



Heights Happenings

2 February 2017

No. 01

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2017 Diary

February

- Mon 20 •School Council
•“Getting To Know You Chats” begin
Mon 27 •Information Sessions begin

March

- Thur 2 •LT4 Incursion
Mon 20 •School Photo Day
Fri 31 •Last day Term 1
2.30pm finish

April

- Mon 17 •East Monday Holiday
Tue 18 •Term 2 commences
Fri 28 •Student Free Day

May

- Fri 5 •2018 Prep Transition Session
Mon 15 •LT4 Coonawarra Camp
Wed 17 •LT3 “Just Like Me” Workshop
Fri 19 •LT4 Camp returns
•2018 Prep Transition Session
Wed 24 •District Cross Country
Tue 30 •LT3, LT4 Bamboo Theatre

June

- Thur 1 •LT1, LT2 Bamboo Theatre
Fri 2 •2018 Prep Transition Session

Uniform Shop Roster

February

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Mon 6 | Shelly & Pedda |
| Wed 8 | Liz |
| Mon 13 | Shelly & Bec G |
| Wed 15 | Sophie |

Welcome Back

Welcome back for the 2017 school year. I hope that you all found time to relax and enjoy the holiday break with family and friends. We have started the year very smoothly welcoming 267 students.

I would like to extend a very special welcome to the many new students and families who have begun their Primary School journey with us here at Ringwood Heights Primary School.

Our new Prep students commenced school on either Tuesday or Wednesday this week and will have completed their first full day today!

Along with our new students and families we also welcome Robert Bennett who is new to our staff and will be teaching 4B this year. Robert joins us from Kew East Primary School and we welcome him to our wonderful community.

It seems that everyone has returned refreshed and excited and looking forward to a very big year of learning.

Baby News!

Congratulations and very warm wishes to Hayley, Matt and Aly Davison on the safe arrival of their new daughter and sister, Isabelle.

Curriculum Day

Monday was the first Curriculum Day for staff. Our focus on this day was to reflect and discuss achievements from 2016 and think about the goals and priorities for 2017. This year is the first year of our new Strategic Plan and our Key Improvements Strategies are:

- * To strengthen data literacy to ensure the progress of each student is closely monitored and lesson planning meets the needs of each student
- * To integrate relevant, authentic and collaborative e-learning using current and new technologies to engage learners and enhance inquiry
- * To develop learning and teaching processes and practice to embed inquiry and learning assets across the curriculum.

In investigating these focus areas we began our professional learning session on Monday looking at technology, particularly in developing the teacher’s ‘tool box’ to understand and investigate ways of integrating coding and other digital technologies into our classroom inquiry units. We were lucky to have Jo Blannin, (Digital learning Leader from MGSE) lead the morning information session and following workshops. Teachers accessed the application ‘Scratch’, programmed a ‘Drone’ and visited places wearing a Virtual Reality headset.

“Getting to know you Chats” will be offered during the week of February 20. The online booking information and process will be distributed via Tiqbiz the week before to allow you to make appointments with your child’s teacher. These scheduled 10 minute chats are offered for parents of children who are new to a particular teacher, or would like to touch base with your child’s teacher to update or provide information that will support your child’s learning. The information may include their interests, special qualities, learning style, medical concerns or other general information that will support the teacher in getting to know your child. These chats are not to answer questions regarding the class program – this is covered at the Information Sessions the following week.

Our **Parent Information sessions** this year will focus more on communicating with parents the expectations we have of students at each particular Learning Level, ways you can help your child at home and outline any new or emerging curriculum initiatives. A note will come home shortly with a tear off slip for your input as we are keen to make sure these sessions meet your needs (a copy of this form is also included in this newsletter). The dates for these evenings have not yet been formalised but they will be scheduled on evenings in the week beginning February 27. Please keep an eye on the calendar in Tiqbiz.

