Principal’s Message:

Dear Parents

I would like to welcome everyone back to a new year especially our new families. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Jennings family, to Jessica in Prep, Stephanie in Year 1 and Isabella in Year 3 and to their parents. I would also like to welcome Rachel Hensel to Prep and to welcome her parents back after a short break. I am very pleased to announce that we have 26 students this year and this enables us to keep our 2 teachers for the year. I would also like to welcome Mrs Jeanie Cuskelley to Bowenville as our new music teacher. There will also be a new teacher for LOTE.

This Thursday is Day 8 and all staffing allocations will come into effect the following week. There may be a change in our allocation for teacher aide and administration hours. I will let you know what these are when I am notified. I will endeavour to ensure that both classes have a full time teacher aide during core learning times to support the children.

In the week before school started the staff was very busy completing professional development (PD). In 2012 the national curriculum was introduced across all Queensland schools, this told us what we were to teach. In 2013 the region has given a directive that the “Explicit Teaching” model will be introduced across all schools in the Darling Downs South West Region. Mrs Haylock and I completed intensive PD in this model and it will be used across the curriculum. The model focuses on strict routines in the classroom. These routines are going to be consistent across both classes and will be followed by all staff. Some of the vocabulary that you will hear will be: I Do – teacher explicitly teaching; students actively listening. We Do – teacher and students working on examples and non-examples together. You Do – students working independently while teacher is supporting and giving feedback to the child. WALT – We Are Learning Today WILF – What I Am Looking For TIB – This is because

There will also be routines when lining up to go into class. There will be a bookwork policy that encourages all students to complete their work and setting out against a high benchmark. Each child has been explicitly shown how to rule a margin and how to set out their work. Copies are attached. I would encourage you to follow this policy when supporting your child with homework.

Religious Education will return to Tuesday morning at 9.00am at the request of the ladies who willingly give of their time to take these lessons. PE and Music will be on Wednesday morning and LOTE will be on Friday in the middle session. Parade will be held on Monday afternoon at 2.30. All parents are welcome to attend. Staff meetings will no longer be held of a Thursday morning but will be conducted after school on a Thursday.

Momentum Readers will be sent home with students to read as part of the Reading Group program. These books are NOT the student’s home reading level; they will be the instructional text for reading comprehension conducted by the teacher aides throughout the week. The students are encouraged to read the books and to write down any vocabulary-words that they don’t know or understand and to bring those words to their lesson each week.

Spare clothes are required for the younger students. Please make sure all clothes are in a plastic bag and clearly named.

The students in Year 5 and 6 will be our school leaders for the year. They have selected a buddy and will work together to develop their leadership skills throughout the year. In a couple of weeks the sport’s houses will elect one sport leader from this group of students. Next year our school captains will be elected from this group of students as both groups will be going off to high school in 2015. I will notify you when the badge presentation will be held.

Both class timetables have been completed and are in the classrooms if you wish to view them.

As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter.

If you have any concerns about the learning of your children please do not hesitate to contact us and to arrange a convenient time to speak with the teacher. Appointments are necessary to ensure that adequate time is allocated to you.

I have been informed that there is a case of head lice. I would encourage you to check your child’s hair and to treat it accordingly if you are aware of an infestation. Hair that touches the collar should be tied up to keep it out of the eyes when learning.

Just a reminder that electronic devices such as mobile phones and iPods are not permitted at school. These devices are too expensive and risk damage at school.

As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter. As of next week newsletter will be issued on the newsletter.

I would encourage everyone to use email to communicate with teachers and the school. We are then able to respond as soon as possible. Email addresses are on the newsletter.

Have a great week everyone.

Lee
Welcome to the start of a new school year. We are very happy to have three new faces in our P-2 class, Rachel, Jessica and Stephanie and would like to extend a very warm welcome to those families. Even though it has been a slightly disrupted start this year with the flooding we have had a very productive beginning to the year. We are well into teaching our units and are very excited to be sharing our love of picture books with the preps. A big thank you to all the families for getting most of the books on the booklist, I realize that the A4 year 1 lined botany books proved to be impossible to acquire so thank you for purchasing the A5 size instead. As our school is making a move toward being more sustainable and printing less, please feel free to use my e-mail to contact me any time, khayl7@eq.edu.au

Have a great week.
Kathryn.

Welcome to book club for 2013. Once again there are some great items in these brochures. We still receive rewards, from each order placed, which is a bonus for the school. Just a reminder that **NO cash will be accepted**, however you can pay by credit card, cheque or money order. *This issue’s orders are due back to the school no later than Tuesday 12th February.*

Thank you for your continued support.

Kim Welke—Book Club Co-ordinator
30 ft K-Line Speedtiller for hire
Excellent stubble incorporation and seedbed preparation
Requires approx min 270hp to pull
Contact James Branson on 0427 623491

Thank you to Mrs Biltoft for making a beautiful storage bag for our new Playgroup Tunnel.
We very much appreciate your time and effort.