Message from the Principal

Welcome Back everyone!

Welcome to our new students Clementine, Frankie R, Teddy, Xavier, Brendan, Sebastian, Henry, Max, Isabel, Chloe, Jemima, Ezekiel, Jamie, Camilla, Zorah, Eden, Anastasia, Mishka, Lachlan and their respective families as well as our precious 2016 Kinders. I know that you will certainly enjoy being part of this caring community. We hope to meet and greet many of our new families tomorrow at 3pm near the School Cola for our P&C organised: welcome afternoon tea.

2016 has unfolded with some changes including a new demountable classroom – date TBC, to cater for our growing student population. This year we will be introducing “Indonesian” to all classes thanks to Mrs Jones. I am sure there will be an Indonesian flare to our Art Show this year – so watch this space!

We are fortunate to have a dynamic staff again this year including new faces, so welcome everyone. Discussions with staff highlighted that once again our enthusiastic students have returned to school refreshed, happy and eager to undertake another extraordinary chapter in their educational journey. School is certainly energy filled at the moment and a hive of activity.

Kindergarten 2016

Kindergarten students have taken their first steps of their education journey yesterday. We hope that their transition to school will be as happy and smooth as possible. Of course we will have our reliable Yr. 5 buddies standing by to support all of our new students. The Kinder parents and representatives from the P&C participated in a “Tissue and Tea” morning tea after the Kinders walked up the high steps to the Kinder classroom.

We trust that the first day of school was an exciting time for the whole family. Thank you to the Year 1 parents for supplying a scrumptious morning tea to share.

School Leaders 2016

Congratulations to this year School Leaders - School Captains: Owen and Gabe and House Captains: Jade and Atticus. Our school leaders Owen and Gabe performed their first leadership role by raising the Australian flag at the Australia Day ceremony at Wagstaffe Hall on 26/1/16. Congratulations and well done.

Later this term, Mrs Bridgman will be accompanying the four leaders as they embark on The National Young Leaders Day to be held at Acer Arena Homebush.

Professional Learning for Staff 2016

A special thank you to our dedicated teaching team for attended a whole day “Mindfulness Matters” course at Wyong last Saturday 31/1/16. The course allowed us to foster techniques to create calm, happy and stress free environment.

Diary Dates Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5 Feb</td>
<td>Sorry – no canteen orders</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Assembly @ 2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
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<td>P&amp;C Welcome Afternoon Tea @ 3pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>8 Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in school library- all welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>School Swimming Carnival</td>
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Staff 2016
At present staff and class structure includes:
Principal: Mrs Deborah Callender
Kinder: Mrs Lee Simpson – Relieving Assistant Principal
K/1: Mrs Emma Gordon
1/2: Mrs Kate Keyes
2/3: Mrs Loren Ireland
3/4: Mr Andy Podmore
4/5: Mr Chris Gilks
Yr 5/6 Mrs Michaela Bridgman
Library: Mrs Lauren Coombes
Music & Indonesian: Mrs Narelle Jones
LAST: Ms Kate McKinney
School Learning Support Officers: Mrs Jan Tochowicz and Miss Leanne Stait
School Administration Manager: Mrs Lyn Hyde
School Administration Officer: Mrs Monica White
General Assistant: Mr Rowan Butt

Please note that if any minor adjustments need to be made in the next few weeks, parents will be notified before any changes take place.

Mrs Kate Keyes – Class 1/2
Hello Pretty Beach PS Community, my name is Mrs Keyes and I am excited to be a part of the teaching staff this year as a year 1 and 2 teacher. I am very keen to be moving into my new classroom with my 24 students and can’t wait to get to know them throughout 2016.
I have been teaching on the Central Coast for the past six years across all stages and subject areas.
I love sport and being outdoors, regularly playing Touch Football and keeping active at the gym. I enjoy teaching dancing at school, and am very excited to be choreographing the year 3-6 Central Coast Dance Festival ensemble.
I am so lucky to be a part of this beautiful community and look forward to the year ahead.
Please come and say hi, I would love to meet you!
Have a wonderful term,
Mrs Keyes 😊

Volunteers
We are appreciative of anyone who wishes to volunteer their time at our wonderful school.

