is anticipated that we will go live in Week 2, Term 4, 2017.

Excursions 2017

What: Jenolan Caves and Selwyn snowfields
Who: Kindergarten to Year 6
When: Week 4, Term 3 (7th—11th August)
Duration: Five days, four nights
Travel: Keatings Coach
Cost: $500 approximately (partly funded through Sporting Schools).
Fundraising: Will solely be at the discretion of the P&C
Participation Decision: Final week of Term 1.
Payment: Instalments can be made anytime.

The Soundwaves spelling program will again be used for all students this year. We are asking that all parents contribute $5 per student towards the cost. The actual cost is $18.95! Please pay by the end of week 4 (17th February).

The Small Schools Swimming Carnival will be held next Wednesday at Gunnedah Memorial Pool. This year the carnival is being run by Fairfax Public School. Please come along and enjoy the day with students and staff. There is an information sheet and permission note attached. Buses will not be running on the day.

AGENDA OF THE P & C ASSOCIATION ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Welcome by the President
Apologies
Minutes of the last Ordinary meeting
Acceptance of the minutes
Business Arising from the minutes
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
TREASURER’S REPORT
General Business
- Annual School Excursion – 2017 – update
- Working Bee – update/status
- Canteen-update
- Mullaley Produce Drive’ – wrap-up and profit report
- Music Tuition
- Private Vehicle Conveyance of students for extra-curricular activities – any progress?
- Fundraising goals and commitments
CORRESPONDENCE
SOCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT
GRANT OFFICER’S REPORT
UNIFORM OFFICER’S REPORT
Next Meeting – date and time.

Small Schools Swimming Carnival

Attached is an information sheet for the carnival next Wednesday along with a permission note to be returned by next Tuesday.
Students need to be at the pool by 9:15am to be put into their houses. As a hot day is predicted, bring plenty of water, hat, sunscreen etc.
Parents will be required to help on the day with timekeeping.
If time permits, a parent relay will be held so bring your swimmers!

Excursion Meeting

A meeting for all parents interested in accompanying this excursion will be held next Tuesday 7th February at 3:15pm.

School Uniforms

All requirements for sports shorts, hats, jumpers etc. are to be directed to Talitha Jaeger (0458 442 389).
Payments is required at time of purchase.
Thanks.

Kind regards,
Christine

2017 Kindergarten—Gemma, Leah, Will and Gus