

Telopea Park School  
Principal's P&C Report  
3 May 2017

Dear P&C parents

As Telopea Topics was sent home on Monday this week, much of what I say here is a repetition of that, but now with the opportunity for you to ask questions.

Welcome to Term 2! It has been good to see students and teachers alike this week eager to start the learning process for the term and to do their best in all areas. There have been no staff changes.

Thank you to parents for supporting your children to value the education they are being offered, as this is their opportunity to connect with their teachers in the learning process. Thank you also for sharing the values of the school: respect; cooperation; fairness; and honesty, and for supporting us to maintain standards in all areas including the consistent wearing of uniform – especially as the colder months are upon us.

Congratulations to our students who represented the school at the AEFÉ Swimming Championships in Sydney in week 10 last term. They represented the school extremely well.

#### **ANZAC acknowledgement**

We acknowledged ANZAC Day at a secondary commemorative assembly on the last day of term 1. We were privileged to have Mr Anthony Hill as our guest speaker talking of his latest book, *For Love of Country*, and the story of the Eddison family. It was a complete honour that we welcomed the last remaining member of this well-known Canberra family, Mrs Pam Younge (née Eddison), to the assembly. Afterwards she laid a wreath on our memorial in memory of her three brothers, all Telopeans, who died in World War II.

The War Memorial at the front of the school was upgraded with the support of a grant from the ACT Government in 2015. This memorial is symbolic of the lives that were lost in all wars to protect Australia. We also acknowledge, that 43 ex-students of Telopea Park School were known to have died during the Second World War.

#### **National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy - NAPLAN**

After initially preparing for NAPLAN testing to be online, we now have been informed that the testing will go ahead on paper as in previous years. Thank you to the parents who were supporting us to prepare for the online testing using BYOD. Testing will be in week 3 of this term when students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be sitting for these national tests. Our students are prepared and we ask that parents be aware of the testing that will take place. As usual, there will be several tests for each year group – Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) and Numeracy. These tests should not be daunting for any student as the school aims to make students comfortable to deliver their best work. Parents should encourage students to do their best.

### **School reports**

All reports were sent home with your children last term - primary reports in week 7 before the primary parent/teacher meetings in week 8 and secondary reports in week 9 ready for the parent/teacher meetings in week 10. If you did not receive your child's report, please contact the school office for another copy. Please also be aware that if you require a meeting with your child's teacher, you can make an appointment at the front office at any time. The next parent/teacher meetings will be at the end of term 3 after the progress reports have been distributed for semester 2.

### **French Program Families only - Fees for the Delivery of the French Program**

Thank you to the families who have already paid the \$400 per child in the French Stream. Please be aware that this is \$300 for subsequent children in the same family. As term 2 begins I am reminding some families that this contribution is vital to maintain the standards in the French Stream that we are presently able to offer. With these contributions we would also like to employ a French relief teacher as the colder months approach so that classes can be covered during teacher absences. So far we have not been able to do this. Your support by contributing to the French Stream would be greatly appreciated. Please do not confuse these fees with the school's voluntary contributions of \$300 per child at the start of each year.

### **Road Safety**

Again I ask that you take particular care in traffic around the school during drop-off and pick-up times. 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. ACT Police are supporting the school.

### **School times**

There is supervision at the school for half an hour before and after classes.

School times are:

Primary - 9am to 3.15pm

Secondary - 8.45am to 3.15pm (except Thursdays 8.45am to 3.09pm)

Please ensure that your children do not arrive before supervision starts for the day and leave the school promptly after classes are finished.

Best wishes for a happy, safe and rewarding term.

*Kerrie Blain*  
*28 April 2017*