Welcome back everyone. We hope the children are well rested and ready for a very busy and exciting Term 2.

Some of the special events this term include:

- Cross Country – 21 May
- Education Week - 19 – 23 May
- Open Day/Grandparent’s Day - Jump Rope for Heart – Thursday 22 May
- A visit to the Life Education Van
- Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences – Thursday 26 June
- SEDA clinics for netball and football.

HOMEWORK
Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning, while developing sound study habits and time management skills. It provides important opportunities for parents to share in their child’s education, strengthening communication between home and school.

This term students will be expected to complete one activity from each column of the healthy living and responsible alcohol consumption homework grid.

Home reading is also considered to be part of the students' weekly homework requirements. We encourage all students to read for 15-20 minutes every day.

Students need to:
- Make sure they take home everything they need to complete homework tasks
- Manage their time so there is no panic when homework is due
- Complete their own homework. (If there is a difficulty, then they need to advise their teacher).

LITERACY
Students will be involved with small literature groups, where a common text will be selected. We will continue to focus on developing the students’ skills in responding to texts and exploring the message that the author is trying to convey.

This term the whole school will be working on a new writing program. Students will be exposed to a number of different activities, designed to extend their ability to write clear and interesting pieces. The focus will be based on using alliteration, onomatopoeia and emotive language, to enhance sentences and use this knowledge to move on to paragraphs and finally to a whole text. The development of student’s spoken and written vocabulary is a core aspect of the writing program.

Our grammar focus will be on:
- **verb tenses** –
  - present tense - I **like** school.
  - past tense - My mother **liked** school.
Future tense - My baby sister will like school.

- **Antonyms** – words with opposite meanings e.g. big and small
- **Synonyms** – words with similar meanings e.g. small and little
- **Verbs/adverbs** – action words.

**NUMERACY**

Our number focus for this term, will be on **addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**. Students will be able to extend their skills in adding and subtracting numbers with at least 4 digits.

Some students will be offered the chance to join an eMaths group and/or participate in the Australian Maths Competition.

Measurement lessons will cover:

- **Capacity** - the amount a container can hold e.g. litres and millilitres
- **Mass** - the weight of objects
- **Length** - estimate and measure using mm, cm and m
- **Chance and Data** - focusing on interpreting data from tables and graphs.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

We will be covering two topics this term. In the first part of the term, we will complete our unit on **Space**. Students will present their project to the class during the first two weeks of term.

Our second topic for the term will be on **Healthy Living: Responsible Alcohol Consumption**. Students will have the opportunity to visit the Life Education Van and learn about the different ways they can keep their bodies healthy and strategies to help them deal positively with peer group pressure.

During sessions in the computer room and with the netbooks in the classroom, students will:

- use the Internet to visit different sites related to healthy living
- use Microsoft Publisher to label body organs and systems and to construct healthy living pyramids.

**GRADE 5 NAPLAN TESTING**

Students in grade 5 will be involved in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) from Tuesday 13 – Thursday 15 May. All grade 5 students across Australia will complete maths, reading, writing and spelling tests. We will be working with the students to help them perform at their best, by becoming familiar and comfortable with the format of these tests. Student results will be sent to parents later in the year.

**GRADE 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION**

Grade 6 students will bring home forms soon, to allow you to make your selection for your child’s Secondary school placement for 2014. We encourage all parents to visit the schools in the area, to see which school will be the most suitable for their child. **Forms are due back at school by Friday 23 May**. It is vital you return the form by the due date,
to ensure your child has the best possible chance of being accepted at the school they prefer.

We’re looking forward to a busy but fun term 2. Remember to contact your child’s teacher if you have any concerns about their learning.

Dimitra Vassiliou, Leo Alessi, Enis Tuncer, Adrian Parisi and Natalie Iverson

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

ART – Karren Moncur
The children will learn about material, leather, woven materials and felt. The children will weave paper to see how hard this skill is and then they will make a small piece of felt. The children will sew a hand puppet. It will have a mouth that opens and closes. They will learn the skill of pattern making, pinning and oversewing. Their felt piece will be used to enhance their puppet in some way.

MUSIC – Luis Rios Gonzalez
In term 2, students will be exploring music technology tools to make multimedia content such as music, podcasts, radio ads and shows.

Percussion activities will continue to be a feature in order to enhance rhythm and notation skills. They will also continue building on the skills acquired on guitar, keyboard, drums and ukulele, in order to perform songs in a band setting. Students will continue exploring music from different cultures and places around the world.

PHYS/ED – Lara Arsana
In Term 2, the 5/6 students will complete the Australian Fitness Education Award, which consists of the 20 metre Shuttle Run, Sit & Reach Test, Basketball Throw and Shoulder Stretch. Each student’s results will be recorded and presented to them with their Semester 1 Report.

Students will be participating in a skipping unit, in preparation for the school’s annual Jump Rope for Heart Day, to be held on Thursday 22 May.

They will also participate in a European Handball unit, where there will be a focus on attacking and defending skills and applying game tactics to small game situations. To end the term, the students will take part in a Gymnastics unit, focusing on body movements, balances and rotation activities.

All 5/6 students will also be participating in a 3 week Netball program, run by Sports Education & Development Australia (SEDA) students. This program is run at no cost to the school and will help to develop the student’s skills and knowledge.