AN data for 2 year intervals for some of our students found on the school website. We have asked each student to have a diary this year – another ‘new’ is Dominic Carter, who is joining us as Deputy Principal – Dominic has already shown how easily he is settling into our school... he seems to have an interest in Rugby League & Rugby Union! – I don’t know how he will fit in!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We are initiating a number of quality learning strategies this year, to build on our already successful repertoire of practice. Using explicit indicators that sequence concepts in Literacy and Numeracy individual student development is mapping – identifying where each student is ‘at’ and what’s next. We started mapping student development across the whole-school last year and those profiles have now been ‘rolled over’ into the new classes. Teachers now have both individual and class sets of information about the abilities of their students to add to the data from the annual formal assessment and reporting, as well as the accumulative NAPLAN data for 2 year intervals for some of our students.

Our first improvement strategy: we have identified three concept sequences – 1 developmental sequence of reading concepts; 1 developmental sequence of writing concepts and 1 developmental sequence of number concepts. These are our vehicles of achieving improvement for 100% of our students, Prep to Year 7 within 3 weeks.

Teachers will be sharing information about your child very soon about where they are on the developmental continuum and where they are heading, and how you can help your child attain their ‘next step goal’. Between us working together our kids can achieve amazing things!

SCHOOL DIARIES

Traditionally, school or student diaries are used as an organisation tool where they are on the developmental continuum and where they are heading, and how you can help your child attain their ‘next step goal’. Between us working together our kids can achieve amazing things!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The new school uniform is now available for purchase from the school. Uniform sales will be restricted to Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8am to 9.30am. Order forms are available from the office. The Polo shirts are now available in larger sizes, up to an adults medium. Ladyfit facilities are available for parents who wish to pay off their uniforms. Other payment options include cash, cheque, eftpos and credit card. Information regarding online ordering can be found on the school website.

SENIOR SHIRTS

Senior shirts that were pre-ordered are expected to arrive at the end of week 8.

ASSEMBLY DAYS FOR 2014

Monday Year 5, 6 and 7
Tuesday Year 4, 5
Wednesday Prep, Years 1 and 2

EVERYDAY COUNTS

Students need to attend school five (5) days a week. All absences must be explained. A phonecall to the student absence line 4979 7366 or a note as soon as the student returns is welcomed. Parent support is appreciated.

PREP PARENTS – ARRIVAL AND COLLECTION OF STUDENTS

To ensure the safety of your child and with respect for our era and need for supervision, it is required that prep parents bring children into the Prep classroom and collect from inside the classroom for the first term of school.

First bell for students is 8:50am at all classes beginning at 9am.

CLASS PHOTOS 2014 – DATE CLAIMER

Class photo day is on 5th and 6th March. Students will need a money collection envelopes will be sent home soon.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NOTES

Welcome to instrumental music for 2014. Mrs Slape, the Woodwind, Brass and Percussion teacher will be at West for a half day each Tuesday (12:30pm to 3:00pm) and a full day each Wednesday.

Woodwind-Brass-Percussion - New Student will kick off the year with their Band rehearsal at 7.45am on Wednesday 5th February (week 2). Lessons however will not resume for continuing students until Wednesday 12 February (week 3) in accordance with the timetable posted in the window of the Performing Arts Centre. Lessons and Band Rehearsals for continuing students will be each Wednesday this year.

Students who were notified last year that a school-owned instrument was available and had indicated to them will have an Instrument Loan Agreement Form this week. (All other students will need to provide their own instrument). Completed loan agreement forms are to be returned to the school office as soon as possible. Invoices for the hire fee will be issued from the school once the loan procedures has been completed.

LIBRARY NEWS

Library borrowing will commence from Week 2. There are still over 70 books outstanding from 2013. Please ensure these books are returned by Friday 5th April. Overdue slips will be sent home next week for those books still outstanding after Friday. Date claimer: Book Fair will run from Fri 21 to Wed 26 March 2014

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Parents/guardians are reminded that all medication given to students at school must be prescribed by a doctor, a medication form completed and medication stored at reception where it will be administered by staff. Parents are currently required to ensure a CURRENT green medical authorisation form is completed.

EPPENS

Please make sure you have replaced any Eppens that may be out of date. If you no longer wish to use the service please contact your Group Leader.

SCHOOLS SMARTPHONE APP

Our school community can interact with their favourite local schools using the QSchools smartphone app. The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information about and about schools. The app features are designed to integrate with the department’s school website to allow users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their selected school website.

Users can also see other useful information provided by the school, such as tuckshop menus, uniform shop information, class times and the school’s and the department’s social media feeds. The school community can also receive emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app.

QSchools app is particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app manages updates from multiple schools. More information is available on our school website.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION – STAGGER COLLECTION TIMES

To help avoid traffic congestion at 3pm, parents/caregivers are asked to stagger collection times to 3:05pm, 3:10pm 3:15pm. This should allow more traffic flow and help reduce lines of cars banking up.

PLEASE REMEMBER

o Collection zones are strictly 2 mins only.
o Staff are on duty at all collection zones until at least 3:15pm.
o Uncollected students are always brought to Admin where they wait until parents/caregivers arrive.
o If there is no space in the collection zone keep driving around the block and try again. It is important for children to be on time.

Reminder that there is no dropping off or collection of students in the school grounds unless permission has been obtained from the Principal.

STUDENT BANKING

Student banking will commence next Tuesday 4th February. We are in need of people to process the banking. Could you please advise the office if you are able to help on Tuesday mornings from 8am.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Any volunteers wanting to help out in the Tuckshop for 2014 are asked to contact our Tuckshop Convener, Kay Castles.

2014 TERM CALENDAR

**Term 3**

1 April – 22 April

**Term 4**

1 September – 2 October

**Holiday your child will be needing to know...**