From the Principal

A warm welcome back to 2016. I hope you have had a happy and restful break. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, 1st February.

New families
Welcome to the 74 new students starting this year. Parents please sign up on our distribution list so that you receive newsletters.

Welcome new teachers
We are really happy to have these new teachers for 2016. There were over 2000 applicants for the positions. Richmond is highly sought after by staff.

Hayley Richards middle primary
Danielle Bowman junior primary
Paula Lyon junior primary
Diana Williams early childhood
Nadia Dundas early childhood

Numbers
We have started the year with 429 students, 47 staff members and over 600 parents in our school community. Obviously the office gets very busy. If you call I will get back to you as soon as I can. Emailing quick questions probably will get the earliest response, particularly this week.

Parent/Teacher meetings
Parents will be invited to meet with their child’s classroom teacher in the next few weeks. Teachers will organise the timetabling of this.

Make up of student body as of today
Kindergarten 58  Pre-primary 49
Year 1 65  Year 2 51
Year 3 64  Year 4 52
Year 5 49  Year 6 41  PTO
**Teachers & Classes**

Kindy  Mrs Bockman & Mrs Williams  
Kindy  Mrs Scurry  
PP  Mrs Gorringe & Mrs Dundas  
PP  Mrs Sellers & Mrs Wells  
Year 1  Miss Cuoco  
Year 1  Mrs Ryan  
Year 1  Miss Bowman  
Year 2  Mrs Hart  
Year 2  Mrs Maloney & Mrs Lyon  
Year 3  Miss Gaskin  
Year 3  Mrs Marshall  
Year 3/4  Mrs Horsley & Miss Richards  
Year 4  Mrs Sorrell  
Year 5  Mr Contos  
Year 5/6  Mrs Button & Mr Carder  
Year 5/6  Mr Tifflin  
Italian  Senora Blanchard  
Visual Art  Ms Scott  
Music  Mrs Bertolini  
Phys Ed  Mr Tindale

**Class Lists**

Class lists will be on classroom doors over the weekend.

I know it would be nice to see class lists earlier and I understand this desire, but it isn’t possible since I am still receiving late enrolment applications and existing families are still advising that they have moved and will not be back. This requires slight shuffling. There is no point putting up class lists until they are final.

Thanks to parents for encouraging their child to be resilient in the face of not being placed exactly where they would like. All classes are at capacity and no one can be moved.

**Kindergarten days 8.45am - 3.00pm**

Students in the Monday, Tuesday class will attend just Monday and Tuesday next week. Students in the other class will attend Wednesday, Thursday & Friday next week. Thereafter the Wednesday alternates.

**Uniform Recycling**

We have a free recycled uniform system in the office – please donate your good used items that are too small. Any parent may look through the boxes and take items their children will use – no cost to anyone.

**Labelling**

Please label all your child’s equipment and clothing. It’s a good idea to embroider a small design onto the outside of their hat so that it can be easily recognized. Hats are the most commonly lost item. Checking labels inside the hat is difficult once it is on someone’s head. Bring Campion equipment next week.

**Points of contact**

For general classroom concerns please contact your child’s teacher initially.

For bigger or ongoing issues please contact Dave Carder (curriculum) or Charmaine Cook (pastoral care). I am available to discuss any issue, though it is a courtesy to speak to your child’s teacher first.

**Pre-primary**

We welcome 49 pre-primary students onto the main site. Please check class lists on the doors of room 0 and room 1 over the weekend, and bring children to the correct classroom between 8.35am and 8.45am on Monday.

On the first day the children will need their crunch & sip in a separate container, their morning tea and their lunch. They will need a water bottle and hat. Everything should be labelled excluding tissue boxes as they share them.

Bring in everything from your Campion list if you like, or stagger it during the week, whatever is convenient but the sooner the better. Everything needs to be labelled but not covered as they cover the scrapbooks as an art activity.

Staff will hand out pencils etc that children need to put in their pencil cases to start off the term and then will redistribute the supply as the children need them so it makes it a lot easier for us if individual pencils are labelled and kept together in an elastic band if possible.

Library bags etc all need labelling and we will keep them until we are allocated a Library book exchange roster.

PTO
The P&C will hold its AGM in the school library on 16 February at 7.30pm.

Nominations are sought for the following positions and should be received in an envelope in the P&C mailbox in the office by 3.00pm on Monday 15th February please:

**Executive (4)**
- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

**Executive committee (4)**
- Three positions (excluding Principal, who is an automatic member)

Executive committee members generally each coordinate a community event for the year and assist with other events.

It is helpful if members of the executive and executive committee have previously been a general member of the P&C.

**Coordinators**
- Canteen volunteers’ coordinator
- Entertainment book coordinator
- Loyalty programs
- Book club coordinator
- Grants coordinator
- School Banking coordinator
- Road Wise coordinator
- School Directory coordinator
- School Council parent representative
- WACSSO delegate/District Council delegate

**Appointments**
- Honorary Auditor
- Signatories

**General members (not nominated or capped)**
These are the P&C members who come to meetings, discuss initiatives, vote and help out. The general P&C meets once a term, usually at Zephyrs at 9.00am.

The main role of the P&C at Richmond is to enhance community involvement through organizing community events such as discos, breakfasts, quiz nights, movie nights… If you have any great ideas along these lines please let them know. Anyone from the community is welcome to coordinate an activity – just come to a meeting to put it to the P&C.

The P&C also does fundraising, though this is often a byproduct of the community events and not the main aim.

In the last two years the P&C has funded an upgrade of the undercover area and the construction of a nature play garden as well as support various school initiatives such as sponsoring awards, buying sporting and play equipment and supporting the library.

The P&C can’t be an avenue for lodging complaints – please don’t hesitate to go to school staff if you have any concerns.

Our garden is almost complete and is looking fantastic. Many thanks to everyone who has helped with this and especially to the P&C and main coordinators Beck James, Meredith Fonti, Sara Millenbach, Mike Dean and Lee Maloney.

Lisa Dentith
Principal