Dear parents,

Welcome to the 2013 school year! I’m pleased to see the great majority of our students returned to school on Wednesday, January 30. Our classes for 2013 are currently as set out below. I must point out, however, that for classes to stay like this a number of students will need to return to GPS when they finish their holiday overseas.

Kindergarten – KA (Mrs Osborne), KB (Miss Brooks), KD (Miss Donovan), KM (Mrs Madden)
Year One – 1J (Mrs Jones), 1m (Miss Mohr), 1S (Mrs Suri), 1W (Miss Williams)
Year Two – 1/2B (Mrs Bronson), 2H (Miss Hannon), 2X (we are awaiting a teacher to be appointed by the DEC to this class- Mrs Mudhar will be teaching the class until the process is finalised)
Year Three- 3G (Mr Graham), 3R (Mrs Rowe)
Year Four – 3/4B (Miss Bedwell), 4L (Mrs Lumley), 4S (Mr Sundstrom)
Year Five – 4/5G (Miss Gorman), 5F (Miss Fenn), 5 K (Mr Keyes)
Year Six – 6D (Mrs France), 6F (Miss Fitzgerald)

Parents are asked to note that wherever possible, students in composite classes will be undertaking units of work at their respective learning levels. This happens now in all classes. Our three composite classes may issue additional information about excursion, sport and assembly opportunities.

Classes will need to be finalised within the next few weeks. If all students still on holidays do not return, we may have to ‘collapse’ classes to form a 20 class model. I will keep everyone informed of any changes, through the newsletter.

Student Uniforms – It was very pleasing to see so many students in school uniform on our first day -a very big thank you to all families for your efforts in this area. I would like to remind all families that school shoes are to be black and to have black shoelaces (except on sports days). Please encourage your child to wear the correct school uniform and remind them that those really bright fl uoro shoes and laces are for special times on the weekends. The support of parents in this aspect will be very greatly appreciated.

PBL - Your child is a student in a ‘Positive Behaviour for Learning’ school. We encourage – and are proud of our students for aspiring to be – safe, respectful learners. The great majority of our students have achieved the safe and learning values. The respectful value has many aspects to it. At this early part of the year, teachers will be talking to students about respecting the systems and practices we have at school. These include the belief that every child has a right to a school where they can feel safe from the actions of others. Sometimes students will express a ‘tit-for-tat’ approach to conflict resolution, believing that because someone may have hurt them in some way, they have the right to ‘hurt back/get even’. All of our students have a right – and a responsibility – to report any kind of violence or harassment to their teacher. Teachers then investigate the issue/s and ensure that steps are taken to resolve the conflict. Further lack of respect may lead to disciplinary consequences.

Coming Events

- **Wednesday February 6**
  - Visual Arts Activities Day Years 1-6

- **Thursday February 28**
  - Years 2-6 Swimming Carnival
New Meet-The-Teacher Conferences! A special note will be included in a coming newsletter, outlining how we have improved our meet-the-teacher conferences for 2013. All teachers are looking forward to working more closely with their students and parents to ensure that we develop further independence and responsibility for learning in your children – our students. We hope you enjoy the new approach and will look forward to your responses to an evaluation of the process that will be available online.

Organisation for Principal’s Silver and Gold Awards 2013 – During 2012, we appeared to be receiving bundles of class awards each week. These were being submitted for students to receive their Silver or Gold Principal’s Awards. In 2013, to streamline the process, all students are being asked to bring awards to school during Week 6 of each term. Students should not bring them in any other week of the year! We will put a reminder in the newsletter. Any students bringing awards before or after Week 6 will be asked to take them home and return them during Week 6 (I realise this seems a little inflexible, but last year when we were asked to ‘look after’ awards for some students, they did become misplaced and we do not wish to see anyone disappointed by such happening again.). Principal’s Silver and Gold Awards will be awarded at the Monday morning assembly of Week 8 of each term. In the event of rain, the awards will be distributed at stage assemblies (K-2 Tuesdays and 3-6 Thursdays) of Week 8.

Some Reminders
• Weekly assemblies begin in Week 5
• Swim Carnival Yrs 2-6 – Thursday, February 28

Have a good week,
Doug Meaney
SCHOOL PROCEDURES & REMINDERS

MESSAGES REGARDING LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENT
Please phone before 2.30pm with any messages if you will be late picking up your child.

SCHOOL CANTEEN
The canteen operates on Monday to Friday each week.
Any payments or orders for the canteen should be taken directly to the canteen.

LUNCHES
If parents need to bring lunches to school after 9.00am, we would ask that you wait until 11.15am, when you will be able to gain a pass to your child’s class and then be able to take the lunch to your child.

EARLY LEAVERS
When signing children out early of an afternoon, for appointments etc, parents are asked to do so before 2.45pm. Students will not be signed out after this time.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS 2012
Mondays: 8.30am to 9.00am
Fridays: 8.30am to 9.30am

SCHOOL CAR PARK
Parents are reminded that the school car park is for STAFF PARKING ONLY.
Parents are asked not to drop children off in the car park, park in or walk through the car park.
There is a gate near the administration office for pedestrian access.

PAYMENTS
When sending payments to school please ensure the CORRECT AMOUNT of money is enclosed in a separate envelope for each activity. (If more than one activity is placed in an envelope your child may miss out on participating).
Clearly mark each envelope with:
• your child/children’s name
• your child/children’s class
• name of activity – (one activity per envelope) & please put the permission note/s inside the envelope.
Please endeavour to make payments before the due date as paying late may result in your child missing an activity. If for any reason you are unable to pay on time, please contact the school before the due date.
All money is to be deposited in the payment slot in the door at the Admin Office.
If additional envelopes are required, they are available at a cost of 20cents each.
When sending payments to school, (for excursion, PSSA etc) please ensure Australian coins ONLY are sent. We are unable to accept foreign currency. Please DO NOT use school payment envelopes for anything other than to make a payment.