



## Newsletter

## Week 1 Term 1

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 8 February	<b>Parent Information Evening P - 6</b> 5:30pm-6pm Year Group information 6pm-6:30pm Whole School Information 6:30pm-7pm Year Group repeat session
Friday 10 February	<b>Assembly 12pm – 1pm Hall</b>
Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February	<b>Getting to know you Parent Teacher interviews</b> Preschool – Year 6
Wednesday 15 February	<b>Swimming Carnival Years 3-6 and Year 2 born in 2009 wishing to enter races</b>
<b>Wednesday 15 February</b>	<b>Canteen Closed</b>

## Attachments

- ☺ **Canteen Menu 2017**
- ☺ **Preschool Canteen Menu 2017**
- ☺ **Canteen and Uniform Newsletter**
- ☺ **Board Nomination Forms**
- ☺ **School Banking News**

# Message from the Principal

## WELCOME BACK TO 2017!

It continues to be an honour and a privilege to be the Principal of Miles Franklin and work in partnership with such dedicated parents and staff to educate our wonderful children!

For all of our new families, welcome to our wonderful school! We hope to collaborate with you over the years on the mutual goal of helping and supporting your children learn and grow from childhood to the beginnings of adulthood.

The start of every year fills me with optimism. Our focus areas for this year include:

1. Continuing to embed and strengthen the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme in our school with a focus on integrating Maths inquiry more fully into our units of inquiry. We were selected at the end of last year to be a PANL (Principals as Numeracy Leaders) school and we are really looking forward to the opportunities this will bring.
2. Continuing to extend upon our excellent results in Literacy and Numeracy as shown by our 2016 Year Three and Year Five NAPLAN and Kindergarten PIPS results. We will maintain the emphasis on spelling and reading support and work on improving the writing skills of our children. This was the focus of our professional learning last week.
3. Last year we started our preparation of the Friendly Schools Plus our social and emotional learning program. Whilst the IB Learner Profile attributes are important we feel (like most IB schools) they need to be enhanced by a separate program. This will soon be a requirement in schools as well. It is crucial the classroom and playground are safe and welcoming places for all children.
4. Addressing the needs of high ability learners through differentiation, greater levels of inquiry-based learning and curriculum extension and enhancement opportunities.
5. Continuing to engage parents in their children's learning. Parental support is vital, whether it be in the classroom or at home.
6. Finally, improving the infrastructure of our school. We are creating an arts space for Jo Wallace, purchasing new chairs and tables for the additional children we now cater for, upgrading the hall audio visual system and hopefully building a COLA! (covered outdoor learning area). A huge thanks go to our wonderful P&C (every parent is a member) who have helped us throughout these journeys by their amazing fund-raising and great generosity.

In addition to writing, maths and Friendly Schools Plus our professional learning focus this year is on the IB concepts (form, function, causation, change, connection, perspective, responsibility and reflection).

## STAFF

I would like to welcome new staff and acknowledge roles across the school. Rachel, Beth, Lalangi and Dee continue in Preschool and are joined by Emma Reid returning from maternity leave. Kindergarten is Melanie Sissian, Maddy Packard and Cherie

Marshall. Year One is Rachael McGarity, Megan Ferdinand and Cara Tink-Evans. Year Two are Kate Tanas, Kate Smyth and Kaili Witherdin. Year Three is Samantha Wynne, Sarah Ebbage and Kathy Barry. Year Four is Jacqui Green, Michele Davis, Eliza Bensley and Jenni Troxell covering the days that Eliza and Jacqui are spending with their children. Year Five is Donna Brennan, Megan Beit and Ben White. Year Six is Lara Johnston and Monique Zuman. Chris Currie continues on PE and Year 6 band (Megan Beit will take Year 5), Cynthia Harris remains as our French teacher (Indonesian will no longer run as a curriculum area as we cannot fit it into the timetable, we are excited to have it continuing as a club at lunchtime) and Jo Wallace takes visual arts. Jenny Hudson will continue to assist children who have English as an Additional Language or Dialect and Luned Scholfield and Natalie Collis will be assisting children who are struggling with their reading. Ellanie McNamara will provide in-built relief when staff are away and she will be joined by Scarlett Conroy when she returns from maternity leave. Our support staff (Kirstie, Meg / Lizz and Mark), Learning Support Assistants (Maria, Steph, Vicki, Wendy and Joe) and Library Technician (Vicki) continue and are led by De Barnes. Nicole Jagggers is our Deputy Principal and leads the Preschool and Kindergarten teams, Tony Merritt leads Years One and Two and Sylvia Headon leads Years Five and Six. We have advertised the position for the Years Three and Four team leader and hope to be able to announce the successful applicant in the next couple of weeks. For these few weeks Tony Merritt will oversee Year Three and Sylvia Headon Year Four. I am delighted to lead our wonderful group of staff!