The Canteen is always looking for helpers. Please refer to the separate canteen note. We envisage the canteen being operational every Friday this year to coincide with Sports Day. This can only come to fruition if we have valued community members offering their services. Your help and support is greatly appreciated and we look forward to forming a strong partnership in your child’s education.

All volunteers need to enquire at the school’s office in relation to the new Volunteer Registration Policy.

Deborah Callender
Principal

Peer Support Training
Last week students in Years 5 and 6 participated in a 2 day peer support training program. The purpose of the Peer Leaders’ Training is to prepare students for their role as Peer Support Leaders and highlight the structure of the Peer Support Program. It also assists in developing the skills which are necessary for the effective facilitation of Peer Support groups.
The days were scheduled for 9.00am - 3.00pm and were divided into 3 sessions. Each activity had a suggested time allocation and debrief questions were included at the end of most activities. This was vital to assist the students in processing the learning contained within the activity. It is also useful as a model to support the students in working with Peer Support groups.
Students had a great time working through the activities with Mrs Bridgman and Mr Podmore and gained greater skills and confidence in becoming a Peer Support Leader. The 8 Peer Support sessions will commence in week 3. This term we are focusing making and maintaining positive relationships. More information about each session will be coming up in the following newsletters so stay tuned!

Mrs Bridgman - Peer Support Coordinator
**Term 1 Week 2**

**Update for all Schools using Parent Online Payment**
Did you know that you can make payments to your school online?
I am pleased to advise that POP is now user friendly on mobile devices. The online payment portal is linked to the schools website. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Behind the scenes Westpac has been working on an upgrade to the Parent Online Payment webpage attached to the school's website. In the past using the “$ Make a payment” page through a mobile device or tablet has not been as easy as on a computer. Now, automatically, when parents click on this page, via a mobile device, they will be able to complete the online form with ease.

**Canteen News**
As the stove in the canteen needs to be replaced we are unable to open the canteen for orders until the new stove is delivered and installed. Therefore there will be NO lunch orders tomorrow. The students can however purchase over the counter items first half of lunch. We will advise when orders can be placed.

**School Banking**
School banking day is Monday and will recommence next Monday 8 February. Every year the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and 8 new exclusive School Banking reward items.
This year’s program is themed the **Outback Savers** and School Banking is taking students on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings, where they’ll learn to master smart savings habits.

There are **8 new reward items for 2016** from the Outback Savers range:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

**Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!**
This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin. Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.

**Health and Safety is Everyone's Responsibility**
Our children look to us to keep them safe. This is particularly important at the beginning and the end of each school day. As you are aware the traffic at these busy times is very heavy outside our school. Make sure children cross at the crossing and hold hands with and adult.

The staff car park is only available for staff. Please do not drive into the car park to pick up or drop off children.

By following our road rules and travelling slowly (40km or less) around schools during drop off and pick up times we are doing everything we can to make sure our children stay safe.

**Kincumber High School**
The latest [Kincumber High School Newsletter](#) is available by clicking on the link.

**Safety and Security**
Safety and security during the weekends.
Please report any suspicious behaviour to school security on 1300 880 021.

**Primary Ethics Classes**
Ethics is a branch of philosophy that examines ethical concepts and issues, asking what are right or wrong in particular circumstances. Ethics classes are available as an option for children in years K-6 who do not attend SRE/Scripture.
Classes are inquiry-based where children use dialogue and discussion to learn how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument. This process allows students to properly consider other people's points of view and to be sincere, reasonable and respectful in dealing with their differences and disagreements.

Our K-6 curriculum comprises a wide range of age-appropriate topics and introduces children to the foundation of ethical thinking, such as understanding consequences, having empathy and appreciating difference. Children in the younger primary years examine issues such as being left out, sharing and bullying, while older children reflect on issues such as homelessness, fairness and teasing to help them consider the feelings of others – one important aspect of moral reasoning.
Research shows that well-reasoned moral judgement does not develop automatically as young people mature and that these skills are best developed using the methods we employ in ethics classes. Once acquired, these skills accompany individuals into adulthood.

