

St George School Newsletter

Diana Murphy, Principal

28 January 2016



Key Dates:

Wednesday 17 February
School photos

Thursday 18 February
P&C Meeting

Friday 25 March - Monday 28 March
Easter long weekend

Friday 1 April
Coffee & Chat

TBA – **Easter Show School program excursion**

Friday 8 April – **Last day first term**

January Birthdays



Many happy returns to:
George Yu – 6 years on 8 January
Kate Beardsley- 17 years on 21 January
Nicholas Threlfo - 10 years on 27 January

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We trust that you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and coped well with the high temperatures and wet conditions.

We start the year with enthusiasm and high expectations of ourselves and for our students.

This year, we welcome six new students to St George School. A warm welcome to Gerasimos Kizi. Anthony Qiu, George Yu, Athan Loucas and Winnie Lawrun who are all starting school this year. We also welcome Ben Rein who is transferring to St George School. We trust that our new students and their families will enjoy their time at St George School and find the experiences rich and rewarding. We thank the families of our transition to school students for supporting the transition processes for their child.

Classes 2016

We continue in 2016 with staffing for ten classes. We have three teams: Primary, Middle and Secondary. Primary 2 and Middle 1 will be composite classes using a flexible staffing model.

Early this term your class teacher will contact you to schedule a meeting to develop your child's personalised learning plan. The meeting will set the individual learning priorities for the year. Where necessary, the meeting will also provide the opportunity to review your child's health care plan, any physical management issues and/or therapy recommendations.

Staffing

I will continue in the role of Principal School Leadership role for two days per week until the end of third term. Ana Mowle will continue in the role of relieving principal on Mondays and Tuesdays for this period.

This year, we welcome Clare Pritchard, Clare Devlin –Mahoney, Jyoteka (Jo) Marwaha in temporary teacher roles for the year. We welcome Marnia Whetu and Anne Mahesan in temporary School Learning Support Officer roles. We welcome Maureen Diener, an experienced member of staff, as a permanent member of staff.

Leah Ponzio will continue as librarian and Monday will continue as our library day this year.

Intensive Swimming

Last year our intensive swimming program in first term was very successful. We are fortunate in re-engaging Emma Wilson for intensive swimming. Emma is an experienced special education teacher and a qualified swimming instructor.

In the week commencing 8 February (week 3) the Secondary classes and Middle 2 will have intensive swimming. The Primary classes and middle 1 will have intensive swimming in week 5 i.e. the week commencing 22 February 2016.

Next week, your child's class teacher will send home a separate note regarding the intensive swimming program.

Changes to the Carpark

During the holidays we made some changes to the carpark area to make it easier for staff and families to park and safer for students in boarding the buses in the afternoon. Although signage is still to be completed, there will be two bays for families on the immediate right as you enter the carpark area (not the turning circle). The first bay is to support parent drop off and pick up and the second is for visitors during the day. There will be three bus bays on the immediate left as you enter the carpark designated for three of the smaller buses. We have increased the number of parking areas by reducing part of the garden.

School Development Day

Our school development days provide the opportunity for professional learning and completion of mandatory training. At the end of last year all staff completed CPR training, online training in the Disability Standards for Education and training in the use of eye gaze technology. Yesterday, staff completed mandatory annual child protection training and anaphylaxis training. Class staff also engaged in collaborative planning for the 2016 school year.

School Captains

We congratulate Dylan Chaplin and Angela Zhu who are our school captains this year and Sebastian Lara-Barris and Michaela Brown, our Vice Captains for the year.

School Plan 2015 – 2017

We enter the second year of our school plan this year. Our three strategic directions focus on student learning, staff learning and learning within and beyond the school. The Annual Report for 2015 will provide an evaluation of the progress of the plan in 2015 and directions for 2016. Our Annual Report will be uploaded onto our school website in first term 2016.

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