### INFORMATION NIGHT

Our information night is next Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February. It commences at 5.30pm in each teaching area for each year level from Preschool to Year 6 where each team will present their program to you. At 6.00pm, all staff are required in the hall where we will present our whole-school programs. At 6.30pm, we will repeat our year level presentations (for parents with children in different year levels), finishing at 7.00pm. In Week Three we will have our Getting to Know You interviews (also known as three-way interviews) which will involve your children, we are asking for children to be present so we can set individual goals and targets for them in collaboration with you at that time. Bookings will open shortly online, further details will follow shortly.

Please remember you are always most welcome in the school, we always need helpers in the library, canteen, preschool rosters, guided reading and changing the home reading books. Once again I look forward to working with you all in furthering the progress of your children. If you ever have any concerns or questions, please remember to speak to your child's teacher first and then one of the Executive if it requires further attention.

Yours truly,

Chris

## School Board

### School Board Nominations

Nomination forms for the two vacant Board positions are available from the Front Office. These are important roles as the school board is a formal mechanism for parents, carers, staff and students to participate in school decision-making. The board is responsible for the school's strategic direction. Operational matters are the responsibility of the principal.

### Functions of a School Board

- to establish strategic direction and priorities for the school
- to monitor and review school performance and to report on it to the Director-General, parents of students at the school and staff
- to develop, maintain and review curriculum for the school
- to develop and review education policies at the school
- to establish budgetary policies for the school and approve the school budget
- to establish policies for the efficient and effective use of school assets and the management of financial risk
- to develop relationships between the school and the community and between the school and community organisations
- to make recommendations to the Director-General on issue affecting the school and to give effect to the Director-General's directions
- to encourage parent participation in their children's learning; and
- to exercise any other function given to the board under this Act or any other Territory law.

It is wonderful to have parents with a diverse range of experience and skills on the Board. The school has worked very closely with the Board to become an IB school- without this support and commitment from parents we would not be where we are today.

If you have any questions about the Board, please speak to me.

Chris

## Canteen and Uniform Shop News

### WELCOME BACK!

The canteen is open again for 2017 Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you can volunteer and help out between 9:00 and 11:00am on any of those days even for 10mins in the morning after drop off to stick labels on bags we'd love to hear from you.

The canteen menu can be viewed in flexischools (just enter the school name in the home screen) – we have attached the new menu to the drop box on the MFPS website [www.mfps.act.edu.au](http://www.mfps.act.edu.au). All updates go through there. If you need a hard copy please ask at the canteen.

Flexischools changes - Canteen Lunches are via flexischools only and the cut off to place orders has changed to 8.45am. Please make sure your orders are done prior to this time. Orders can be made in advance a day or more prior. You will also notice that we have split the lunch grades to juniors (K-2) and seniors (3 – 6).

Uniform Shop is operating again – please remember it's cash only sales. If you need to pay by card you will need to place an order through flexischools. – If you are yet to set up an account you can access it via [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

Please pick special order items carefully as we don't stock them and we don't do a refund or exchange for change of mind. If you need further clarification on what you are ordering please ask or view the stock brochure on the MFPS website in the drop box.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year in 2017.

**Opening hours** –Canteen days and hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 8.40am to 1.30pm. Uniform Shop is open Wed, Thurs and Fri 8.40 to 9.15am(Sharp).

**The Canteen will be closed Wednesday 15 February, due to swimming carnival.**

Contact details Ph: 62071775 (please not between 9am and 11am) or [mfpcanteen@gmail.com](mailto:mfpcanteen@gmail.com)

Selina, Julie and Donna.