Thank you to Kindergarten, Stage 1, Stage 2 and 3 teachers for their time to present Parent Information sessions to parents this week and next. Communication with parents is a focus in our school plan and we are fortunate to have these opportunities. These times are for you to share information with your child’s teacher. Our numbers are stable and we have formed our classes for 2015. There is no need to restructure.

Road Safety
School opening and closing hours are busy times for pedestrian and vehicular traffic outside the school. Always take extra care in 40km/h school zones, which operate on gazetted school days. Park safely even if it means walking further to the school gate. Observe all parking signs. They are planned with children’s safety in mind.

- NEVER Double Park as it puts children at risk. Do not make U-turns in front of crossings.
- Model safe and considerate behaviour for your child – they will learn from you.
- Slow down near the school crossing. At a supervised crossing, observe the directions of the school crossing Teacher.
- Always park and turn legally around the school.
- Avoid dangerous manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Avoid parking across the school driveway or the entrance to the school car park.
- Using your school’s drop off and pick up facility will help keep all children as safe as possible during the busiest times of the school day.
- Do not park in the school Bus Bay before 9:30am and after 2:30pm.

Student Attendance - Compulsory schooling
Parents or carers of children of compulsory school age are responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day. Children must commence school by age 6 and then complete year 10. Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven school days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days of the first day of any period of absence.

There are also changes to the Attendance Policy; they are listed below:
A summary of the changes are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Change in definition and description for 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>The student’s absence is unexplained or unjustified.</td>
<td>The revised description reinforces that it is at the principal’s discretion to accept or not accept the explanation provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>The student’s absence is due to sickness or as the result of a medical or paramedical appointment.</td>
<td>Clarifies that the principal may request a medical certificate in addition to explanations if the explanation is doubted, or the student has a history of unsatisfactory attendance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>An explanation of the absence is provided which has been accepted by the principal.</td>
<td>Now includes travel in Australia and overseas. The 15 day limit on the use of this code for an individual student in a year has been removed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>The student was exempted from attending school and a Certificate of Exemption has been issued by a delegated officer.</td>
<td>Family holidays are no longer an accepted category for exemption from school attendance. This is now recorded as leave using symbol ‘L’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>The student is participating in a flexible timetable and not present because they are not required to be at school.</td>
<td>Now includes Kindergarten students participating in Best Start assessments and senior students in exam periods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>The student is enrolled in a school and is required or approved to be attending an alternative educational setting on a sessional or full time basis.</td>
<td>Applies to students who are enrolled in a school but are required or approved to be attending an alternative educational setting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yesterday we held our Annual Swimming Carnival at Queanbeyan Pool. All the students, who attended, had an enjoyable day either swimming in their races or cheering on their housemates. Well done Queanbeyan West Public School students for being so well behaved at the pool. It was great to see you doing the right thing at the right time! The presentation of ribbons and the announcement of champions will take place at the next Primary Assembly on Friday 20 February at 2:00pm. We will also hand out the badges for SRC and House Leaders.

P&C AGM Notification
The P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday 4 March 2015 in the Staff Room. At this meeting all executive and committee positions will be declared vacant. I strongly encourage you to consider standing for one of these positions. All members of the school community are welcome to attend. The February General P&C Meeting will immediately follow the AGM. A description of the positions available is listed below.

**PRESIDENT**
The duties of the President are:
- To chair all General, Special and Executive meetings of the P&C Association.
- To liaise with the Principal and staff.
- To be spokesperson for the parents of the school, both within the school and in the general community.
- To be ex officio member of all subcommittees.

**VICE PRESIDENT**
The duties of the Vice President are:
- To carry out all duties of the President when he/she is absent from meetings.
- To liaise with the President to ensure smooth running of the affairs of the P&C association.

**SECRETARY**
The duties of the Secretary are:
- To carry out the official correspondence of the P & C Association.
- To maintain communication with the President regarding any action required between meetings.
- To carry out the role of the Minute Secretary when he/she is absent from meetings.

