

27 January, 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school for 2017! I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing Christmas break and is ready for a busy year ahead. The year has started off with some hot weather! I would encourage students to bring a water bottle to school and make sure they are drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated. Over the Christmas holidays we lost a number of families who, for a variety of reasons, have left the district. This has meant that our predicted enrolment numbers for Day 8 have dropped significantly. We will have more of an idea how this will affect our staffing and resources after Day 8 numbers are submitted and we receive our school allocations. I would like to assure parents that there will be minimal disruption to classes and students learning.

I would like to welcome the new families who have joined us at Cordalba for the start of the new school year. I hope you and your children enjoy your time with us. I know you will be warmly welcomed into our school community.

I would like to comment on the excellent behaviour and friendliness that I have consistently witnessed from our students during the first week of school so far. Whenever we have new students join Cordalba State School, our students go out of their way to make them feel welcome and help them settle into our school. As Principal, this makes me feel very proud of our students and their values. These values, which are reflected in our whole school community and taught and reinforced both at home and at school, help define what a great school and community we have.

A big thank you to all parents for having their students so organized and ready to start the school year. It has been a very smooth start to 2017 and your help in having the students at school, on time, ready to learn plays a key role in their success.

Building Blocks for Learning

We are continuing to work with Dr Carol Christensen to implement her reading program across the school. This year we are also implementing Dr Carol's comprehension program. For those new to the school I have included the following as a bit of background on Dr Carol.



Dr Carol Christensen is a psychologist, education lecturer and literacy researcher from the University of Queensland. The literacy strategies we are employing are based on research into best practice in literacy teaching and are delivered in a structured and staged series of lessons. They employ a range of pedagogical methods including a strong focus on oral language, phonological awareness and handwriting automaticity. The literacy curriculum covers all aspects of literacy from basic skills in reading and writing to using sophisticated strategies to conceptualize information in text and critical analysis of text. These literacy skills are fundamental in order for students to become proficient readers. This program has produced some excellent student results and we can see it benefitting our students. We are privileged to have such a renowned academic as Dr Christensen working with our staff.

This program has achieved amazing results for our students. We also have a number of schools interested in the program and we are supporting them in the implementation at their sites

Due to the structured nature of the program, we need the support of parents to ensure students are at school every day unless genuinely sick. Everyday counts with this program and students need to be at school by 8:55am ready to start!



Daily Rapid Reading/ Reading Link

Daily Rapid Reading/ Reading Link programs will be continuing this year for students in Years Three and Five. We have had great results with this program and I'm looking forward to seeing the distance travelled for each of the students over the year and the improvement in their reading and comprehension skills. Daily Rapid Reading will run Monday and Tuesday each week.

Chaplains

This year we are lucky to have two chaplains supporting the students at Cordalba State School. Chappy Shane Turner, who was with us for Term Four in 2016, will be back with us on Tuesdays in 2017. Joining Chappy Shane is a new chaplain to the Isis district in Chappy Karenne Brown. We are pleased to welcome Chappy Karenne to Cordalba School. Karenne will be here on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At Cordalba School, the Chaplain is integrated into classroom and playground activities, making themselves available to students as needed.

Instrumental Music

We also have a new Instrumental Music Teacher starting with us in 2017 replacing Mr Little. I would like to welcome Miss Catherine Arthurson to Cordalba State School. Instrumental music will be on Thursday mornings with band rehearsals before school.

Get Started Vouchers

These vouchers can be used to help pay for club membership and/or participation fees. If the membership/participation fees are more than \$150, the parent, guardian or carer will need to pay the difference. If the membership/participation fees are less than \$150, the club will be reimbursed for the membership/participation fees only.

The link for the vouchers is:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthegame/getstarted/apply/>

This is a great initiative to join a club or get into a sport.

Just a reminder to all parents that from time to time throughout the year issues can arise with students. I would advise parents to speak to their child's teacher as soon as possible if you have any concerns about your child.

Kind regards
Matthew Parsons
Principal

Date Claimers:

08 Feb: Parent Afternoon 3:15
09 Feb: Book Club orders due
09 Feb: Council Meeting 6:15pm
31 Mar: End Term One
18 Apr: Term 2 begins

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded certificates this week:

Prep/1: Abigail Abbott for a fantastic start to Year 1;



Yr 2/3: Riley De Martin for the enthusiastic and positive start he has made to Year 2;



Yr 4/5: Shyann Edgar for outstanding presentation with her bookwork and working well in class;



Yr 6: Jed Fredriksen for being the first to complete his fast facts in the time limit for 2017



PRINCIPALS AWARD

Congratulations to the **2017 Prep Students** who was awarded the Principal's Award this week for the way they have started the 2017 school year. Well Done!



CLASSROOM CORNER

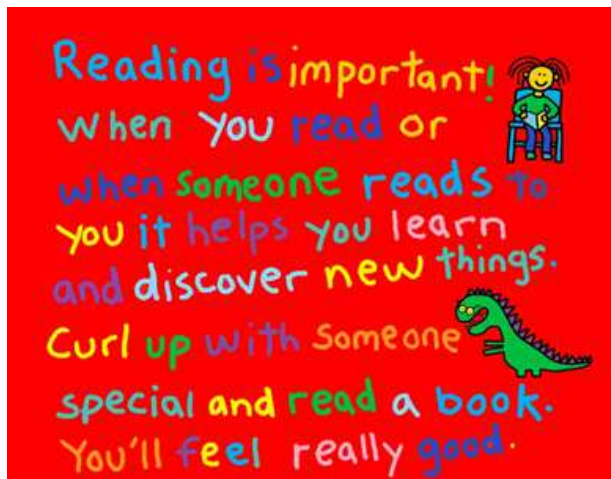
Welcome back everyone. Year 2/3/4L have begun the school year with great enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards their learning. Following the wonderful progress each child made in 2016 through the Dr Carol Decoding program, we have continued on with the program in 2017. We look forward to continuing to build on the wonderful success of last year. In Science, we are learning

about lifecycles and will have mealworms as our visitors in the classroom. The students will observe their growth and the changes the mealworms make as they develop. Here's to a fantastic 2017.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORY

In conjunction with the Bundaberg ASD Support Group, the Bundaberg & District Neighbourhood Centre has released a new community services directory. It has been designed as a local guide for parents, relatives, and professionals living and/or working with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. It is a useful resource that provides contact information relating to a range of services and supports available in Bundaberg and surrounding areas. The directory is available for download at <http://www.kenalwynbnc.org.au> or if you would like a printed copy, please see me at the school.

Sharon Paarman, Special Education Teacher



ABSENCES

Parents / Guardians of children who have been absent from school are to notify the class teacher either:

- in person,
- by note
- a telephone call to the office
- text to 0475 945 837.

Messages via a sibling are not acceptable. It is your responsibility to make the school aware of any absences.

When your child is absent for 3 consecutive days and the absence is unexplained, the Department of Education Queensland is notified.

PLAYGROUP

Our "Little Caterpillars" Playgroup will resume on Friday 3 February. Come along for a fun filled morning from 9am to 11am. Cost is \$2 per family



CHANGE TO YOUR DETAILS

It is vitally important that you advise the school of ANY changes within your family that may affect your child's schooling. These include change to phone numbers, emergency contacts, address and in some cases family situations including custody cases. Please contact the office.

ARRIVAL TIMES AT SCHOOL

Please be aware that students should not be arriving at school before 8:30am (bus travellers excepted) unless prior arrangements are made with us. Early arrivals must report to the Yr 2/3 or Yr 4/5/6 classrooms on alternate weeks where they are supervised until 8:30am. Please could all parents contact the Office to advise if their students will need to arrive prior to 8:30am if you haven't already done so.



LIBRARY BAGS YRS 1 – 4

All students in Years 1 – 4 need a library bag to be able to borrow from the library. Students without a bag on their allocated library day will not be allowed to take books home. The Library Bag helps keep our books in reasonable shape when out on loan. A pillow slip is suitable as a bag.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Year 1

Year One students are invited to take part in the Religious Education programme. A permission/withdrawal form is attached to your newsletter. Please complete and send along to Mrs Jones early next week. RE is held every Wednesday with our instructors, Mr & Mrs Mann, who follow a non-denominational Christian programme. Students who do not participate in RE are withdrawn from the class and complete alternate work.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you to the Cordalba General Store and the Cordalba Hotel for their wonderful support throughout 2016. Parents, where possible, please support our local businesses. We look forward to their continued support throughout 2017.



STUDENT BANKING

Student Banking will resume on Wednesdays. Please hand your banking to your class teacher. We bank electronically. Any deposits students make will benefit our school and children in the form of commission. Any students wishing to open an account with the Commonwealth Bank may do so and bank through the school.

NO PARKING in School Grounds

For safety reasons, we must ask all parents to abide by this ruling and not drive in or park in the school grounds.

BUS TRAVELLERS

Please note: all bus travellers and students not collected on time will be supervised in the Library. If your child is a regular traveller on the bus but is not travelling on the bus on any given day, they are to advise the teacher on duty.

SPEED ZONES @ SCHOOL

Parents and carers are reminded that the school is surrounded by school zones 7:30am to 9am and again at 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Please keep within the speed limit during these times. The Police have advised they will be monitoring these zones.

URGENT!! URGENT!! URGENT!! TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in urgent need of support to run our tuckshop each Friday. Please speak to Kylie Woods or let the Office know if you can help out. We appreciate the time you give very much. With our present number of volunteers we may have to close the tuckshop. We all know how nice it is each week not to have to make lunches, so please nominate to help. The more helpers the less times you will be required on roster. Our tuckshop is quite simple, taking at most about 3 ½ hrs out of your day. Most foods are prepared and only need to be heated and/or packaged. You can work alone, or be rostered with someone else. Please, if you can help, even if only for morning tea or lunch, not the whole day, let Kylie Woods know or phone the office on 41266184.

Attached to your newsletter is the current menu. Please keep this menu handy when ordering.

Tuckshop orders must be placed on **WEDNESDAY MORNINGS** by 9am for Friday Tuckshop.

Please place Morning Tea and Lunch orders on **SEPARATE PAPER BAGS** with your Child's Name and Year level clearly marked. The money for the orders can be placed in one bag.

CENTREPAY DEDUCTIONS

Parents can make regular payments against their accounts with the school using CentrePay. This includes excursions, swimming, uniforms and booklists, etc. Please advise the office if you wish to use CentrePay. Our reference number is 555 106 854T. Centrepay takes the nominated amount fortnightly from your CentreLink payment and pays it to the school and most families find it very convenient. The surprise is at the end of the year when you owe nothing. On average \$10 a fortnight per child will be sufficient.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS

Payment to the school can be made in person at the Office; cash, cheque or EFTPOS or by Internet Banking.

Details for Internet Banking are:

CBA BSB 064-408

Account: 0009 0079

Acc Name: Cordalba State School
General Account

Transaction Details: Please enter your CHILD'S NAME and CLASS as transaction details. Payments via the Internet are to be made no later than 2 days prior to the deadline to allow for payment to reach our account. Please ensure details are entered correctly.

P&C Payments:

Please note payments to the school do not include Tuckshop or Uniform Shop. These are managed by the P&C. Their details are:

P&C Acc Name: Cordalba State School
P&C Assoc

ANZ BSB: 014-540

Account No: 4400-09877

Transaction details – please list Family Name when making payment.

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION – Cordalba Waste Facility

How will proposed changes to waste and recycling affect you?

Consultation meeting: Cordalba State School Thursday February 9, 6:15pm in the Resource Centre. Enquiries: 1300 883 699



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