

Principal's Report Week 3 Term 1 2017

Students are now settled into their classes for 2017 and are working hard with their new teachers. We welcome to the school Mrs Eve Larsen who is teaching the 5/6 class (Cooinda). Mrs Larsen brings to the school a wealth of teaching experience, high levels of professionalism and is a motivated and dedicated educator; we are very lucky to have her working here at Jamberoo PS. Mrs Larsen will be teaching the students in Cooinda from Monday to Thursday and I will be teaching the Stage 3 class every Friday. The class structures for 2017 are as follows:

Birahlee (Kindergarten) – Mrs Kunkler

Wallabi (Kindergarten & Year One) – Mrs McCormack

Tangalla (Year 2 & Year 3) – Mrs Martin

Nuninoona (Year 3, Year 4 & Year 5) – Mrs Behl-Shanks

Cooinda (Year 5 & Year 6) – Mrs Larsen & Mr Speirs

Mrs Xuereb will continue to teach RFF, Library and provide Learning Support for our students.

L3

This year the Early Stage One and Stage One teachers (Melinda & Justine) will be completing professional learning to incorporate the literacy program Language, Learning and Literacy (L3) into their classrooms. The aim of the program is to complete daily literacy learning activities to provide learners with opportunities to achieve stage based outcomes. It also aims to reduce the number of Year 1 students who require intensive intervention programs such as Reading Recovery.

Data (Best Start) is utilised to inform instruction and to target literacy skills in reading and writing. The program is implemented in the classroom over the course of the year. Teachers receive high quality professional learning to develop explicit and systematic teaching and learning of literacy through guided, modelled and independent strategies.

Every five weeks goals for student success in literacy are set by teachers with the support of trainers. Data is also reflected upon to inform teaching practice and inform the next steps in learning.

The L3 guidelines involve small group teaching within the whole classroom, with the classroom teacher focussing on groups of two or three children for short periods at a time in what is called the 'engine room', while the rest of the class are engaged in literacy-related self-directed activities. There is a strong emphasis on reading aloud to children, and the well-known 'levelled' books are used in both teaching and in assessment.

SCHOOL PLAN & DISCIPLINE POLICY

Two of the focuses for Term One 2017 will be the drafting and presentation of the school plan for 2017 and the school's discipline policy. Initial discussions about both initiatives commenced with staff on the two staff development days at the end of last year. I am currently drafting both documents in preparation for the presentation to the whole school community. Your input into the school's future directions and policy development is vital. All stakeholders will be provided with the opportunity to have a voice in the implementation of both documents. Further information about future meetings with the community will be provided in the next few weeks.

JERSEYS

Thank you to the P&C, especially Naomi Poole for the recent purchase of school jerseys which will be used by sporting teams now and in the future. The jerseys look fantastic and will be proudly worn by the students of Jamberoo PS.

OHSC

In 2016, schools without an OSHC service that have a need for one are eligible to apply for a one off grant of up to \$30,000. The grant can be used for site modification, fit out costs, project management or to pay for necessary equipment to support a new service. Primary schools that do not currently have an OSHC service are encouraged to consult with their community to determine whether a service is required and if it should be established. Therefore I wish to commence discussions with the Jamberoo community eg the school's P&C to establish the need for an OSHC service at Jamberoo PS.

Chris Speirs

Principal Jamberoo PS