Middle Ridge State School
- NEWSLETTER -

Wednesday 1st February 2017

‘Where seeds of Learning become forests of Opportunity’

From the Principal’s Desk

Today’s Newsletter - accessible via School Website search or direct Email Link

If you are reading today’s edition of the MRSS Newsletter, presumably it’s as a result of locating it through your search of our schools’ website or via the email link that has been sent directly to those families who have subscribed to this service. Congratulations to those who’ve been able to take up the latter option of receiving a direct email link – more than 300 families are doing so. For those yet to take up this opportunity, the offer to join our email group is still available. Simply complete & return the interest slip attached to today’s Newsletter and return it to the office before the Tuesday immediately prior to the Wednesday edition. Should you have any queries relating to the Newsletter mailing group, feel free to drop by or phone the office at your convenience.

Class Information Sessions for Parents/Carers

As mentioned in last week’s Newsletter, within this current fortnight our teachers will be offering parents a brief information session regarding your child’s class and year level. Please look out for a special note that will be/has been issued by your child’s teacher – these gatherings are most important as they provide important information about our learning programs, ambitions, behavioural expectations, class rules, homework, routines, communication and more, for each class. I would encourage all parents/carers to continue keeping in touch with your child’s teacher as we work together throughout 2017 to offer all children the best possible learning opportunities, encouragement & support. A reminder of the parent information sessions this next week is as follows:

- Wednesday 01 Feb: 3.15-4.15pm Year 2CG, 2FG & 2R Classes
  6.30-7.30pm All PREP Classes
- Thursday 02 Feb: 4.30pm Parents of all Instrumental Music Students - with Ms Warfield, Mrs Laird & Mr Stockwell (Please note corrected date - wrong last week)
- Monday 06 Feb: 5.00-5.45pm ALL Year 1 Classes
- Tuesday 07 Feb: 5.00pm Year 5SY, 5JK, 5J, 5RY and 4/5LY Classes
  5.30pm ALL Year 6 Classes
- Thursday 09 Feb: 3.15-4.00pm Year 3MT, 3H, 3BM & 3T Classes

We look forward to your company at the above time/s.

Latest News regarding Student Enrolments & Class Groups for 2017

You will recall that last week’s School Newsletter highlighted the fact that all class groups needed to be considered as being in ‘DRAFT’ form for the first 2 weeks of the year, largely due to fluctuating student enrolments. Many Qld State School endure a level of enrolment ‘fluctuation’ across the first fortnight of the new school year, where some families, for a variety of reasons, may not return to the school. The original notes late last year advising of teacher names & year levels informed all parents of the DRAFT nature of our class groups and that there could be the possibility of change.

I am pleased to advise that over these past 7 days we have experienced a variation in student numbers across a small number of year levels that has seen our total enrolment increase slightly from the original projections of the end of 2016. As a consequence, we are now awaiting ‘Day 8’ of the new school year - this Thursday 2nd February - the critical cut-off date where Education Qld makes a determination of the total staffing allocation that is to be made to our school, based upon official enrolment figures that day. I am pleased to confirm that we have reached a total enrolment number that will allow us to create an additional class (our 33rd) at MRSS for the year. Given the current enrolments in our Year 1 classes, 3 of which exceed the recommended class size maximum, I have taken the decision to create an additional Year 1 class. This will mean re-allocating approximately 5 children from each of our four Year 1 classes into the new Year 1 class. All parents of Year 1 have received a special note from me today advising of this arrangement and the process that will be undertaken.

I realise that when there is a need to change class that this may be accompanied by a level of anxiety for some students & families - I would like to assure parents that the teachers of the students affected will be consulting closely with me to create the best possible combinations of students. I would ask for your understanding & support in the process and will welcome your trust & confidence in the professional judgements of our staff to make well informed, fair & equitable decisions in this regard.

www middridgss.eq.edu.au
P&C Association Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 15th February

Our P&C Association AGM will be held in the staffroom at school on Wednesday 15th February. Commencing at 7.00pm, all parents are invited to attend and will be made most welcome. As is the convention, the AGM will be followed by a brief General Meeting. We hope you can join us.