Staffing

2017 Team Leaders

Team Leader Coordination	Stephanie Gibney
Specialists	Vicki Cunningham
Prep	Melinda Lane
Year 1 & 2	Katherine Butcher
Year 3 & 4	James Lumsden
Year 5 & 6	Dalal Benko-Nehme

Learning Team 1	Prep	Melinda Lane Stephanie Gibney	1L 1G
Learning Team 2	Year 1 & 2	Katherine Butcher Emma Pengelly Kath Maher/ Alex Vella	2B 2P 2MV
Learning Team 3	Year 3 & 4	James Lumsden Karen Rogers Stephanie Eddington	3L 3R 3E
Learning Team 4	Year 5 & 6	Dalal Benko-Nehme Samantha Cadman Robert Bennett Alison Harvey/ Karen Trease	4BN 4C 4B 4TH

2016 Specialist and Support Teaching Team

Performing Arts	Vicki Cunningham
LOTE Indonesian	Donna Ramage
Visual Arts	Zena Goodman
PE/Sport	Cameron Deeble

Integration Aides

Mary Clarke
Anne Taylor

Support Staff

Office
Kay Gardner
Leanne Smart
Michelle Stringer

Chaplain

Peter Sellars

Communication : Tiqbiz and Newsletter

We use Tiqbiz as our main form of communication. Regular notifications and reminders will be posted and will include all excursions, activities at school, reminders and the newsletter. Please be reminded about the use of the, ‘absences’ form to alert teachers of your child’s absences.

We will begin sending home some excursion notices and permission via Tiqbiz as well this year, so there should be less lost notes between home and school hopefully! The calendar will have all important dates highlighted. Please take a moment each week to read these details so that you are always fully informed.

This year, the newsletter will be written then posted to Tiqbiz FORTNIGHTLY and will contain regular features such as News from the Principal, Parents Club and OSHClub.

If at any stage information is missing from Tiqbiz please alert the office staff who will very happily ensure that information is always as up to date as possible.

Assembly

School assemblies on Monday morning aim to gather students, staff, parents and other members of the community so that we can present awards, showcase talents or welcome guest presenters and celebrate significant community events together.

Our School Captains assist the Principal to run

assembly as part of their leadership role. I hope you can find some time throughout the year to join us. Our first assembly will be held on Monday February 6. We'd love to see you there!

**Kim Bride
Principal**



This form below will also be sent home with each child and in the Learning Team newsletters. Please return to your child's class room teacher by Friday 17 February.

Woodwind Lessons Available

New opportunities have opened up for students who are interested in learning

clarinet,
saxophone or
flute
in 2017

Times with Lauren are available during school hours on a Thursday, with flexible timetabling options to suit students. Lessons are recommended for grades 3 and up, with exciting opportunities for students to perform to friends and family, or to join our lunchtime band rehearsals. Music education is invaluable and is said to improve memory, concentration, coordination, and perseverance.

Instruments are available for hire. Lauren can be called on 0421 738 357 or emailed on laurenarnett.music@gmail.com.

Enrolment forms can also be found at the office.

Help us make the beginning of year communications address your needs.

Let us know what you are thinking.....The beginning of the school year holds a great window of opportunity for getting to know our students and families. It is these relationships we build on throughout the year as we continually work on developing strong home-school partnerships that are an essential part of the learning culture at Ringwood Heights.

“Getting to know you Chats” provide you with the opportunity to talk with your child’s teacher about information that will support your child’s learning. The information may include their interests, special qualities, learning style, medical concerns or other general information that will support the teacher in getting to know your child. These chats are not to answer questions regarding the program – this is covered at the Information Sessions the following week.

Parent Information Sessions for each Learning Team will focus on communicating with parents the expectations we have of students at each particular Learning Level, ways you can help your child at home and outline any new or emerging curriculum initiatives.



PARENT RESPONSE

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

For the Getting to Know Chat: What is the most important thing you would like me to know about your child?

For the Parent Information Evenings: A topic or question I would like addressed is:

