

Newsletter 1 Term 1 Monday 29 January 2018**From the Principal**

This short newsletter is to welcome the Duncraig Primary community back for the 2018 school year. I hope you have enjoyed some time together as a family over the January break and are prepared for another busy year as term 1 commences. I am expecting the commencement of the school year to go very smoothly on Wednesday. Our classrooms are ready to go, with many teachers and education assistants working during the holiday break.

The start of any school year is always very special. After many years as a student, parent, teacher and school leader in schools, I always look forward to this week with excitement. As you would be aware, a lot of work occurs before this day, both at a school level but also at home. Thank you for your support in preparing your children to enjoy a positive start to school. Our staff understand the effort and expense that occurs to ensure your child attends school with booklist materials, voluntary contributions, school uniform and healthy lunches. This makes our job so much easier and is very much appreciated during the busy start to school.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome new families to Duncraig PS. Next week we have two classes of kindergarten students who (alongside their parents) will commence their formal years of school. In addition, we also have a number of new families joining Duncraig PS from other year levels. On behalf of the Duncraig community, I would like to welcome all new students and their families. We hope your children enjoy learning at our wonderful school and encourage you to become involved in our school community by attending P&C and school events.

Transition to School

Although the start of the school year is an exciting time for many children and their families, this new beginning can also make some children anxious as they contemplate the journey ahead and the developing of new relationships with peers and teachers. If your child is feeling anxious about returning to school, please be assured that school staff are very conscious of the anxiety that may surround this time of transition. After over twenty five years in education, my advice would be that this is quite normal, particularly in the first fortnight of school. Research indicates that the early establishment of a 'back to school' home routine may assist. Regular informal chats with your child that focus on positive events throughout the day can also help to reassure children and build their resilience and ability to manage change. The information provided in this newsletter from our school's SEL (social emotional learning) parent committee may also assist if your child is experiencing difficulties. If you have any major concerns, parents are encouraged to speak with your child's teacher or contact the school office for assistance from the leadership team. Parents are always welcome to contact me directly or alternatively, the Deputy Principals. Ms Leah Clegg looks after our students in years K-2 and Mr Taylor Webb oversees the wellbeing of our students in years 3-6.

School Staff Update

This year we welcome five teachers who are either returning or joining our school community.

Ms Cath Locke	Year 3, Room 12 and Year 4, Room 6
Ms Angela Coombes	Visual art specialist
Mrs Rebekah Rossi	Kindergarten
Ms Malinda Lyons	Pre-primary Room 16
Mr Mathew Zanatta	Year 5 Room 3

Class Lists

Most parents will be aware that class lists were published at the end of the 2017 school year. These have now been updated to include holiday enrolments and will be on our school website from Tuesday for your information.

I wish you all a happy start to the 2018 school year.

Lisa Tucker
Principal

Starting School

The start of the school year is an exciting time for children. They look forward to seeing their friends and having the regular routine of learning activities at school. Amongst the excitement, concerns about separation from parents sometimes begin. This is not just for children starting school but also older children. Over the summer holidays, children typically spend a lot more time with their parents. They may have had a few separations from their parents over that time. For children who have had separation anxiety in the past, you may find that their separation anxiety reappears prior to school starting and in the first week. Here is some helpful information, as a part of the KidsMatter resource, on the link below.

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/social-and-emotional-learning/positive-separations-helping>

Duncraig PS is a KidsMatter school. This is a flexible, whole school approach to improving children's mental health and wellbeing.

