

Welcome to Term 2! As this report is so soon after my Principal's Report in *Telopea Topics* last Friday, I will include some of that here.

It was good to see the students happy to be back at school, making those vital connections with their friends as they learn the important skills we all know are vital for their futures – relationships, communication and collaboration. 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 and learn. 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 our school uniform – especially as the colder months approach.

I would like to let you know that our Primary Deputy Principal, Robin Egerton, will be going on long service leave pending retirement at the end of this week. We wish Robin all the best for her future which will be including much travel! Anna McGown will be acting in this position until it is advertised later in the term. Hebe Petkovic will be acting for Anna in the student support role but will continue with some of her previous duties.

2020 Enrolments

It is this time of year that we are preparing to accept the Kindergarten and Year 7 enrolments for 2020. The enrolment period opened on Monday the 29th April.

The criteria for entry into Kindergarten have changed this year to a process which will provide greater clarity and equity of opportunity. The School Board agreed last year to this change and a Board Sub-Committee was formed to work on the criteria. This document will be attached with these *Telopea Topics* and will also be found on our website.

Again this year, only students living in our priority enrolment area will be accepted into the secondary Australian sector of the school.

There was an Information evening last week for parents and carers to understand the Kindergarten 2020 enrolment process as well as what the commitment involves when enrolling their children in the school.

The Information session for Year 7 2020 was held last night. This is also the open night for the school.

New Timetable for Secondary

There is a new timetable for secondary students and teachers. Please note that classes now start at 8.50am. This will support all students to be in class on time, especially as the colder months are approaching.

ANZAC acknowledgement

We acknowledged ANZAC Day at a secondary commemorative assembly today. This is an opportunity for the students to reflect on what it means to live in a democratic country

We are hoping to upgrade the War Memorial at the front of the school this year so that it will not be used as a place for children to sit or climb. 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.

IB Review

We would like all secondary families to be aware of the underlying principles of pedagogy at Telopea Park School. As well as the Australian Curriculum General Capabilities and the French Curriculum pedagogy support document, the Socle Commun, all that we do is also underpinned by the IB's Approaches to learning (ATLs). These are:

- Communication skills
- Social skills including collaboration skills
- Self-Management skills – organisation, affective and reflection skills
- Research skills - ICT and media skills
- Thinking skills – critical, creative and transfer skills

To support our IB School Review in 2020 we invite secondary parents to work with the school. Please contact Michele McLoughlin to learn more: michele.mcloughlin@ed.act.edu.au

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy - NAPLAN

NAPLAN will be in week three this term. Our students are prepared and we ask that parents be aware of the testing that will take place. 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. We also ask in secondary that the students' Chromebooks are fully charged each day.

School reports

All reports were sent home with your children last term - primary reports in week 8 before the primary parent/teacher meetings in week 9 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.

Please also be aware that there is a **Communication Protocol** document prepared to assist parents to contact the school. It will be shared again at the meeting.

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. These are also vital for the school to maintain equipment for learning

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. Note that there is no student drop-off in the front circle of the school. Thank you all for your patience in the mornings.

School times

This term there is a new timetable for secondary students. This timetable was mailed to you last term. Please be aware that every day starts at 8.50am and ends at 3.15pm (including Thursday which used to finish earlier)

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

School times are:

Primary - 9am to 3.15pm

Secondary - 8.50am to 3.15pm every day

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

Well-being and the link to learning

Finally, as reported last term Michele McLoughlin, Secondary Deputy Principal and IB Coordinator, and I attended the IB Asia-Pacific Conference in Hong Kong last term. Several presentations were very clear in linking student happiness and success with student well-being. We would like our families to value student well-being as an important pre-requisite for learning. We ask that we work together to support all students to do their best.

Best wishes for a happy and successful term.

Kerrie Blain

Principal

30 April 2019