FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to another wonderful and exciting year. It is so great to see so many happy, smiling faces returning to school.

Staff for 2016

KH  Mrs Salva Harris
KM  Mrs Claire Mackenzie
1RW Mrs Skye Westcott (*Monday to Tuesday*) and Mrs Melissa Roberts (*Wednesday to Friday*)
1/2W Mrs Nerissa Westgarth
2J  Miss Stacey Jones
3/4D Ms Sonia Davies (*Monday to Thursday*) and Mrs Robin Dean (*Friday*)
3/4GD Mrs Fiona Dooley (*Monday to Tuesday*) and Mrs Debbie Grady (*Wednesday to Friday*)
3/4O Mrs Annette Orr
5/6E Miss Heidi Ehsman
5/6H Mr Will Harris
5/6P Mrs Kerrie Piffarelli

Learning and Support: Mrs Carolyn Butler (*Monday to Thursday*)
Reading Recovery: Mrs Anne Norton
Support: Mrs Philippa O’Donnell (*Tuesday to Friday*)
Library: Mrs Helen Standen (*Tuesday to Thursday*)
Release: Mrs Judy Fisher (*Tuesday to Thursday*)

School Administration Manager: Mrs Sue Tolhurst
School Administration Officer: Mrs Leanne Wright
Mrs Kaye Henderson

School Counsellor: Mrs Kathryn Tuck
General Assistant: Mr Graham Tolhurst

SLSO: Mrs Julieanne Campbell
Mrs Carol Martin
Mrs Pat Cooke
Mrs Sue Huntly
Mrs Viki Nixon
Ms Naomi Bolt

Wiradjuri Language: Miss Kiara Sloane
We are all looking forward to our 2016 Kindergarten students starting tomorrow morning. I have seen many of the students as they have come into school over the past three days for their Best Start assessments.

Welcome to our new staff members Mrs Westcott, Miss Jones and Miss Sloane and a special welcome to Mrs Dooley who is returning back to Middleton Public School. I am sure that you will all settle in very quickly and enjoy working at our great school.

If you have any concerns, please make an appointment to speak with your class teacher.

**New Families**

Welcome to our new families who have started with us this year. It is wonderful to welcome you into our fantastic school community. We are sure that the students will settle in quickly into Middleton Public School.

**Parents and Citizens (P&C) Meeting**

Our first P&C Meeting will be held tomorrow night, Tuesday 2nd February commencing at 7.30pm in the staffroom. It would be wonderful to see some new families attending, please come along and find out all about this hardworking committee.

**Permission Notes**

The general permission notes will be sent home with today’s newsletter. Please complete these forms and return them to the office as soon as possible.

**Book Packs**

We have received many, many positive comments regarding the introduction of our book packs this year. Many thanks to the parents and caregivers who have paid for the packs already - it is very much appreciated. The teachers may send home some of the books in the pack for covering. Book packs will continue to be available for purchase from the front office for the next two weeks.

**Swimming Carnival**

Our swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 10th February for all students in Years 3-6. Details were sent home last week.

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**Captains for 2015**

Nina Gaut and William Lamond

**Vice Captains**

Amanda Lowe and Jye Facchi

**Prefects**

Paige Duncan, Cheyenne Kelly, Max Kinsela, Lara Piercy, Ella Ross and Molly Smith

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**Library News**

Library lessons commence this week.

**Tuesday:** 3/4O, 5/6H, 2J, 1/2W, 1RW

**Wednesday:** 3/4D, KH, KM

**Thursday:** 3/4GD, 5/6E, 5/6P

**Borrowing is:**

- Kindergarten - 1 book
- Year 1 - 1 book
- Year 2 - 1 book
- Year 3 - 2 books
- Year 4 - 2 books
- Year 5-2 books
- Year 6 - 2 books

Students need a library bag to borrow. Library bags are available from the canteen. Please encourage and remind your child to borrow on their designated day.
Canteen News

03.02.16  Wednesday  K Tildsley
05.02.16  Friday  J Milne, M Eldridge
08.02.16  Monday  J Onley
10.02.16  Wednesday  J Duncan

