Hi Parents

Welcome to the 2016 school year. It was great to see families looking relaxed and excited on the first day of school. A very warm welcome to our new families. We have five new families in the school and we look forward to getting to know you.

For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Jo Northey and my family and I have been at Prospect Creek since July 2013. Prior to arriving at Prospect Creek, I spent six months as the Teaching Principal at Wowan State School and two years in Rockhampton Regional Office supporting schools across the Central Queensland Region in literacy and numeracy.

We have two new teachers this year, Rebecca Young, our P-2 Teacher, who grew up in Biloela and has finished studying Early Childhood Education at Central Queensland University, and Jane Gray, a local experienced teacher with a passion for Science and Art. We welcome back Leisa Jordan and Lana Stewart, who have both returned from maternity leave. Lana will take PE on Thursday mornings and Leisa is our Administration Assistant and will be in the office on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We also welcome Anna Boyd who joins our wonderful Teacher Aide team. Anna will start in week 3 and will be with us on Thursday and Friday. Please pop in and say hi.

To start the year off, both classes will hold a class meeting on Friday 12th February. This will be an opportunity for teachers to run through the class timetable, homework requirements and anything else that pops up. Students could even take you to look at their work they have completed so far. Following the meetings, the P&C will host a welcome BBQ. A sausage sizzle will be provided for all families. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. Please RSVP by Thursday 4 February so we can cater accordingly. A slip is attached to this newsletter.

As mentioned on parade this week, our P&C AGM meeting will take place at 7pm Tuesday 16th Feb at school. We will liaise with the bus company to hold their annual meeting prior to this. All families are welcome and we will need to fill positions. Please consider nominating yourself for a role on our P&C. Further meetings will take place on the second Tuesday of each month after school. Being a member of the P&C ensures you have input into the running of our school while having a few laughs and meeting new people along the way.

Jo Northey
**P-2 NEWS**

In P-2, we have been making new friends and practising our routines. Students have completed literacy and numeracy activities that will be displayed in our room. These include dot to dot number worksheets, counting, filling in missing numbers and practising writing stories. The year 1 and 2 students have been working hard to make the preps and new students fill very welcome to the school. Please come and check out this week’s student work.

**Attendance**

Every Day Counts to ensure students have the best opportunity to learn, achieve and grow both academically and socially at school. Attendance is published weekly in the newsletter with our target being 95% of students at school every week. If your child does become unwell over the school year, please email, send in a note or call to let us know. This way we can explain your child’s absence in the system, avoiding any unnecessary unexplained absences. *Please be aware that it is departmental policy that notifications must come from the parent or guardian.*

Our overall attendance for 2015 was 95.7%! Well done to all Prospect Creek families.

**Sports Shirts**

With consultation with our P&C, we are ordering sports shirts for our Grevillea and Kroombit houses. These are still in the process of being ordered and we will advise when they are ready to be purchased. All students will be able to wear their sports shirts on Thursday, in conjunction with our PE lessons. It will be great to see everyone in Maroon and Blue once a week. For the remainder of the week, please ensure children wear their orange and black shirts.
3-6 NEWS

It was lovely to see our smiling (and nervous) Year Three students join us in the 3-6 room this year. We are still waiting on some of our furniture to arrive, including storage for excess stationery, but we are good at adapting.

I have attached a copy of our class timetable to the newsletter. You will notice that only Year 4-6 students will participate in LOTE this year. This is due to the increase of numbers in the class and will provide me with an opportunity to work with Year 3 students on their own.

School programs including homework will start next week and please come and see me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. I look forward to sharing your child’s 2016 educational journey with you.

Housekeeping

Newsletters are sent home with the eldest child in each family on Fridays. There is always lots of important information in the newsletters and quite often there are notes to be returned to school. As a school last year, we exceeded our photocopy budget so we are hoping to cut down the number of reprints of lost notes. Please hold on to permission notes when you receive them, or even better, return them to school straight away. Not only will this help save a few trees, it will also limit the hours spent making phone calls home, chasing paperwork up.

We will continue sending newsletters home via email (as well as hard copy) for your convenience, any attachments from the community will be sent electronically only. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact the school. If you did not receive the newsletter electronically today, please contact the office on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, to ensure we have your correct email address in our mailing list.

Homework

After community feedback, we developed a Homework Policy in conjunction with the P&C and our departmental policy, to ensure students had time throughout the week to play sports and participate in other important activities. The homework policy is attached via email to this newsletter. If you would like a hard copy, please let the office know.
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Principal: Jo Northey

Staff
3-6 Teacher: Jo Northey / Patrice Baird
Prep—2 Teacher: Rebecca Young
Teacher Aides: Belinda Gardiner/
Sally Neve & Jacinta Philips
Admin Officer: Leisa Jordan
Administration days: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Grounds Person – Tim Boyd
Cleaner - Brenda Kororiko

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P&C Committee
President – Sally Neve
Vice President – Cherie Gooding
Treasurer – Adam Northey
Secretary – Robyn Matheson

Dates to Remember
Class meet & Greet—Friday 12th February
P & C—AGM Meeting—7pm Tuesday 16th February
Last Day of term 1—Thursday 24th March
2016 Camp meeting—Thursday 17 March, 4pm Jambin State School

Happy Birthday
Awhena Kororiko—January 27