- 2018 Class Structure

K	Leonie Hetebry	Mon, Wed, Fri	0.6	KA
K	Rebekah Rossi	Tue, Thu, Fri	0.6	KB
P	Rachael Waters Tara Phillips	Mon-Tue Wed-Fri	0.4 0.6	14/15
P	Malinda Lyons	Mon-Fri	1.0	16/15
1	Alex Collett	Mon-Fri	1.0	17
1/2	Helen Spiers	Mon-Fri	1.0	18
2	Sandy Firman	Mon-Fri	1.0	13
2	Jenny Cole Lindsay Calton	Mon-Wed Wed-Fri	0.5 0.5	11
3	Jo Watkinson Cath Locke	Mon-Wed Thu-Fri	0.6 0.4	12
3	Sara Di Martino	Mon-Fri	1.0	8
3	Tabitha Stewart	Mon-Fri	1.0	7
4	Jenny Wylde Cath Locke	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri Wed	0.8 0.2	6
4/5	Steve Miller	Mon-Fri	1.0	5
5	Louise Oldroyd	Mon-Fri	1.0	4
5	Mathew Zanatta	Mon-Fri	1.0	3
6	Amy Jones Alison Gordon	Mon-Fri alternate Thu	0.9 0.1	2
6	Karen Garcia Alison Gordon	Mon-Thu Fri	0.8 0.2	1
French	Janet Wilderspin	Tue-Thu	0.53	10
PE	Ted Orzel	Mon-Fri	1.0	
Music	Jan Ruscoe	Mon, Thu	0.4	Music Room
Science P-2	Lisa Nash	Mon, Tue	0.4	VA/Science Room
Visual Art	Angela Coombes	Wed-Fri	0.6	VA/Science Room

2018 Student Class Placement

Finalised class lists have now been published on the website to incorporate new student enrolments. Please check the website before returning to school on Wednesday, in case your child's class has changed.

Booklists - Text Books

Please do not name or cover your child's text books until after the start of the year. This will enable the school to exchange text books if your child requires a higher or lower level. Teachers will advise you of any changes and send home the text books for covering after school has commenced.

Classroom Teacher/Parent Information Evening

The 2018 classroom teacher/parent information evening is scheduled for Thursday 15 February (week 3) at the following times:

P-2 6.00pm – 6.30pm

3-6 6.45pm – 7.15pm

Please note the 15 minute swap over time, to allow for the 3-6 teachers to start their sessions promptly.

Peter Combe Incursion – Wednesday 14 February

K-4 students will experience a musical performance by renowned Australian artist, Peter Combe, on Wednesday, February 14. Peter's songs include music concepts of beat, rhythm, pitch and harmony, and allow students to enter a world of imagination as well as see the funny side of everyday life. This performance will be a springboard for Music and Literacy activities in Term 1. More information can be found at www.petercombe.com.au. Information sent home/available??

Swimming Lessons – Year 5 and 6 students will attend swimming lessons at the beach in weeks 2 and 3.

Notes will be emailed to parents and sent home with students on Wednesday.

Students in Pre-primary to year 4 will attend swimming lessons at Craigie Leisure Centre in weeks 4 and 5.

Notes will be sent home soon.

P&C Welcome Back Picnic

The P&C will hold their annual 'welcome back to school' afternoon picnic on Friday 9 February (week 2). This event is usually held on the grassed area outside the library, the undercover area and the oval.

Term 1 Planner

Our term 1 planner is now available on our school website. Please ensure you check the planner regularly as this is updated throughout the term.

Uniforms and hats

We look forward to all students wearing school uniform. This is a feature of our school and we trust parents will continue their support in this area. We particularly request that suitable shorts, not surf shorts, be worn.

We appreciate the efforts of our P & C uniform shop coordinators, in providing uniforms.

Our sun care policy requires student wear a SunSmart hat for play and sport. Please ensure items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name. We request that no jewellery be worn to school in the interests of safety.

Parking areas

We ask all parents & carers to be courteous and responsible when parking around the school and to take note of any relevant signage.

The staff car park is not to be used for setting down or picking up students.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be open on Friday 2 February between 8.15am and 8.45am.

Size 10 polo shirts are currently on order and should be here soon.

If you have any uniforms you no longer need we would be happy to add them to our second – hand items.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

We look forward to your support in paying these voluntary contributions –

Kindergarten \$60

Pre-Primary \$60

Years 1-7 \$60

These funds will be used to provide additional resources for all students.

An outline of possible charges for each year level is attached. Please use this to anticipate educational expenses for the year. Charges will be collected at the time the particular event, such as an excursion, occurs.

If you have any queries on contributions and charges, please contact the office. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or bank deposit (BSB 016 495 3409 48316). We have no EFTPOS facilities.

2018 SCHOOL CHARGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The Duncraig Primary School Board has endorsed the schedule of Contributions and Charges for 2018. The schedule is broken into four sections and will allow you to calculate all costs that may be incurred throughout the school year.

1. Contributions

The total amount of contributions parents/caregivers are being asked to pay has been set at \$60.00 per student which is in line with the School Education Regulations 2000.