**P&C TREASURER**
The duties of the Treasurer are:
- To receive and deposit all moneys and maintain accurate records of all such money received and paid from the Association funds.
- To bank all monies received within 48 hours of receipt of such monies. No money shall be withdrawn from said accounts unless authorised by the Association.
- To present at each General Meeting a statement of accounts showing the total of outgoing and incoming expenditure during the past month together with the current balance.
- To make available to the Auditors prior to the Annual General meeting all books, receipts, vouchers and monthly statement of accounts and table the resulting Auditor’s Report at the AGM.

**CANTEEN TREASURER**
- To be responsible for the accounts of the Canteen.
- To monitor prices being charged in the Canteen to ensure the cost effectiveness is being maintained.
- To make available to the Auditors prior to the Annual General meeting all books, receipts, vouchers and monthly statement of accounts and table the resulting Auditor’s Report at the AGM.

**Jargon buster**
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school. Find out more: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters)

**Avoiding injuries**
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain? Find out more: [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health)
Maths questions
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey’s Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.

Helping your child with homework
How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/helping-your-primary-school-child-with-homework

Class Library Days
Monday- 4/5W, 5/6S, 1T
Tuesday- 2B, 3U, KC, 3T
Wednesday-K/6B, K/6R, K/1K, 2D
Thursday- 5/6R, 2P, 1N, 3/4B
Friday- K/6H, KM, 5B
K-2 students should have their library bags when borrowing.
Library is open every second half of lunch, except Monday and every morning except Thursday.
The Library needs some books covered; it would be great if you are able to help. Please phone Trish at school on: 6297 2020

Mr Chris Lumley
Teacher Librarian

Book Club

Book Club orders due back Tuesday 17 February. No late orders after this date.
Thanks

Walk ‘n’ Roll-a-thon
12:30pm, Friday 27 February, Queanbeyan Park
NO BICYCLES
All students will need a helmet if they are using a scooter, roller skates, roller blades or a skateboard. Knee pads and elbow pads will also reduce any scrapes if there are falls and are highly recommended.

Students without a helmet will walk.
Every child needs a bottle of water.
All students are to attend whether they’ve collected sponsors or not.
Students will travel to Queanbeyan Park at 12:15, by bus. Once at the park students will assemble with their class teacher in a designated area. On the siren all participants will begin to walk or roll. After each circuit the students will get a mark on their hand. Students continue this for 1 hour.
We require a parent to assist each class transport students’ gear down to the park. If you are available on this day and can carry a class set of roller skates and scooters could you please contact your child’s teacher?

Have a great week
Vicki Muscat
Principal

DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.02.15</td>
<td>School Banking Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.02.15</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.02.15</td>
<td>Footsteps Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.02.15</td>
<td>Roll-a-thon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02.03.15</td>
<td>G’Day Asia Performance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paver Fundraiser

Offer closes Friday 20 February.
Extra order forms and prices available at the front office.

This is an opportunity for you, your child, your family, business or organisation to become a permanent part of our school’s history.
School Reading Eggs
Passwords for all students’ reading eggs accounts have now been changed to “read”.

Netball come and try day

Where: QNA netball courts, 17 Thornton Rd Queanbeyan
When: Saturday 14 February
Time: 10:00 – 11:00am
Who: Everyone is welcome!
Cost: There is no Cost

Further Information
- Visit our website for online registration http://waratah.nsw.netball.com.au
- Like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/mywaratahnetballclub
- Contact our committee at waratahnetballclub@outlook.com.au or our president Rena Spears on 0421018799
- Attend one of our registration days:
  - Thursday 12 February 5.30pm – 6.30pm at the QNA netball courts, 17 Thornton Rd Queanbeyan
  - Saturday 14 February 11am – 12pm at the QNA netball courts, 17 Thornton Rd Queanbeyan

Brand New Child Care Centre
Opening Soon.
Now taking Enquires
- Catering for children 6wks to 6 years
- 7.00am-6.00pm
- Meals, Linen, Nappies and Wipes Included
- 1 of a kind school readiness program that will provide your child with a smooth transition and best head start to school

7-9 McKeahnie Street Queanbeyan
E: enquiries@succeedconsultancy.com.au
Phone: 0419 335 990

The Westerly- School Web Site: www.queanbeyaw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au