Ethics classes at Pretty Beach Public School are run parallel to SRE/Scripture classes and are set to commence in week 3 or 4 of this term. Parent volunteers who have trained as Ethics Teachers will lead the discussions in each class.
If you would like further information, please contact the Primary Ethics Regional Manager, Jenni Bourchier, on bouddicoast-region@primaryethics.com.au or 0411 198 483. Please inform the school if you would like your child to join an ethics class.
Una Davis

**Thursday 4 February 2016**

**Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!**
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Una Davis
P & C News

We hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable break from school and has returned fresh for a new year. The P&C would like to extend a particular welcome to all the new families joining our community this year; we look forward to meeting you and hope that you are settling in well at Pretty Beach. We would love to see as many families as possible at the welcome afternoon tea which will be held tomorrow afternoon under the COLA after school. Please bring a plate (but not if you are a kindy family or a new family as this is your welcome afternoon tea!) and stay after school for a cup of tea, a drink and chat.

If you’ve been thinking about getting involved with the P&C our first meeting for the year is at 7pm Monday 8th February in the library. We would love to see some new faces there. The AGM will be held on March 7th (7pm in library) where all positions will be open and a new executive will be voted in.

This year the P&C are planning to continue running the very successful community markets once per term. These have been the major fundraiser for the school over the last few years, last year bringing in over $12,000. This money enabled us to purchase many items requested by the school for our children, including the funding of half the cost of school music lessons last year. The first market this year is planned for Sunday 13th March 9am-2pm so please keep the date free and come along and enjoy the day or even put in an hour or two on the P&C stall. We would like to continue running a P&C where everyone contributes and everyone benefits.

The P&C are continuing to run the drama classes after school on Tuesdays as well as the strings program on Wednesdays. As usual we will be arranging several fundraisers and social activities through the year and will keep everyone posted about these as they come along.

We wish everyone a happy and successful 2016 and look forward to catching up tomorrow afternoon at the Welcome Afternoon Tea.

Strings Report

The strings program is starting again for 2016 next Wednesday (10th February) with lots of new students having enrolled for this term. After an amazing display of talent at the Gala concert at the end of term 4 we are looking forward to seeing what can be achieved this year. We are very grateful to the Mitchell Family and also to Mrs Narelle Jones for the donation of violins to our program, which helps us to keep costs down. We would also like to acknowledge the very generous support of Cathy Baker at Belle property in agreeing to cover all costs of the Gala concert, meaning that all money raised on the night can go back into our program.

We are very pleased to have confirmation that for the first time ever Pretty Beach Public School will be sending students to participate in the Festival of Instrumental Music in August. Some senior strings students will have the opportunity to perform with other strings players from primary schools around NSW in a special concert at the Opera House.

So, lots planned for strings this year. We will be open again to enrolments for term 3 (for all students K-6) so if you would like more information or are interested please get in touch with us.

Emily Stoddart (P+C strings subcommittee)

Parents of Catholic students who wish their child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3 and above) and Confirmation (Year 2 and above) at Kincumber Catholic Parish please contact Mayo Tripolone ASAP on 4369 1211 or mayo.tripolone@hotkey.net.au

Thanks Lynn
Ann Cartwright
Catechist Co-Ordinator.

TKT Ocean Beach Netball Club 2016 Registration

TKT Ocean Beach Netball Club will be taking registrations on Saturday 6th February 2016 between 9am and 2pm at Lemon Grove Netball Courts. All past players and any new players are welcome. Players need to be turning 5 this year or older. For further information please contact: Joanne Ely - 0403 482 804 or email joannee_1956@hotmail.com

Coastal Valleys Region

Girl Guides invite you to

Come and Play and Stay

At Blackwall Guide Hall

Memorial Avenue, Ettalong Beach

Meetings resume 8th February, 2016.

Guides enjoy friendship, adventure, games, camping, outdoor activities, life skills and more – provided by trained Leaders

For meeting details please call Ronnie on 0412 773 623

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