Staff and students got back into the swing of things pretty quickly and I again thank all the staff at our school for the manner in which they have dealt with the unfortunate distraction and disruption that occurred shortly before the start of the school year. At this stage there is not much that I can add to what I already mentioned in the letter sent home on Monday, except that Prue intends to be in the school for a few days this week and next, before undergoing the start of her treatment.

With regard to school matters:

- We started with 60 students which is a little down on what we had hoped for, but does not impact on our teaching/ancillary allocation. I would like to give a special welcome to our Reception starters and they are Lucy Cameron, Destiny Catford, Duncan Clogg, Sophie Clogg, Kayden Mill, Mariah Pritchard/Larkin, Rohan Smith, Harry Staker, Nick Venables, Emma Zanker. I’m sure their time with us will be exciting as they begin their learning journeys.

- Jaymon Wurst will be our IT SSO2 for the year and will be working on Wednesdays. He will be organising the curriculum ICT and Sunshine Online access and IXL access.

- A reminder please for parents with non-bus children that we would prefer those children to NOT ARRIVE AT SCHOOL til 8.30am, when appropriate supervision is available. The first bus that arrives at about 8.10am has no Laura PS students on it, so there is no yard supervision required til the second bus arrives.
• Absences – It is important that you notify your child’s class teacher if they are going to be away or if they have been away. A medical certificate is required if away more than 3 consecutive days otherwise a simple note in their diary or a phone call to the front office will suffice. It is important that accurate records are kept by all teachers and all absences are explained.
• Please have a look at the attached information on how Catastrophic days affect our bus routes. We remain open on Catastrophic days but buses will not run in a Catastrophic region.
• There will be a change to the usual Acquaintance Night this year. Teaching staff have agreed to holding 3 way interviews around week 5, in which parents, teacher and student will discuss individual student learning goals for this year. It is proposed that Acquaintance night will be replaced by a whole school “celebration of learning” night at the end of term 1, which would include a get together BBQ.
• Term time swimming will be held Monday to Thursday of week 3. Information and consent forms will be sent home Monday, so if you can get consents/medical forms back in promptly, that would be appreciated.
• We have attached a Term Planner to this newsletter to help in any family organisational needs. As well as this, Teachers will be sending home Programme Outlines next Thursday, so that you are familiar with what is happening in the classroom this term.
• Just a reminder that the school has policies related to the wearing of hats in term 1, mobile phones, drop offs/pick ups, visiting the school, fees etc. If you are unsure of any school policies, please feel free to contact us for clarification. I must say that hat use by our students seems pretty responsible, with very few reminders needing to be given about the outside play rules.
• Information regarding code of conduct and seat allocations for bus students will be sent home to parents as soon as we receive information from the High School

Kind Regards

Kim McBride
Acting Principal

*Note from Pauleen

School forms were sent home Tuesday and some on Wednesday. It would be appreciated if these could be returned as soon as possible please. School fees can be paid by cash, cheque or direct debit to bank account (details are on the invoices). Swimming forms will be distributed next week.
SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2016

Daisy Wooley
Casey Cleggett

VICE CAPTAINS

Georgia Winter
Liam Wooley

Congratulations to our new School Captains, Daisy, Georgia, Casey & Liam. S.R.C. representatives from each class will be announced next week. Students will be presented with their badges at next week’s assembly.

Pastoral Care Worker Ms. Helen Wurst
*Confidential assistance*Mentoring*Wellbeing support* Referral*

Available Times – Mon, Tues 9-3.30 & Thurs, 1.30-3.30

Pastoral Care

We extend our condolences out to the Zanker families, Lyn, Graham, Andrew and Annie on the recent loss of their mother and grandmother. May you receive comfort for your loss at this time.

Pancake Day comes early this year. This is a tradition where cupboards would be cleaned out in preparation for the Christian season of Lent, being the 40 days leading up to Easter. The flour, milk and eggs would need to get used up as they would not keep until Easter.

We would like to extend an invitation to any parent who would like to come along and make pancakes, next Tuesday (9th Feb) from 9.30 onwards. Please tear off and return slip below.

..........................................................will be able to join in making pancakes on Tuesday 9th February.

...........................................signed
**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Pop-Up Tuesday's**

Between 10am and 4pm on scheduled Tuesdays, the OPAL staff will be available as a pop-in service to meet and discuss any enquiries or ideas you may have regarding healthy eating and physical activity for kids and families in this local OPAL region.

**Come and visit us:**

1st Tuesday each month: District Council of Mount Remarkable Council Office, Melrose
2nd Tuesday each month: Northern Areas Council Office, Jamestown
3rd Tuesday each month: Uniting Care Wesley Building, Peterborough
4th Tuesday each month: North Eastern Council Office, Gladstone

Enjoy the day with Geocaching...

**OPAL Hire Geocaching Pack**
Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game. Using a GPS device or a GPS enabled phone to locate hidden containers called caches. However the fun part is not to make your searching obvious to people who aren’t Geocachers... Part of the fun is being a bit sneaky! The best way to find out more about Geocaching is to have a go with the FREE OPAL Hire Geocaching Pack:

- Hand held GPS unit with 10 family friendly geocaching missions, pen, notebook, gloves, sanitiser and torch.

**WHERE AND HOW TO HIRE:**

- Over The Edge Sports
- Flinders Mobile Library
- Spalding General Store and Cafe

Available for hire to adults and children under age of 18yrs with an adult. All you need is a suitable identification and contact phone number.

To find out more jump on and ‘like’ the facebook pages below for regular updates, information and borrowing times.

- www.facebook.com/OPALMidNorth
- www.facebook.com/FlindersMobileLibrary
- www.facebook.com/otemelrose

To find out how to have a ‘Geocaching Pack’ for loan at your place of business contact Emma Young 0488 090 303.

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**Zen Do Kai – Martial Arts**

**Phoenix Karate Club**

Our club in Port Pirie is at the “Joh Pirie Secondary School” (Drama Room/old gym). Classes are held on Wednesday evening from 630pm til 7.30pm. Cost is only $20 per month, (approx... $5 per class) the first 2 classes are free trial lessons.

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To find out how to have a ‘Geocaching Pack’ for loan at your place of business contact
Emma Young 0488 090 303.

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**Hip Hop Bounce, fresh dance that’s all about fun!**

DANCE, CHEER, TUMBLE and SING, Hip Hop Bounce are now open for 2016 enrolments in Port Pirie and Jamestown.

Come and share our passion and love of dance; make new friends and have fun whilst getting fit, boosting your confidence and learning great dance technique. All students are invited to perform at our annual end of year Spectacular at the Northern Festival Centre. Everyone is welcome to come and try, no experience necessary.

**Enrolments are now open for our exciting 2016 timetable...**

*New classes with expanded timetables in Port Pirie and Jamestown
*Huge range of styles including Hip Hop, Cheerleading (Stunt and Pom), Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Tumbling, Adult’s Dance Fitness, Bounce Boys and Bounce-Sing (our very own Glee Club)
*New Little Bouncer Club classes specifically designed to introduce your 2 or 3 year old to the magic of dance.
*New Bounce Boys classes in Port Pirie; hip hop, tumble, breakdance and freestyle all in the one great class, just for boys!
*Take classes to perform, compete or just for fun; 2 years to adults, beginner to advanced, casual attendance options.

Contact Natasha for details and to book your place- classes are filling quickly, natasha@hiphopbounce.com.au
0416239676
Find us on Facebook