Money collected will be used to supplement school expenditure in the curriculum learning areas. The contributions maximise the quality of our teaching and learning program when each family makes its contribution to the cost of supplementing funding gained from other sources, including the State and Commonwealth governments. It is vital for the school to receive your family's contribution. Your contribution will be used to supplement school funding for the purchase of resources needed in the provision of the learning program activities. The table below gives you the breakdown of where we will direct your voluntary contribution to.

Kindergarten		Years PP - 6	
Phys Ed Resource Materials \$10	\$10.00	Science Consumables \$5	\$5.00
Art/Craft Consumables Stationery \$10 Craft Materials \$10	\$20.00	Art/Craft Consumables Stationery \$10 Craft Materials \$10	\$20.00
English Language Consumables Resources \$10 Stationery \$5	\$15.00	English Library Resource Materials \$10	\$10.00
Photocopy Supplementary to all Learning Areas	\$15.00	Photocopy Supplementary to all Learning Areas	\$15.00
		ICT Computing Consumables \$10	\$10.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION	\$60.00	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION	\$60.00

We also point out that all contributions are used for the direct benefit of the children. Our aim is to raise our community's contribution rate to at least 90% for the benefit of all our children.

The Board has suggested a number of options be offered to assist parents making their contribution.

Option 1 A single contribution of \$60.00 (this can be paid at the school office if you have not paid through the P & C Association personal items order form).

Option 2 Four equal contributions, each of \$15.00 made in the first week of each term.

Option 3 Two payments, each of \$30.00 made in the first week of each semester.

The Board would like to point out the contribution per child (\$60.00) equates to \$1.50 per week over the course of the year

2. Charges For Extra Cost Optional Components

A breakdown of estimated charges for your child's participation in excursions, incursions, activities for 2018 have been included in the table attached. Details on charges collected in previous years has helped guide the 2018 estimate of charges. The amounts shown represent the maximum charged for scheduled activities in 2018.

The charges schedule includes costs associated with:

- Specific learning activities and available to **all** students, but conditional on a payment being made e.g. incursions, excursions.
- Specific learning activities available to **selected** students, but conditional on a payment being made e.g. PEAC, Music program, etc.
- Other activities available to all students, but conditional on a payment being made e.g. graduation lunch, camps, etc.

3. Items For Personal Use

The charges for personal use items will vary from student to student and includes:

- Pupil requirements for all students and used in lessons eg stationery items, calculator, etc.
- Pupil requirements recommended but not essential for all students eg tissues, art shirt, etc.
- Pupil requirements for selected students and not directly part of the educational program eg class photographs, Year 6 Leavers shirts, etc.

The recommended list of Items for Personal Use for your child has been previously distributed. All materials can be purchased through OfficeMax, however you are not obliged to use this supplier. Your child will need to have the listed materials each school day so it will be necessary to replace some items, such as pens or pencils, throughout the year.

4. Other Voluntary Funds

Other voluntary funds at Duncraig may include a P & C Association contribution.

DUNCRAIG PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARGES FOR EXTRA COST OPTIONS - SCHEDULE 2018

Item	K	PP	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6
1 Incursion	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40
2 Excursion	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70
3 Dancesport		\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
4 Interm Swimming		\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70
5 Swimming Carnivals						\$30	\$30	\$30
6 Year 6 End of Year Activities								\$80
7 Interschool Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • Cross Country • Jumps/Throws 			\$10	\$10	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30
8 Interschool Winter Sports							\$40	\$40

9	Academic Extension Yr 4PEAC Induction Day Introduction to PEAC Yr 5 Round 1 Early Years Extension {parents to transport to Venues}	\$30 - \$300 depending upon course 3 rounds(Years 5 – 6) \$45 (Due Round 1 Year 5) \$30 \$10 (Years 1 – 3) *Please note these costs are not included in the total.							
10	Instrumental Music – Instrument Hire							\$110	\$110
11	Instrumental Music - Resource Charge							\$20	\$20
12	Year 6 Camp								\$250
	TOTALS	\$110	\$230	\$240	\$240	\$260	\$290	\$460	\$790

NB: a) Please note that not all children in the year level are involved in all the above activities, eg interschool sporting teams, music, Academic Extension etc

b) \$100 is the maximum any student will pay for school excursions/incursions (items 1 and 2) – many classes will not be required to expend that amount.