Arrival time at School - thank you for your continued assistance & support

Thank you to the vast majority of families who regularly ensure that their children are arriving at school each day ahead of time the official start of the school day at 8.50am. Whilst it’s understood that there may be valid reasons for being a little late on occasions, I would like to reiterate that every school day is important and that being here on time to start the day allows our teachers to provide for an extensive day’s education. A reminder that should you and your child be arriving at school after 8.50am that you will need to accompany them to the Admin Office where they’ll be issued with a special pink slip that they need to present to their teacher upon arrival at the classroom.

As mentioned in the special note to all families this past week, this requirement is one part of an approach being adopted in all state schools to safely account for the attendance/absence/whereabouts of every enrolled student. Whilst the school office staff have been phoning families manually when a student is away without explanation, from next Monday the new electronic, enrolment monitoring and text messaging service will go ‘live,’ making contact with parents on each occasion of a student’s Unexplained Absence from school. We welcome your ongoing support with the late arrivals procedure and your ongoing contact with our school - particularly when a planned or known absence can be reported ahead of time.

Remember, if for any valid reason your child will not be at school, please make contact with the school office before 8.50am that day by one of the following means:
- **Via recorded phone message** between 4.00pm the day before until 8.00am the day of their absence - phone 4687 4222 and wait for the prompt. Your recorded voice message will be passed on to the class teacher before they mark the roll.
- **By phoning the school office after 8.00am** and speaking directly with one of our Administrative Officers - phone 4687 4222. The Admin Officer will inform the class teacher of your call.
- **Email the School’s Absence line** before 8.30am of the morning of absence - absences@middridss.eq.edu.au - recently updated to now function correctly. Your email message will be checked by an Administration Officer and passed on to the class teacher.

Thank you.

Religious Instruction Lessons to Re-commence from Monday 13 Feb

The accredited volunteers from each of the local church communities that support our school will be returning to Middle Ridge from Monday 13 Feb to once again offer the Religious Instruction program - initially to our Year 4-6 children (Semester 1) then Year 1-3 students later in the year (Semester 2). Participation in weekly RI lessons (30 mins each Monday) is voluntary, with parents being the decision makers about students’ inclusion or withdrawal from the activities. Parents normally make a decision at the time of original enrolment as to their child’s participation in the RI program, but amendments to the decision can be made at any time. Because we develop participation lists for the volunteers on an annual basis, we work on the assumption that children who have previously participated will continue to do so the following year, unless we’re advised otherwise. In short, should you wish your child to be withdrawn from the weekly RI lesson, we would kindly ask that parents advise the school in writing so that your request can be correctly addressed. We have liaised recently with the RI Volunteer Co-ordinator who has advised that there is a limited number of volunteers who are available to visit & provide lessons across a number of local schools.

Acute Medical Plan Updates

It is essential that our school office is advised of updated medical plans for all students who have been identified as having an acute medical condition eg. Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy, Heart/Organ conditions, severe skin problems, Seizures and so on. Parents - please note that should your child have a severe medical condition/s as identified by you upon or following their enrolment, you need to contact Deputy Principal, Mrs Lois Staatz, and make an appointment to provide or complete an up to date Medical Plan. Please be aware that children with acute medical conditions will also require current medical plans in order to participate in school excursions and camps.

Students/Parent CURRENT contact numbers and addresses

If your contact details have changed, kindly ensure that the school office has been informed of the latest information - emergency contact details are essential. It is advisable to have several contact numbers in order to support students in the event that parents are unable to be reached. This is essential both at school and when students are participating in excursions and school camps.

Parent Information Workshops - Supporting Children at Home and School in Literacy & Numeracy

As part of our commitment at Middle Ridge SS to engage with our school & parent community and to develop stronger foundations in Literacy & Numeracy skills amongst our students, we will be offering a number of information and development workshops specifically designed for parents throughout Term 1.

