I would like to welcome everyone to the 2015 school year. The beginning of the year is very busy for teachers, students and families. New routines need to be established, new friendships made and each person needs to find what their new role is.

My role is to provide activities that will cater to the needs of your child, allowing them to grow as a person and also show academic growth. I will also provide a supportive, caring and safe place for your child.

Your child’s role is to be ready to learn, be a good listener and follow instructions to the best of their ability. They must be willing to try new things. They must show respect for other students and staff, along with the school’s equipment.

As a parent your role is to work in partnership with me and the school to make your child’s school year a positive experience. You need to make sure your child is ready to learn by making sure they have enough sleep (not just on school nights), they have enough food to eat and water to drink at school, notices are read and if needed returned to school by the due date. You need to assist them with their learning by listening to them read everyday, reading to them and helping them to complete work that may be given to them. Also as a parent, you need to keep a careful watch on your child’s emotions. If they are over tired, teary or grumpy, it may be they are finding school overwhelming, in which you can come and speak to me, or it may be that they are over committed outside of school. School should be a priority and sports and other outside lessons may need to be postponed until they are more settled into school.

Our school newsletter is emailed to you every Thursday. Please check your emails and read the newsletter as it contains a lot of important information and dates.

I am always available to discuss your child’s progress and how you can help at home.

Please make an appointment if you have any concerns.
**BEING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL**

It is very important that children are at school ready to start their learning at 9:00.

If a child is 15 minutes late everyday that adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes each week. Over a term this would equate to 12 hours and 30 minutes, which is 2 1/2 days. Over a year this is 10 days of their learning by just coming 15 minutes late everyday.

Teachers begin the morning by outlining what is happening during the day and setting routines.

When students are late, the attention of the rest of the students becomes directed towards the student entering the classroom and what they are doing.

**Extra Play For Being On Time For School**

Every Friday all students who have arrived at school on time will be rewarded with an extra 10 minutes of play at the end of recess.

Students who are late will be required to go inside and complete work under the supervision of a teacher.

If your child is late for school, you will need to sign the late book at the office.

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is away from school you must notify the school prior to the day, on the day or after the day.

You can notify the school by sending a written note, with a brief explanation of why they will be/ have been away eg. Family holiday, illness, funeral, medical appointment.

You could also phone the school and leave a message or speak to me before or after school.

If you know your child is going to be away please let me know before the day.

If you need to collect your child early from school they must be signed out, using the 'sign out book' located at the office.

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**EDUCATION ESSENTIAL ITEM CONTRIBUTION**

This is your fees that pay for your child’s school supplies.

So far in the classroom your child has been supplied with

- 3 scrapbooks
- 1 writing book
- Writing pencils
- Pencils
- Textas
- Scissors
- Reading diary
- Reader cover
- Paste and brushes
- Paper

When your child completes a book they will be provided with a new one. Last year some children used 4 writing books, 2 maths books (scrapbooks) and we went through a set of textas each term and at least 4 grey leads each.

We ask that you supply 4 glue sticks, which I will keep in the cupboard for use throughout the year.
Our beginning theme this year will be nursery rhymes. We will read a variety of nursery rhymes and use these to help identify high frequency words. High frequency words are those words that are used the most in reading and writing, such as the, and, in, at. We will do craft activities related to the nursery rhymes.

Literacy includes reading, writing and speaking and listening. We will learn to read words and share books. We will discuss books and discuss the meaning of words we don’t know. Children will work in teacher groups to learn strategies to help them read.

Children will complete daily writing tasks. They will learn how to correctly write each letter of the alphabet. They will learn about letters and letter combinations and the sounds they make.

Children have an allocated day to bring something for show and tell. As a parent you need to help them choose what to bring and help them practise what they are going to say. They should include information such as what it is, where they got it, how long they have had it, who gave it to them and where they keep it. They do not have to do it each week, but I encourage them to participate regularly.

Maths covers the areas of number and algebra, measurement and geometry and statistics and probability. Topics covered include counting, recognizing and writing numbers, addition and subtraction, length, mass, capacity, shape, location and data collection.

Integrated Studies covers all other subject areas eg. Health and Science. The topics covered often relate to the theme in the classroom.

Over the next couple of weeks we will looking at hygiene (washing hands, coughing and the spreading of germs) and also rules (school rules, home rules). We will have many discussions about how to resolve issues in the playground and sharing.

**CLASSROOM THEMES AND CURRICULUM**

**SPECIALIST PROGRAM**

The students will attend 4 specialist programs, Music, Art, P.E. and Japanese.

Music is run by Mr Cotterill, while the others are taught by Mrs Abbott.

Children may wear or bring runners on Thursday for P.E.

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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Art</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
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Here we are ready for cooking in our aprons.