

“First Week” Parent Bulletin- Feb 1st , 2018

This bulletin provides an overview of important school information for all families. These points will be elaborated on over the coming weeks in our weekly Wednesday school newsletter.

Principal's Welcome

It is my great pleasure to congratulate all staff, students and parents on an excellent start to the school year. Our Ready to Learn interviews on Tuesday were a great success and it gave teachers an opportunity to meet, welcome and discuss each child's needs. We thank parents for embracing this process and feel that this has been a positive step in building respectful and communicative home-school partnerships.

While we are very pleased to welcome back all Year 1- 6 students and their families we are especially pleased to welcome our new Foundation students and their families to our school. I also extend a warm welcome to new families and students who have transferred in across a range of year levels.

I know you will join me in welcoming **new** staff to our school community. Juanita Howlett has joined the Gumnut Neighbourhood and will be teaching Grade 1/2 students in Room 10 and Simin Jin has joined our specialist team to teach Chinese across the school. We are also very excited to welcome back teaching staff who are returning from family leave. We welcome Trudy Sutton who will partner with Kate Novak in Room 14 and Bec Pata who will partner with Brooke Cole in Room 9.

As always we are very appreciative of the work that our Education Support staff undertake within our school. We welcome Caryn Leaver, Ashleigh Hunter and Bronwyn Sheraton-Gray who will be supporting students in the Gumnut Neighbourhood. Nic Mayes is joining us and will provide support for students in the Ironbark neighbourhood.

We are indeed fortunate to have a very talented and highly skilled staff team who have high expectations for all students in our school. **All staff will be formally introduced to our community at our first whole school community assembly on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9.** Speaking of staff, I wish to congratulate Mr Ben Fiegert who was recently announced DATTA Victoria's Primary Teacher of the Year for his work in the Science, Technology and Maths area. We will provide greater details about this award and Ben's success in upcoming newsletters.

Both Curriculum and Wellbeing initiatives will continue to have a strong focus for our school in 2018. A continued focus on Science, Coding and Mathematics will see a number of exciting community partnerships with our school being developed over the duration of 2018. We will continue to have a strong link with the Science & Discovery Centre and we are pleased to have a joint project with RMIT that will see our Grade 3-5 students have the opportunity to take their learning out into the field and work along the Bendigo Creek.

Developing a positive school community will continue to be prominent in our thinking and daily work - our Wellbeing team has many new ideas to foster a greater connection for our parent community to our school, so please watch this space when it comes to Wellbeing @ KFPS.

Attendance will continue to be a focus this year with our 'Every Minute Matters' campaign. Students who have a **high record of attendance are in an excellent position to benefit from the broad range of curriculum activities** on offer at Kangaroo Flat Primary School, including the development of essential social skills and related understandings.

Thank you for choosing Kangaroo Flat Primary School to educate your child/ren. Please call in and see us if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education. We look forward to a very successful home school partnership in 2018!

Kind Regards,
Kim Saddler – Principal

Faye Martin – Assistant Principal

Our Top 20 Tips!

- 1. Our school canteen is open for lunch orders. Please see the new Summer menu.**
- 2. For the month of February FOUNDATION students DO NOT attend school on a WEDNESDAY.*
- 3. Book Packs. If you have not completed this process please do so as soon as possible.**
Headphones \$10 and Reader Bags \$9 are now available at the office for purchase.
- 4. Grevillea students will commence recorder lessons in Classroom Music next week. If you need to purchase recorders at \$9 and recorder books at \$14 these are available in the office.**
- 5. Early Student Collections- any early collection MUST be made through the front office where students will need to be signed out.*
- 6. Morning YARD Supervision starts at 8.30am.**
- 7. Afternoon YARD Supervision concludes at 3.15 pm with any student collection after this being done through the office.*
- 8. Medications. If your student requires medication it must be handed to the front office in original packaging with written instructions for dispensing.**
- 9. Sunsmart Protocol. As an accredited sunsmart school we have a NO HAT, NO PLAY policy. We are a BASE BALL HAT FREE ZONE!*
- 10. Contact Details- we are updating all student and family details. This information was handed out during the Ready To Learn Interview day. If you did not attend these interviews then you need to ensure that you contact the school to have your contact details updated. THIS IS ESSENTIAL FOR EVERY STUDENT.**
- 11. Food Allergies. WE have a NO FOOD SHARING POLICY in our school to protect those who have food allergies. Please reinforce this with your student. Food they do not wish to eat should be taken home.*
- 12. Breakfast Program. Our weekly breakfast program will commence soon.**
- 13. After School Care. Do you need this service? The YMCA is providing this service to our school. Phone 5445 8300 for Bookings.**
- 14. Dismissal Time is at 3.00pm. The amphitheatre is the designated meeting place at the end of the day. Encourage independence in your students and have them walk down to meet YOU!*
- 15. Key CONTACTS. Your child's class teacher is your key contact at the school.**
- 16. Early To Learn. This is our first work habit that we will be working as part of our School Value of Responsibility. Being **early to learn** means that all students will be in their classrooms by the time the music finishes! Please remember that we commence class time at 8:45am.*
- 17. Valuable Possessions. Private property brought to school is NOT insured by the Department of Education. We strongly advise that items that are valuable or precious NOT come to school. No responsibility will be accepted for loss or damage.**
- 18. Student Accidents. Parents are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for any injured students, including any transport costs.*
- 19. Weekly Whole School Assemblies are a great way to be involved in school life! Our first School Assembly will be held next Friday 9th February at 9am. All families welcome.**
- 20. Communication Counts...For better or worse ALWAYS tell us FIRST!**