All volunteer / parent helpers (assisting in the classroom and with home reading) and any other interested parents are encouraged to participate in the first workshop, ‘How to Help Children with Learning to Read’ - an information session on our School Reading Program. Two sessions will be offered - the first focusing on Learning to Read in Year 1-3 and the second focused on Reading to Learn in Years 4-6. These sessions will assist parents to understand and begin using a consistent language both within and outside the classroom when supporting children in their Reading development. The use of consistent language, strategies and procedures for guided reading will prove invaluable across the school.

Our second series of workshops, entitled ‘A Headstart at Home’, will focus on ways to help your child with Literacy and Numeracy at home and tips for coping with and supporting student homework. These workshops will be offered later in the term, once again for parents of students in Year 1-3 and Years 4-6.

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**Note:**

- For more information about medical conditions, please refer to the school’s Medical Plan guidelines.
- For questions or support, please contact the school office.
- For urgent matters, do not hesitate to call the school directly.
- All communications are treated confidentially and with the utmost respect for privacy.

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Please see the information note at the end of today’s Newsletter and simply fill in the reply slip if you would like to join us at one or more Parent Sessions - we look forward to your attendance.

Finally this week…..

My thanks once again to the many parents who have returned to the new school year and are generously offering their voluntary assistance in classes, and shortly once again through our tuckshop, at swimming lessons and in many other school based activities – your time, enthusiasm and support are appreciated and greatly valued by us all at MRSS. Our school is proving to be a tremendous community within which to work, share & grow.

Regards,
Craig Barron
PRINCIPAL

MRSS TERM OVERVIEW / DATE CLAIMERS

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From the Deputy Principals

Jill and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome existing and new families to Middle Ridge State School. It is always a pleasure to visit the classes and welcome the students back to school. They all seem so settled and eager to learn so early this year. Jill and I look forward to working with parents and students in our daily roles as Deputy Principals.

Medical Plans - Lois Staatz

I am responsible for updating the Acute Medical Register which contains important information about students with acute conditions such as anaphylaxis, asthma, and epilepsy. I will be contacting parents, particularly if Student Medical Plans are outdated, so that in case of an emergency, all the information is current and correct treatment can be administered by staff in the school setting. Thank you for attending to this matter.

Mrs Temple and the new school leaders reminded the senior students about our seven school values and how they can become Superheroes as they adopt the values of: Respect; Co-operation; Honesty; Self-Discipline; Kindness; Learning; and Social Justice. Mrs Temple also reminded the students of our school’s vision: ‘Where seeds of learning become forests of opportunity’, and how this applied to their everyday learning. Well done, Mrs Temple and students!!

School Captains and Leaders proudly displaying our school values
Back Row: Jack Schulz; Ella-Jewel Findlay; Harriet Clewett; Olivia Reynolds; Verity Russell; Kaden Willmot
Front Row: Ronan Delaney; Liliana Lester; Ben Boland; Hayden

Senior Classroom Awardees (Week 1)

LIBRARY NEWS – Susan Callaghan (Teacher-Librarian)

Student borrowing
By Thursday afternoon, all students in Years 1 – 6 should have borrowed 1 or 2 books from the school library. While most students take these books home, some students are restricted to keeping their borrowed books in the classroom. This is because, last year, these students did not show responsibility or the books they borrowed. During the course of this term, if the students are able to show that they can care for and return books on time, they will be permitted to take borrowed books home.

Goals for recreational reading – Term 1
By the end of this week, each student in Years 3 – 6 will have set goals for their recreational reading in Term 1. During Week 10, students will review their goals and set new ones for the next term. Goals have included promises such as “read every day for 10 minutes”, “finish reading the
Wimpy Kid books”, “read three books recommended by friends”, “read 4 books by an author whose books I haven’t read before”. The student goals are achievable, without restricting their choices for other reading as the term progresses.

**LIBRARY NEWS – Susan Callaghan (Teacher-Librarian)**

**Student Borrowing**

Regular in-school borrowing times for students have been finalised. Students in Years 1 to 6 have begun to borrow, while Prep students will begin to borrow in Week 3. As well as these times, students may borrow before school and during the first and second lunch breaks. All students in Years 1 – 6 may have two books on loan at any one time, while Prep students may borrow one book. The borrowing period is 2 wks. All students except Year 6s must have a library bag if they wish to borrow from the library. While plastic shopping bags may be used in an emergency, they are not really appropriate. A bag which has the student’s name and year level clearly shown is the best option. The uniform shop has library bags available for purchase, but any appropriate bag is fine.

