Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the 2014 school year. I trust that you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.

This year, we welcome five new students to St George School. A warm welcome to Allegra Watkins and Ismail Flewellyen who are commencing school for the first time. A warm welcome also to Luke Hanna Year 4, Vanessa Gazal also in year 4 and from next week to Samuel Sirio, Year 1. We trust that our new students and their families will enjoy their time at St George School.

Classes 2014

As in 2013, we have ten classes. We continue to have three teams: Primary, Middle and Secondary. Primary 2 will be a composite class using the same flexible staffing model that was trialled in 2013. There are two other classes in Primary, two Middle classes and four Secondary classes.

This term your class teacher will contact you regarding a meeting time to develop your child’s personalised learning plan. The meeting will set the individual learning priorities for the year. Where necessary, the meeting will also provide the opportunity to review your child’s Health Care Plan, any physical management issues and/or therapy recommendations.

Staffing

This year, we welcome Angela Stupar to our teaching staff and Nadia Solomou to our support staff. We welcome back Annette Kay and Jacqui Baltyn from maternity leave.

Leah Ponzo will continue as librarian for one day a week. Friday will be our library day this year commencing in week 3.

Josh Oshlack will deliver music therapy on Wednesdays commencing in week 2.

Karen Baker, Narelle Minati and Celeste McGrath continue as our office staff with Karen in the role of School Administrative Manager.
Finance System
Our new finance system commenced at the end of last year. The new system will eventually allow for electronic transfer of funds into the school account. Some families have asked about this facility and we have been advised that the facility will not be available until the end of first term. For this term any payments to the school should be by cheque, money order or in cash.

St George School app for quick and easy access to information for families
We have established a St George app for quick information to families about school events. It is early days with minimal information at this stage.

The app is for smartphones. To download the app, the title is St George School.

To login, the username is community and password is stgeorge.

The app will ask you to accept push notifications. If you accept we are able to send reminders through to you.

If you do not have a smartphone, you may wish to access the information via the app website: http://stgeorge.myschools.com. Username and password is the

Curriculum Focus
In 2014, schools implement the new Australian curriculum in four subjects: English, Mathematics, Science and History. In 2014, for students K-6, all schools will teach the new English syllabus. The teaching of the new Mathematics, Science and History syllabus is optional. For students in Years 7 and 9, all schools will teach the new English, Mathematics, Science and History syllabuses. In 2015, for students in years 8 &10, all schools will teach the new English, Mathematics, Science and History syllabuses.

Literacy and numeracy capabilities continue as a high priority.

Professional Development Day
Last Tuesday, our professional learning day covered mandatory update on Child Protection. Staff also completed mandatory training on the Department of Education and Communities’ Code of Conduct.

School Captains
Congratulations to Alissa Kelly and Brandon Krimatat who are our school captains this year. The official handover of this role occurred at our 2013 Leavers’ Assembly. We look forward to our captains representing the school at special events.

The School Plan
Our school plan 2012 – 2014 indicates the priority areas for student learning and staff professional learning. This year is the final year for meeting the goals of the plan.

The focus areas are:
- Partnerships
- Literacy & Numeracy
- Technology
Community Notices

- News from NDIS on preparing for implementation of the NDIS

- ADHC has prepared a letter for families at St George School to facilitate school referral to ADHC therapists. The letter accompanies this newsletter. No referral by the school will be made without consultation with families. Please return the letter to your class teacher.

School Contact Details
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