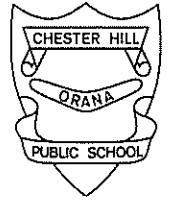


CHESTER HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality education in a caring learning environment



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Dear parents and students,

Welcome back to another exciting year at Chester Hill Public School. I hope you all enjoyed your Summer vacation and the boys and girls are ready to begin another 12 months of learning challenges.

Below is a "catch – up" of what has happened since last year and what will be happening over the next two weeks. Our normal newsletter with all the bits and pieces will be out next week.

Staffing

At the end of last year we officially farewelled Ms Baird from her position of Assistant Principal of CHPS. I would like to welcome Ms Mel Buraga as the Acting Assistant Principal of Early Stage One. At present we have Ms Buraga and Mrs Patkovic (stage 2) in acting Assistant Principal Roles. The two full time vacancies will be filled through merit selection by the end of this year with the first vacancy being advertised this term.

We also have several new full and part time teachers filling in different positions for teachers who are on leave. A complete list of our staff will be in an upcoming newsletter once 2018 classes have been formed.

Classes 2018

During this first week most students will be with their 2017 teachers (excepting kindergarten). Hopefully by the end of this week all returning and new students will have returned to school. If this is the case students will be placed in their 2018 classes by 7th February. At this point in time we have many students who indicated they would be returning to Chester Hill P.S. in 2018 but have not returned. If you are aware of any students who were returning but now are not could you please contact the office and let them know as soon as possible. At this point in time we will be forming 27 classes.

The school policy is that students will be placed in the class that will support them to achieve their best possible learning outcomes. Therefore, please be aware that once placed in a class there is **minimal if any movement**.

Student Assistance

The school does have limited Student Assistance money for uniforms, excursion and other school related expenses. If you need financial support please make an appointment to see me through our school office. As I have written the school has **limited** funding so please only **genuine** cases of financial hardship should apply.

Meet the Teacher

Early this term (21st February) an opportunity will be offered for parents to come to school to meet with their child's 2018 teacher. It will enable you as the parent to visit the classroom, meet the teacher and be given an overview of all aspects of their education for this year and also meet other class parents. It is a general discussion not about individual students but the class as a whole. Individual Parent – Teacher interviews will be held at the end of term 1.

Sun Safe Policy

A reminder: all students **must wear** the wide brimmed hat sold only at our uniform shop to be able to play. No other style of hat is permitted. This style of hat ensures that your children have the best sun protection and fulfils the state government's Sun Safe policy guidelines.

Emergency Contact Information

It is extremely important that our school office has up to date contact information for all students. If over the holidays your own contact information or that of your child's emergency contact's information has changed please inform the office to update it immediately. Your child's well-being is our first priority but we cannot support your child unless we have all the correct information.

Community Hub

Welcome to 2018! The community hub is a place for parents to meet and take part in educational and social activities throughout the year. The hub offers many programs and services throughout the school term including early childhood programs, parenting and family support, health and wellbeing activities, social connection opportunities, training and education and links to settlement and specialist services. The community hub is open from Mondays-Fridays during school hours, for any enquiries please contact Lina on 0403433212 or 9644 1286. Stay tuned for parent program information both in the school newsletters and notes sent home, you can also follow our school on Facebook for updated info on parent programs and school information.

School Readiness Program: Get your child ready for Kindergarten 2019 - program commences on Tuesday 13th February from 9:30am-12:00pm in the school hall.

ACA Playgroup: Children aged 0-5 along with an adult can join in many activities in our playgroup. This weekly program will start on Wednesday 7th February from 9:30-11:30am. To enrol or for more info contact Lina on 0403 433 212.

Parenting and Life Skills Program: Parents and their little ones are invited to take part in this weekly program held in the hub. This program has a range of workshops every week including parenting, fitness, art & craft, health programs and more. It will run on Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am starting on 8th February. Please call 0403 433 212 to enrol.

Lina Mourad: Community Hub Leader

Parents & Citizens Association

Canteen: Please note that prices in the canteen have gone up due to supplier price increases. You can pick up a new canteen menu and price list from the canteen.

Uniform Shop: Uniform shop will be operating through the canteen every morning during week 1 from 8:30-10am, eftpos and online shopping available via the PSW website. Please note the P&C no longer runs the uniform shop, all enquires should be made through PSW reps available at the canteen.

School Banking: School banking will commence in week 3 on TUESDAY 13th February. Please note the change in day this year for school banking; it will no longer be on FRIDAY. If you are interested in opening a school banking account for your child, you will have to do this online on the Commonwealth Bank website. For more information please see P&C members in the canteen.

Office Reminders

Please remember that school hours are 9.00 am to 3.00 pm. Please ensure your child is at school on time and picked up on time.

There is no teacher on playground duty before 8.35 am. Should your child be late to school a note should be provided to the teacher with the reason for lateness. Late notes can be obtained from the office on the day. If you need to collect your child and leave early before 3.00 pm you need to come to the office and sign an early leavers note for the teacher. Any absences from school need to be explained by a note from the parents. Pre-printed note booklets are available for your convenience.

Parents of our younger students are reminded that with change of routines sometimes toileting accidents can happen so please ensure your child has spare underwear and clothes in their bag otherwise we may need to call you to leave work to attend to your child. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

A reminder that spare notes are located on our school website together with information about current school activities. Parent Online Payments for excursions are also encouraged via the 'Make a Payment' button on the school webpage.

Please feel free to contact the office at any time if you have any questions or concerns and if needed we will direct you to the appropriate staff member. We can be contacted by telephone or email as listed above and look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

Brent Kunkler Principal