Students who have overdue books are not permitted to borrow until the overdue books are returned. Students who have frequent overdue books will have their borrowing rights restricted. Payment will be sought (through the school office) for lost or damaged resources.

**Parents and the library**

- **Supporting students**: Parents, particularly of younger students, are welcome to come to the library before and after school to help their children choose a book to borrow. I’d also encourage parents (and grandparents) to pop in and read to their students and younger siblings before school.
- **Borrowers**: Parents and other members of the school community are able to borrow resources from the school library. The borrowing period is two weeks, but this may be extended. As well as the parent library of books, other resources are available for loan – for example, the popular “Grab Bags” (see below). See me if you’d like to become a borrower.
- **Parent Library**: There is a section in the library which contains books for parents. The collection is quite small and many of these have been purchased by the P&C. Most of the books are on parenting and managing children’s behaviour.
- **Parent Volunteers**: In past years we have received wonderful support from parents who volunteered their time to assist in the library or from home. They have covered and repaired resources, shelved resources, helped with displays and assisted with the stocktake. If you’d like to become a parent volunteer in the library, please see me.

**Grab Bags for Busy Mums and Dads**

If you have children in the toddlers-to-preschool age range, check out our Grab Bags. These are library bags prepacked with five books suitable for this age group. They have become quite popular – especially with parents who find it difficult to visit the city library each week to borrow books for their younger children.

**The importance of Reading**

It is good to read of scientific research that vindicates our enthusiasm for the importance of reading. Gail Rebuck wrote in *The Guardian* recently about the remarkable findings from brain scan studies of what happens inside the heads of readers when they read stories. New neural pathways result. This evidence backs up what so many of us have known instinctively: that a transformation takes place when we read. Books are important for their emotional role as “the starting point for individual voyages of personal development and pleasure”. At this time of many changes in the world of books and publishing, we must continue to stress the vital role of books, in whatever form. “The research shows that if we stop reading, we will be different people: less intricate, less empathetic, less interesting.”

**SPORTING NEWS - Brendan Galvin**

**CENTRAL ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL TEAM FINALISATION**

The Central Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday February 13. The finalisation of the team will be carried out during week 2 with students notified of their inclusion by weeks end. The carnival comes up very quickly so thankyou in advance for returning the permission letters ASAP after receiving them.

**TOOWOOMBA ZONE TRIALS**

Students turning 11 or 12 this year are invited to attend Toowoomba Zone trials in a variety of team sports throughout the year. 10 year old students with exceptional skills can also attend these trials although it must be clearly understood that they are participating against the older students. Students must be nominated by Mr Galvin only. The trials are not an activity for students who have not played the sport before, do not possess a high quality set of skills for that game or do not know the rules / positions of the sport. Should your child wish to attend a Zone Trial, they must see Mr Galvin when it is advertised. Zone trials are publicised over the loud speaker at breaks, on Senior Assembly and in this Newsletter. A medical form must also be returned to Mr Galvin before a nomination can be sent.

Nominations for the following sports are now being called:

- Boys Rugby League 10Yrs, 11Yrs and 12Yrs – Date: Sunday March 5. Noms Due: Wednesday February 22.

**TOOWOOMBA NETBALL MUSTER DAYS**

Registrations are already available through the online platform, However if you are new and would like assistance, Clubs will be available at Nell E Robinson Park on Sunday 5th and 12th February from 9am-11am. **Enquiries can be made to 0487359762 or email tmbanetball@bigpond.com.**
MUSIC NOTES

WOW! WHAT AN AMAZING START our wonderful Senior and Junior Vocal Ensembles had this week. Thank you to all who came along to give it a go - you sounded fantastic. Looking forward to more rehearsals next week!

If you forgot to come along, please make sure you try again for next week - we will seek full commitment in March, however February is a great opportunity to try out an ensemble before making up your mind.

