Welcome to Term 2! I hope that everyone had a nice Easter and that you enjoyed the two weeks spent with your children. It was great to see the children’s smiling faces again and hear all about their holiday adventures. This term promises to be another busy one!

**NAPLAN**

Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be sitting the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy annual assessments on May 14, 15 and 16. It is expected that all students in these year levels participate in the testing. However, parents may withdraw their child from the tests to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. If you are concerned about your child participating in the tests please see me to discuss this. There is a process that needs to be undertaken if parents want to withdraw their child which needs to be completed by Friday 10 May.

Please read through the attached NAPLAN information so that you are informed about what occurs and how you can support your child to do their best.

**Parent Meetings**

I would like to meet with all parents starting in Week 3 to inform you of your child’s progress. Attached is a draft timetable—please return this to school at your earliest convenience. I have allocated 15 minutes to parents with one child at the school and 30 minutes to parents with multiple children at the school.

First Parade and ANZAC Service

Next Wednesday 24th March we will be holding a school parade combined with an ANZAC Service from 1:45pm. All parents are invited to attend and are encouraged to bring along a plate of food suitable for a shared afternoon tea following the service.

**School Attendance – Every day counts!**

Research studies show that higher rates of school attendance is related to higher achievement levels. Last term the student attendance rate was 87.4% (this figure doesn't include the school closure days or flood affected absences). While there is not a high absentee problem in the school I would like for us to work together and aim for an attendance rate of 95% or higher for this term. You can help us achieve this target by ensuring your student attends school every day unless they are sick.

**Winter Uniform Expectations**

Please keep in mind your child’s comfort and the expectations for school uniforms as we move towards winter. Any additional clothing needed to keep your child warm needs to conform to the school’s colours of red and black. Red and black jumpers and black bottoms such as tracksuit pants, jeans and leggings under skirts are all okay.

Our school branded jumpers are available to purchase through the P&C at $14 each. The P&C are currently investigating a zip up style school jumper to be available for purchase in the near future.
Woolworths Learn and Earn
We are accepting Woolworths Learn and Earn stickers! Please drop any collected into the office so that we can buy a few resources for the students. This opportunity ends on 9 June which gives us plenty of time to get a nice total of stickers. Don’t forget to bug friends, neighbours and work colleagues for theirs!

Staffing
We are lucky to be gaining Mrs Wilcox for an extra day starting next week. Leith will now be working at Theebine on Wednesdays and Fridays. This will provide a much needed hand in the classroom on two of our full days.

P&C Meeting
The next P&C general meeting is on tomorrow (17 April) from 2:30 and all are welcome to come along.

125th Anniversary Planning for 2014
We are holding the first planning meeting for our 125th anniversary celebrations next week. This will be held at 2:30 on 24 April—why not stay a little while after the ANZAC service and have your input?

Tuckshop Roster
Please find attached the tuckshop roster for all of Term 2.

Next Newsletter
As mentioned last term, newsletters will now be going out fortnightly on Tuesdays. Expect the next newsletter of 30th April.

Regards,
Ian Marsden