

Principal's Report for the P&C Meeting
11 February 2015

A very warm welcome to all parents and carers supporting the school this year. I hope you have had relaxing and happy holidays and are ready for another busy year with the P&C. The school greatly appreciates the commitment and hard work that our parents give to the school so that all students can be supported. This has been a busy week with 88 kindergarten children and 195 Year 7 students joining the school on Monday. Several students have also joined all other years. Both the primary and secondary sectors have numbers higher than ever before. Needless to say, we are over-capacity! Families continue to move into area for their children to be able to access the school. This is affirmation of the high standards that Telopea Park School demonstrates.

School values

Again this year we will be focussing on our school values of respect, cooperation, honesty and fairness to underpin all that we do and say. These are values for the whole school community and we know that parents role-model and support us in them.

New teachers

Please join with me in welcoming the following new teachers to the school:

Primary:

Robin Egerton is our new Primary Deputy Principal. Robin is an experienced educator. She spent many years at Telopea Park School in the 1990s. Our school is also where she completed her Masters Degree in Bilingualism, a particular passion of hers. A perfect fit for Telopea Park School.

Amy Dean – Year 6 Australian teacher

Secondary:

Louise Pinder – Visual Arts teacher

Jessica Dixon – Performing Arts teacher

Matthew Nogrady – English teacher

We wish them a happy and successful time at Telopea Park School.

With 133 staff members this year, I am very pleased that staff movement has been kept to a minimum as we aim for consistency for the students.

School hours

At this time of year it is my duty to remind the school community of the school hours. I do this on a regular basis as students continually arrive at school before official supervision hours.

Primary: 9.00am to 3.15pm

Secondary: 8.45am to 3.15pm (3.09pm on Thursdays)

There are 30 minutes of supervision before and after school, so I ask that students do not arrive at school before supervision starts.

Road Safety

Please drive carefully when dropping off and collecting children. We acknowledge that this is a very busy school with very little parking for parents. Primary parents are asked to join the queue at the primary drop-off point, please do not park there and be patient for others to move ahead.

Voluntary contributions

Thank you to those families who have already paid their school voluntary contributions. These are used to provide the additional resources that help to make this school innovative and at the cutting edge of education.

For the first time we are also asking the parents of students in the French Program (all primary and the EFS in secondary) to contribute to the delivery of the French National Curriculum. This will enable our school to gain full recognition by the AEFÉ, the French government agency that accredits all French Schools Abroad. The money is needed for accreditation of the program, the delivery of the French curriculum, professional learning of the staff and to cover the cost of the required French inspections each year. French Stream families will be invoiced for these contributions in the first few weeks of term. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Assessment Calendar

Secondary parents were sent the Term 1 Assessment Calendar last week. It is an opportunity for parents to work with their children to plan their time wisely. Time management and organisational skills will be supported at school but are also areas where parents have an important role to play.

I have informed parents and carers of the school's Equity Fund and how this can be accessed when difficulties arise in a family's finances. No student should be disadvantaged by a family not able to purchase/contribute to the education of their child.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a happy and rewarding year. I look forward to working with you so that together we can deliver the best possible education to every child in the school in a safe and caring environment. I very much appreciate your support.

Warm regards
Kerrie Blain
Principal
9 February 2015