VOCAL ENSEMBLES AND RECORDER CONSORT:

Junior Vocal Ensemble is open to interested students in yrs 2/3: Tuesday 1st Break
Senior Vocal Ensemble is open to those interested in yrs 4/5/6: Monday 1st Break, Wednesday 8:15am
Recorder Consort is open to those interested in Year 6: Wednesday 1st Break

These groups are not auditioned, but strong commitment to attendance at rehearsals and performances is expected.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

THANK YOU to those parents who have paid their Instrumental Contribution Scheme so promptly.
This is of great assistance in starting the year with our district affiliation fees and maintenance bills. Please see Mrs Laird if you are unsure what to pay. This payment is due now.
The basic contribution to be involved in the program with your own instrument is $40.
If your student has a school instrument on loan the contribution is a total of $85.00.
If your student is a percussionist without an instrument on loan then the contribution is $55.00 in total.

PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION NIGHT:

A letter was sent home last week for all Multi-Instrumental and Strings students. The information meeting will be Thursday 2nd February at 4:30pm in H BLOCK for all parents. This is an extremely useful time to meet teachers, learn some ways of helping students in home practice, and be made aware of other avenues and expectations for both beginners and continuing students involved in the Instrumental Music Program. We look forward to seeing you there.

ENSEMBLE TIMES: Just a quick reminder that ensemble times for Ms Warfield begin at 7:40am. Thank you to those students who have made an excellent effort to be on time and prepared this week.

NEW BEGINNERS: Last Friday and on Monday our 2017 beginners had their first lessons on their instruments. We are very proud to have these keen young musicians begin their instrumental music journeys and we welcome them into our Program. (See the photos below!)

WEEK 3 MONDAY TO THURSDAY: All Instrumental Music students (Multi and String) are reminded that there will be no lessons/rehearsals during Week 3 - 6th to 10th February as the Teachers are at a Conference.

PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS: Please ensure your child has the "Purchasing Requirements" for his/her instrument. If you have misplaced the list, you are most welcome to view or take a photo of the one posted on the wall outside the Music Room. Alternately, please ask Mrs Laird for a copy.

"Education is the leading of human souls to what is best, and making what is best out of them." ~ John Ruskin

BOOK CLUB – Jeanette Grimes (Library Teacher-Aide)

Students will receive leaflets for Issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club this week. We have offered Scholastic to students at Middle Ridge for a number of years. All student levels are contained in just one booklet, with reviews to assist you with choosing books that are age and reading level appropriate. There are 2 issues per term. The due date for completing orders for each issue can always be found in the current newsletter.

ISSUE 1 ORDERS TO BE COMPLETED ONLINE BY MONDAY 13 FEB

Parents have 2 options for orders/payment
1. Middle Ridge is registered to use the online ordering system LOOP, and this is the preferred option for orders and payment using a credit card. It is very easy to use and your child’s books will arrive at school with the whole school order. A poster explaining the process is displayed on the door to the Library or go to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP.

2. We are also able to accept orders with cheques payable to Scholastic Australia, and these will be processed by me in the Library. We are unable to accept cash payments.

Orders usually take from 5 to 10 days to return and will then be packed and delivered to your child’s classroom. If you intend the books to be given as gifts, please let me know and we can hold them in the Library for collection.

ADOPT-A-COP NEWS - Snr Constable Rachael Smith

HI Everyone,

I hope the first week of school has gone well for you all and I hope that all our new prep families are settling in well. Next week I will be at the school visiting with all our Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. We will be commencing with our protective behaviours which encompass the Early Warning Signs for our bodies and our Safety Hands.

Please parents, refrain from parking on the grass next to the carparks on Spring Street, I see a number of cars parked across the footpath, causing people to walk around them on the road. I put this in the newsletter on a regular basis…I know we have parking issues in the morning/afternoons. We have tried hard to rectify these problems, particularly with the upgrade to Roger Guard Lane last year. A little walk to school when parking in the surrounding streets doesn’t hurt any of us, rather than parking illegally and risking the lives of our school families. Thank you to those families who do the right thing!

