Term 1– Week 2

Principal’s Report

Welcome back for 2016, I trust everyone has found time to rest and reguvinate after our busy ending to 2015. It is great to have everyone back at school excited and eager to be back in the classroom again.

2016 at Fairfax is promising to be a highly productive and successful year, we have already made great progress with our Back to School unit of work and setting up our classroom and classroom routines.

We have welcomed two very eager kindergarten students to our classroom, both Chelsea and Dommy are settling in well to our classroom and are learning about our new routines with the rest of us!

Our staffing arrangements for 2016 are as follows, Mrs Shields will be here on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Shields will be working in the office and the classroom supporting our students. Mr Wood will be here on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Dave will continue to work on Fridays. Attached to this newsletter is a classroom timetable outlining our new classroom routines.

Late last week we were advised that the Department of Education have made changes to our networks, with this network realignment Fairfax Public School will now be part of the Tamworth Network of Schools, our New Director of Public Schools is now Mrs Ruythe Dufty. Mrs Dufty is based at Department of Education Offices, Noel House in Tamworth. We will continue our associations with our Educational Services team from Moree and will at times continue working in the Moree area for different events and agendas. This realignment will not impact on our day to day running of our school. On behalf of our school community I would like to thank Mrs Rebecca Langdon and the Barwon Network, for their support of our school during our time in the Barwon network of schools.

We have welcomed Miss Tegan Mahar to our school, Miss Mahar is a University of New England Practicum Student, she has choosen to complete her final practicum placement here at Fairfax to experience teaching in small school. Miss Mahar will be with us for the next four weeks. I am sure that she will enjoy her time here at Fairfax.

Throught the holidays we had a number of helpers visit our garden to check on it, to make sure it was watered and well looked after. Thank you to those community members who volunteered their time to look out for our garden, it is greatly appreciated by all of our staff and our students who work very hard in the garden. We will begin working on our Kitchen and Garden program again next week.

This week we will all be traveling across to Gunnedah for our Mooki Small Schools Swimming Carnival. Thank you to everyone who has already returned their permission notes for our carnival on Friday. The carnival will begin at 9 am, students are asked to be at the pool by 8:45 am to ensure we have enough time to complete all of the events on the program. Students are reminded to ensure they bring their swimmers, towel, goggles, sun shirts/rash vests, sunscreen and a packed recess and lunch or money for the canteen.
Attached to our newsletter this week we have added a number of items including two important permission notes. Both our annual Child Protection Program Permission to participate and our general permission note, granting permission for our students to leave the school grounds to participate in activities that are held outside the school boundary (for example our morning runs, tennis and visits to the Maules Creek Hall, just to mention a few). Please read and sign these notes carefully and return them by Friday 19th February. We have also attached a student school banking information pack for each student. If you wish to be part of this program please read and follow the instructions in Parent pack, our banking day will continue to be on Thursdays this year.

We will be visiting the library this week, however it will be on Thursday (For this week only), please ensure that your children have a suitable bag to place their library books into. The bag needs to be an addition to their school bag so it can be easily removed as well as protective for our library books.

Programs such as our after school sport will begin over the next few weeks, keep an eye out on our calendar, our newsletter and our website for upcoming dates.

I hope that everyone has enjoyed their first few days back at school, we are all looking forward to a great 2016! Enjoy the rest of your week!

Rebecca Smith