Year One/Two Parent Information Session 2013

School Vision
To provide a collaborative and dynamic learning environment where students will develop literacy, numeracy and life skills that will assist them in becoming valued and active participants of the Global Community.

Home Learning – as per Policy – see below

Year 1/2 home learning will
- generally not exceed 15 minutes, four nights a week - includes daily reading and number activities.
- sometimes include the gathering of extra information or materials.
- allow for optional extension activities.
- not be set during school holidays.

- All students are expected to complete basic homework.
- Parents/caregivers are encouraged to support their child to be organised to complete their home learning.
- In the event of students consistently not completing home learning activities, parents will be contacted to discuss home learning issues.

Home Reading – books should be easy to read and enjoyable. Daily reading at home is a home-learning expectation. Please make it an enjoyable experience and praise your children for efforts they make. It is still a good idea to read to your child and read with them, as well as listening to them read. You could make reading at home a family activity where siblings and parents are reading to each other. It is designed to develop independence with students choosing their reading material from ‘Just right’ books. There is a diary to record their daily reading. ‘Red Book Bags’ need to come to school daily.

Spelling – Students focus on learning to spell the first 100 words in grade one and the 200 words in grade two. This enables children to confidently put their ideas in writing by focussing on strategies, and having a go. They use and choose spelling patterns to represent the sounds they can hear.

Students will be taught the following strategy to learn words:
- **LOOK** at the word, so that you have a picture of it in your head
- **SAY** the word
- **NAME** the letters/sounds/chunks of the word
- **COVER** the word
- **WRITE** the word
- **CHECK** the word, letter by letter

Handwriting – focus is on correct start and end points, size and direction. Please be aware that left handed students need left handed scissors (these often have green handles instead of red).

Maths - involves hands on material where possible. The curriculum revolves around the areas of Number, Space, Measurement, Chance and Data, and Working Mathematically (using calculators & thinking processes). To help your child with maths at home – allow your child to handle money, recognise coins, and add coins. When watching TV, talk to them about what time their favourite show is on, check out the time on real clocks, talk about the big hand being the minute hand and the small hand being the hour (o’clock) hand. Find numbers in the real world – street numbers, telephone numbers – encourage them to read the numbers.

Grade 1/2 Rotations – Wednesday afternoons: Science, Sustainability and Computers.

Library - weekly borrowing –Mondays 1/2 S and 1/2W; Tuesdays 1/2 KW and 1/2M.

Sport - students participate in 1/2 Sport every Tuesday at 2.30pm.

Swimming – starts Thursday 21st Feb; 1/2KW Thursday 9am, 1/2W Thursday 10am, 1/2M Thursday 11.30am. 1/2S is split three ways.
Absences - It is important that children are punctual. That means being in their class and ready to start by 9am. When a child arrives late they interrupt the learning of others and have missed out on key instructions. This often causes anxiety and worries for the student. We do understand that, at times, certain events mean a delay to the start of the school day, but we ask that these be kept to a minimum.

All absences need to be reported. The school has to report to DEECD the number of absences. It is our target to reduce our student absences to below ten per student per year.

Please phone the office by 9.10am on the day of absence or use the absence forms. Advance warning of long term holidays is helpful to our planning and ensuring continuity of student learning.

Late Arrivals – Students must report to the office to sign in, pick up a Late Arrival card, then go to class. If students arrive at class after the bell, they are deemed to be late to school.

Early Departures – Parents must report to the office to sign students out, pick up an Early Departure card; take this to the classroom to collect the child.

Parent Helpers and Visitors – Must sign in and out at the office before going to a classroom please.

Classroom Helpers – see your classroom teacher for details.

Instrumental Music – as we have a considerable number of children participating in this program and lesson times vary from week to week, we need parents to help their children develop ways of knowing the time to attend their sessions. It is really difficult and impracticable for teachers to remember each time for each child each week when they are teaching. We need your support in this area please. Parents can collect their child from the classroom.

Asthma and other Medical Concerns – good to talk to teachers individually about your child’s needs so that we get up to date firsthand information.

Sunsmart – hats to be worn from September to April. Please have the school hat, not a cap – NO HAT NO GO! Hats are to be worn on all school excursions and camps.

Water – Pop top bottles of water may be kept on tables.

Sustainable Schools Program – Lenka Brereton (our Art teacher), has developed a whole school program aimed at developing a Sustainable School. The Year 1/2 focus is Water.

Waste Wise Lunch Program – this program continues as per last year, encouraging students not to use plastic wrappers. Tin foil and paper are recyclable. Nude food is highly recommended. Students are encouraged to take all rubbish home. Some extra fruit to enjoy in the middle of the morning is also highly recommended.

Gr 2 Sleepover – date to be confirmed. Children go home on Thursday after school then come back for tea and stay the night.

Gr 1 Breakfast – October at school.

Excursion - Sunnyridge Strawberry Farm/Seawinds and Rye Playground 5th March – Parent Helpers required.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please make an appointment with:
1. The classroom teacher. If you require additional support with the issue please see:
2. The team leader for 1/2 (Angela Sorbara). If the issue is still not resolved contact:
3. Sue Wearne or if she is not available, Meg Dallas.

Teachers will be in their classrooms from 8:50am each morning and will be in the playground for five minutes at 3:30pm most days.