It has been a pleasure to see our Year five/six kids this week helping out our younger grades as they get around the school. You may not think that people see you doing these great things, but they do!!!!

Until next week, stay safe

Senior constable Rachael

BIBLE CLUB NEWS – John & Frances Clewett

Middle Ridge Bible Club – Recommences 9 February - Canopy

Middle Ridge Bible Club is starting up again NEXT Thursday (9/2/16). We will be meeting at the Canopy, after school until 4:30pm.

Bible Club is overseen by St John’s Presbyterian Church, and is for any student who wants to know more about Christianity and the Bible. All Middle Ridge students are welcome to attend, with parental permission, and parents/carers are also welcome. Afternoon tea is provided.

For more information please contact David & Janette Hunt (4635 7762) or John & Frances Clewett (0402 886 389)

Many thanks,

John & Frances Clewett

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS 2017 - Mrs Tonya Grant (Volunteer Co-ordinator)

Welcome back! Just as school is back, so is School Banking. I’m Tonya and I pop in on Wednesday mornings to process the school banking for our students. This is a great program run by the Commonwealth Bank which offers an easy way to teach our kids about saving money with rewards to win. It also provides financial assistance to our school in the form of commissions which go straight to the P & C to spend on equipment for our children. I’ll try to send home Information Packs to Prep students in the next week or so when I get them. I’ll also send them home to older students as I process bank books.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO START SCHOOL BANKING – It’s easy!

Online: Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.

In Branch: Visit any Commonwealth Bank branch (Kmart Plaza, Clifford Gardens or Grand Central) and our friendly staff will assist. Parents will need to bring along identification for themselves and their child, like their Driver Licence and their child’s birth certificate.

Then on Wednesday mornings each week, fill in the deposit slip for your child and secure the money in the pocket of the bank book folder. Drop the whole thing into the money slot in the Admin office. I’ll come in and process the deposits from around 8:15am and then leave the bank book in your child’s teacher’s pigeonhole so they can give it back to go home.

Please make sure you have your child’s Name and Class (eg 4B or 2/3W) on the outside of their bank book.

IF YOU’VE BANKED AT MRSS BEFORE

Welcome back and you know the drill! I’ll still be in on Wednesday mornings before school so drop your book into the slot at the office and I’ll send it back via your teacher. Please don’t forget to update your Class on your bank book.
I’ll be back in the Office from next Wednesday morning to get you started.

IF YOU’VE BANKED AT ANOTHER SCHOOL BEFORE
Welcome to MRSS! You should be able to use your same bank book so just drop it into the Admin office on Wednesday morning with your deposit and I’ll organise a new student number for you when I process your book. Please make sure your bank book has your full name and account number in the front of it, and your name and class on the outside.

New Rewards to be Earned:
We’re excited to launch the new reward items for 2017 from our Future Savers range.
- Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1
- 3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2
- Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3
- Pencil + Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4

Parents and Citizens Association News

A message from the P&C President

Hello
The first P&C meeting for 2017 will be our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 15th of February. I would like to take this opportunity to invite members of the Middle Ridge School community to come and join us on the night and perhaps consider becoming a member of the P&C. If you are interested in taking on a role as an office bearer or joining one of our committees we would love to see you there. There will be a short general meeting following the AGM to get P&C activities for the year underway. The P&C meets on the third Wednesday of the month during the school terms and are fairly active with their fundraising activities throughout the year. So don’t be shy! Come along and be part of our great P&C.

The Tuckshop opened today for the first time this year and I would like to thank our convenor Amanda Ryan and her group of tuckshop volunteers for coming in earlier this week to prepare for the busy term ahead. The tuckshop operates on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week and there is a copy of the current Summer Menu available for viewing on the school website. The P&C encourages parents to use the Flexi-Schools on-line ordering system to place their children’s meal orders with Fridays being a No Bag ordering day. The Flexi-Schools system can also be used to place orders with our Uniform Shop if required. Special thanks also go to Veronica McKeon and her team in the Uniform Shop for the great work they have done over the first few weeks of school.

