Welcome to Week 1 2017 at Ballandean State School. It is lovely to have the students back looking so relaxed and refreshed after the summer vacation. We have started the year with 32 students, 12 in Prep-Year 2 with Mr Andersen and 20 in Y3/4/5/6. We welcome 2 new Prep students—Clancee and Jameson—who are settling in well.

Last week the staff were back for their Pupil-free days. Unfortunately due to the storm the previous weekend, we lost our phones, printers, Internet, emails—really everything—however, we did manage to get lots done and have planned a very exciting year. Please see the attached term 1 calendar.

A big shout out to the community members who helped out with the mowing over the last couple of weeks. We are in the process of employing a new grounds person, so this has been a huge help—thank you so much.

We have booked a block of swimming in Week 6—please see the attached note. This term on a Thursday the students will have a rotation of subjects—History, Technology, Visual Arts as well as Health and Library. We are looking forward to an excursion later in the term and an Open day on the last Thursday of this term. More details to follow.

Mrs Egerton will be with us till the end of Week 2 before heading off on maternity leave. She has been busy helping to plan and organise our curriculum, in particular our reading and spelling groups that will start in week 2.

Today we celebrated all things Australian with a range of rotational activities across the school. The students were making damper, pikelets and lamingtons. They made Australian animals from clay, painted dot scenery and created a platypus, kangaroo and koala craft items. In the afternoon we held a thong throwing, cooee, gum leaf blowing and ...Vegemite sandwich—Australian Bite Competition. Definitely a day to remember. Enjoy the Australia Day holiday and we look forward to catching up with you soon.

Kind regards

Julie Barber
Acting Principal
Attached to this Newsletter
Swim permission
Term planner
Uniform order form

Religion for Term 1

Religion will commence in week 3

Term 1 Sport

This term the school will participate in cricket and softball. A draw and transport request forms will be sent home as soon as we receive them from the organising school.

Swim

This year the school will have 2 blocks of swimming sessions. One block in term 1 and the second block in term 2

Swimming will commence this term in week 6. Swimming sessions will be 45 mins duration. Students will travel to the Stanthorpe pool by Crisps bus. Parents or an adult of prep students will need to attend swimming sessions each day. Students will need to wear a sun smart swim shirt over their swimmers. Swimming and swim bus travel is offered free of charge to students.

Monday 27th February 11:30-12:15, Tuesday 28th February 11:30-12:15, Wednesday 1st March 10:00-10:45, Thursday 2nd March 11:30-12:15, Friday 3rd March 11:30-12:15.

Please return permission notes to school as soon as possible.

Reminders to parents: If your child is absent please contact the school on the day of the absence, preferably in the morning. It is okay to leave a message on the answering machine.

If your child will be travelling home from school with another person please contact the school by phone or in writing.

Due to technical issues the Newsletter is in black and white.
Special Education Teacher

My name is Kathy Hopgood. I am the Special Education Teacher for Ballandean state School. At this stage I will be working at Ballandean on Mondays and some Tuesday mornings. My time is allocated by the number of students who have a diagnosis from the Paediatrician. I not only work with these students who have a diagnosis but I also work with other students as well. I work one on one, in small groups or in the classroom with the teacher. If you see me, please free to introduce yourself to me and have a chat. Regards Kathy Hopgood

Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy STLAN

Hi my name is Brett Adams. I am the STLAN Teacher based at Ballandean SS. I also attend other schools in the district. My role is: Diagnostic Testing, data collection, to drive teaching focus and teaching specific focus skills around Literacy and Numeracy.