FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are well underway with our units for all curriculum areas. Students have been reminded that their responsibility is to: WATCH, LISTEN and LEARN, so that the teachers can TEACH and EXPLAIN.

We have also discussed Responsible Behaviour in the school and what that entails. Students know they need to follow the school rules if they are to learn at school, and be invited to the end of term reward.

Everyone is working well together and it is great to see the commitment from students and parents towards our motto “To Achieve”.

Regards
Judy Angel

TENNIS

Tennis lessons will not start until 8 February. Invoices will be issued today and the fee is about $43.00 per student for this term. This payment is not optional as no one has informed the school of their child/ren’s withdrawal. The P&C moved that fees need to be paid before students commence tennis tuition, due to the amount of bad debts accumulated last year.

HOMEWORK

It is a policy at this school for students to receive homework each week. Students are expected to complete homework as this does help them remember and revise the curriculum. As this is an expectation, any time homework is not completed, is counted in the data book as yellow. The allowance for yellow dots (to be allowed to attend the rewards day is at the maximum, 2 (two). This week homework is reading and sight words for the younger students. Homework sheets will commence next week.

SWIMMING

Swimming will not be until later this term. More information will follow in future newsletters.

REWARDS DAY

As part of our behaviour management policy and as part of our positive rewards and rewards, we have a ‘Rewards Day’ at the end of each term. Students need to be following school rules – Responsible and Learning, Respect and Safe. As well as getting a maximum of 2 yellow dots (warnings), students need to attend school > 96% of the time. (this means 47 days of attendance this term)

Please make sure you read the weekly progress report as that keeps you up to date on how your child is coping at school. This is sent home on a Friday and will include a short comment, plus any tests or other items about which you need to be aware.

COMMUNITY GAMBLING BENEFITS FUND

I have applied for another CGBF Grant in which I have requested we have a small covered grandstand with seating built on the oval. Hopefully this will be successful, but we won’t find out for a while. Look forward to some more improvements to the school!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

The following students were nominated for awards:
Student of the Week has been awarded to Ashley Poulsen.

Our school rule awards are:
▪ Respect – Cody Poulsen
▪ Being Safe – Thomas Bartkowski

Congratulations to Ashley, Cody and Thomas on receiving their awards

P&C AGM

The P&C AGM will be held on Monday 6 February, at 6.00pm at the school.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub is attached and orders are due Friday 10 Feb, please.

TUCKSHOP

Thank you for the volunteers for tuckshop. This Friday is tuckshop (Tash) and on the menu is mini pizzas (healthy choices) Ham and Pineapple or Chicken and Bacon – 2 for $4. Poppers $1.
The students have decided on their tuckshop choices:

**Nachos**

**Chicken and Cheese OR Ham and Cheese or variations** (wraps; kebabs, toasties and sandwiches)

**Spaghetti Bolognaise**

**Veg Pasta Bake**

**Fried Rice**

**Fruit Salad**

**DOLLARMITES – SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking will be done on Mondays.

**STARTING SCHOOL - Kidsmatter**

Starting school involves a big change for your child. It is normal for children to have strong feelings as they start to think about these changes, such as excitement about the prospect of going to school as well as nervousness about what lies ahead. Your child may also be feeling sad or angry about leaving early childhood education and care. This includes letting go of relationships formed with educators and other children, as well as a change to their familiar routines. Some common feelings children have during transition to school can include:

- excitement
- sadness
- anger
- anticipation
- fear or anxiety

Understanding and helping your child to handle the feelings associated with starting school will help to reduce their stress and can provide them with positive coping strategies.

Young children often have difficulty explaining in words how they feel. Instead they may show their feelings through their behaviour. Some behaviours may be easier to spot like tantrums and crying, while others may be more difficult to notice like being quieter than usual. During the transition to school you may notice the following behaviours emerge or increase in frequency:

- clinging behaviour (eg not wanting to separate from you)
- restlessness (eg difficulty settling at activities, easily distracted, fidgeting)
- withdrawing (eg not participating in familiar activities, less engaged, less willing to persist)
- being anxious (eg shyness, fidgeting, stomach aches, needing excessive reassurance around the routines or plans for the day)
- refusing to comply (eg not wanting to follow rules and routines)
- avoidance strategies (eg increased negotiations around participation)
- planning and organisation difficulties (eg trouble getting started, remembering or finishing tasks)
- increase in crying and tantrums (eg more often or in more situations)
- changes in eating habits (eg loss of appetite, becomes fussy with food, overeating)
- sleep difficulties (eg trouble falling or staying asleep, nightmares)
- regression to younger behaviours (eg bedwetting, thumb sucking, baby talk)
- aggressive behaviours (eg hitting, kicking, shouting).

These behaviours are examples of different ways children respond to challenging situations. They are very typical for children within this age group and you have probably already noticed some of these behaviours during other times of change. However, if the behaviours persist or are interfering with your child’s daily life it is a good idea to get further help.

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