Please take the time to read the P&C Tuckshop and Uniform Shop notices below. If you have any queries about the P&C please contact us via e-mail at pandc@middridgss.eq.edu.au or check on the school website under the Our Community tab for more information.

Thank you.

Graeme McBryde

TUCKSHOP
Welcome back to you all!!!
Just a couple of things to take note of:
1) Tuckshop re-opened today (Wed 1st February) for Year 1-6 (Prep classes do not order this term but will start Tuckshop fromm Term 2).
2) The current menu is the Summer Menu
3) Just a reminder that Flexible school orders only for Fridays. NO PAPER BAGS.
4) If you are wishing to volunteer in our ever growing Tuckshop we would love to see you. Please come and introduce yourself and join the fun.

Have a fantastic term. Please don’t hesitate to contact me should there be any issues or queries.

Regards
Amanda Ryan 0419620138

UNIFORM SHOP
Thank you again to all of the valued volunteers who continue to kindly assist in the Uniform Store. Our opening hours have now returned to normal and we look forward to your continued support as the year unfolds. Please Note - we are currently out of supply of Large Hats.

Regards,
Veronica McKeon
WEST WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB – Registration and Muster
Soccer registrations for West Wanderers Football Club are now open. West Wanderers is situated on the southern side of Toowoomba at Nell E Robinson Park on Hume Street, between Alderley and Stenner Streets. Please register online by following the instructions on our website www.westwanderers.org. Once registered further details regarding Muster Day will be forwarded to you.
Any questions please contact us at juniorvp@westwanderers.org

Krystal Cochran
Junior Registrar
West Wanderers Football Club
Dear Parents & Carers

As part of our commitment at Middle Ridge State School to engaging with our school & parent community and to develop stronger foundations in Literacy & Numeracy skills amongst our students, we will be offering a number of **information and development workshops** specifically designed for parents throughout Term 1.

All volunteer / parent helpers (assisting in the classroom and with home reading) and any other interested parents are encouraged to participate in the first workshop, ‘**How to Help Children with Learning to Read**’ - an information session on our School Reading Program. Two sessions will be offered - the first focusing on Learning to Read in Year 1-3 and the second focused on **Reading to Learn** in **Years 4-6**. These sessions will assist parents to understand and begin using a consistent language both within and outside the classroom when supporting children in their Reading development. The use of consistent language, strategies and procedures for guided reading will prove invaluable across the school.

Our second series of workshops, entitled ‘**A Headstart at Home**’, will focus on ways to help your child with **Literacy** and **Numeracy** at home and tips for coping with and supporting student homework. These workshops will be offered later in the term, once again for parents of students in **Years 1-3** and **Years 4-6**.

Because the assistance that you subsequently provide in the classroom and through home is highly valued, we would welcome your attendance & participation in these Parent friendly workshops. Further details and a response slip are provided for your information below. Hope to see you here - we would welcome your return of the response slips to the office at your earliest opportunity.

Regards,

Karen Tiernan
Acting Head of Curriculum

Craig Barron
Principal

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**Parent Workshops - Reading, Literacy & Numeracy**  
(All Workshops held in the Orange Room in the Library)

- **Parent Name:** __________________________________________

- I have a Child/Children in Year ___ / ___ / ___ / ___

- I would like to join you and other parents at the following Information Workshops:  (please tick)

  - ‘**How to Help Children with Learning to Read**’ - Thursday 9 February
    - Yr 1-3  **1-2pm** - with Head of Curriculum, Karen Tiernan
    - Yr 4-6  **2-3pm** - with Karen Tiernan

  - **A Headstart at Home: ‘Understanding & providing Numeracy support’** - Thursday 23 February
    - Yr 1-3  **1-2pm** - with Deputy Principal, Lois Staatz
    - Yr 4-6  **2-3pm** - with Lois Staatz

  - **A Headstart at Home: ‘Reading, Writing, Spelling & how to support your child at home’** - Thursday 09 March
    - Yr 1-3  **1-2pm** - with Master Teacher, Fiona Millar
    - Yr 4-6  **2-3pm** - Fiona Millar