Welcome back to another year.
The canteen is still desperate for more volunteers, and at the moment our roster is made up for the first term for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
If you can help out one day a month from 9.30am to 12.30pm please contact the school 6862 1999 or send a note in with your child.
The canteen will open every day for Crunch and Sip and snacks BUT NOT for lunch orders on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Mrs B Osborne - Canteen Manager

Swimming Carnival
This year our carnival will be held on Wednesday 10th February (Week 3) from 9.00am to approximately 3.00pm. The 200m Medley will be held this Wednesday 3rd February at 10.00am before our swimming for sport.
Swimming Carnival Information, swimming consent form, entry form and parent helper notes about the carnival were sent home last Thursday will all primary students (Years 3-6). Could all parent helpers and entry forms and $2 be returned this week please.
Please note that any Year 2 students who turns 8 this year is eligible to participate in the swimming carnival if they can competently swim 50m freestyle and one other stroke. If interested, Year 2 students need to return the entry form with the events they would like to enter.

No other Kindergarten, Year 1 or Year 2 students attend the carnival.

Swimming for Sport
Our swimming program for primary sport will commence again this term each Wednesday for primary sport. Students will need their swimmers, towel, sunscreen and money. The cost is $5.00 ($3 for bus and $2 for pool entry) or only $3 (bus) if you have a season ticket. Year 5 and 6 will be swimming from 10.15am –11.15am and Year 3 and 4 will be swimming from 12.35pm - 1.35pm.

The swimming permission note MUST be returned before students can participate. This is the permission note attached on the back of the swimming carnival note. Please ensure this note is returned by tomorrow, to allow us time to organise ability groups and parent helpers.
Primary classes (Years 3-6) will begin their swimming program this Wednesday 3rd February. This is a great opportunity for students to practise for the swimming carnival.
The parent helpers for this week are as follows:
Year 5 and 6:  Kellie Piercy, Kristy Lamond and Craig Smith
Year 3 and 4:  Rachel MacGregor and Trudy McMaster

The parent roster will be sent home to all parents helpers this week. If any parents/caregivers are able to help, please return notes to Miss Ehsman as soon as possible so the roster can be finalised. We still need to fill some spaces on the Year 3/4 roster and any help would be greatly appreciated. On behalf of all primary staff, I would like to thank all helpers for the continued support with swimming.
Stage 2 students will be participating in Kitchen Garden classes this year. This is part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program which promotes a healthy lifestyle, growing and preparing meals using seasonal produce from our own school garden. This program is linked to the English Curriculum and Science curriculum.

Volunteers
To ensure our Kitchen Garden program is a success we need volunteers once a week, fortnight or month or one off even to come along and help out in a kitchen or garden class. It’s easy as the kids do the work! Please let the school office or Mrs Orr know if you are able to help out on a FRIDAY between 12.20 and 1.50pm.

STAGE 2 Parent Information Session
There will be a Stage 2 Parent Information Session on Tuesday 16th February at 5.00pm in the Stage 2 Classrooms.
This will be an informative session, particularly for parents with students in Year 3 for the first time.

Year 4 Radio Program
Year 4 students will be once again participating in the 2LVR Community Radio Program at Forbes this year. Year 4 students are invited to complete an expression of interest.
All information will be provided to Year 4 students on a separate note.

Carewest Preschool
We currently have availabilities in both our Monday/Tuesday and Wednesday/Thursday groups at our Carewest Preschool.

NO HAT, NO PLAY
Teachers will be diligent in enforcing this important rule. Broad-brimmed hats are the only acceptable hats to be worn.

We regularly receive phone calls around home time asking for messages to be passed on to students regarding transport or pick up arrangements for the afternoon, it is not always possible for us to guarantee that these messages can be passed on. Whilst we are aware that at times arrangements need to be changed throughout the day, we do ask that these arrangements be finalised in the morning before students arrive at school.

Toys
Toys are not to be brought to school unless the toy is for news and kept in your child’s school bag. Thank you

School Banking with Central West Credit Union
All students at Middleton Public School have the option of participating in a School Banking program on a weekly basis.

- Each Thursday students are encouraged to bring their deposit to school using their deposit wallets provided by the bank. These deposits are then processed and the wallets returned to the students.
- Any students who would like to participate can call into the Central West Credit Union to open an account to participate in the school banking program.