Dear Parents and Community Members

As I have walked around the school during the last week it has been great to feel the atmosphere. The school is buzzing with happy children, both in the classroom and in the playground and we are all experiencing a very smooth start to the school year.

Welcome 2016 Kindergarten

Yesterday we welcomed our new Kindies who start their journey of learning with Miss Goodman. We wish them all a wonderful start and warmly welcome all new and returning parents to our school. I believe it is very important to have open communication between home and school to ensure a strong working partnership exists. I have always promoted an ‘open door’ policy and welcome your input. If you have any concerns, I hope you will discuss these with me as I believe that with open and honest communication, issues can be resolved to everyone’s satisfaction.

Staffing 2015

Currently we have six classes with the following staffing. This class organisation allows us to have small class sizes across the whole school. It is important to remember class composition is decided in consultation with staff and takes into account your child’s academic needs and where possible, social groups.

K – Nicole Goodman
Year 1/2 – Jenni Moreing
Year 3/4B – Katie Brazel
Year 3/4 I – Margot Ingram
Year 5/6 C- Fiona Crawford
Year 5 /6 R- Anne Roberts, Assistant Principal
Learning and Support Teacher – Diane Belcher
Release from Face to Face (RFF) – Sherri Olding & Jo Tozer
Jo Tozer—Principal
School Counsellor – Mandy Reeks
Teacher’s Aides – Calli Kidman, Sharon Hampshire, Jan Hassall and Malcolm Lavender
School Admin Manager – Katrina Brownlie
School Admin Officers—Kirrilee Herrron
Community Liaison Officer – Chloe Murphy
Itinerant Support Teacher of Vision —Ian Nazer

Stage Groups / Composite Classes

Over the years composite classes have been the source of controversy, with parents sometimes believing that their offspring is being disadvantaged in some way if they’re placed in a composite class. The key to understanding composite classes is realising that growth is determined in stages and not magically by ages. Although a child may be chronologically older or younger – their maturity, social needs, academic needs and behaviour are uniquely their own. Some need stimulating, some need more maturing. It is better for students to be grouped according to need, as they will gain confidence and skill by working with their peer ability level. There is no hard and fast rule that says a ‘straight’ class will meet a child’s needs any better than a composite class. Children all get there – the path may be different but the destination is the same. Composite classes can provide significant benefits to both the younger and older students in the class. Older students can benefit from helping younger students in cooperative learning situations. The younger students have the opportunity of enhanced learning experiences when they are ready for it. International research has indicated that there are no differences found with respect to maths, reading and language; and that attitudes to school, self-concept and social adjustment are benefits associated with composite classes. Often children in composite classes are more confident, can operate better as part of a group, are more assertive, become more independent learners and are better problem solvers. Ultimately, whether students are in composite or straight age classes, it is not the age combinations that matter. What matters is the quality of teaching and learning, and the relationship between the child and their teacher.

This year, as the classes work in stage groups there will be greater opportunities for staff
collaboration in terms of planning and sharing ideas, expertise and resources; and opportunities for each child to work in small class groups to achieve at their own individual rate. The Curriculum and Syllabuses that lay the foundation for all learning is always prepared in Stage Groups. Please take time to read the accompanying booklets and examine the expectations of each Stage Level.

2016 Band Program
Thank you to all those parents who have indicated their children will be participating in Band this year with Mrs Olding. Some of you may have concerns about continuity – for example when Mrs Olding is sick or working in another school. Mrs Olding will make up these lessons at another time to ensure the students are receiving the full number of lessons they have paid for.

An added extra to employing Mrs Olding for the Band Program, is that the two of us will continue to conduct a whole school singing program, not only for enjoyment but to teach some basic musical skills – including rhythm, time and tone. If you are interested in your child being a part of the Instrumental Band Program please put their name down at the Office.

School Swimming Carnival
Once again it was great to catch up with so many parents at the pool on Monday. I would like to say a huge thank you to those parents who turned up, not only to support their children and other students, but also to volunteer their time as timekeepers to ensure our carnival ran smoothly for all involved. Congratulations to Killarney as the overall winners of a very tightly contested carnival. We eagerly look forward to the District Swimming Carnival to be held this Friday 5th February and hope as many of you as possible will join us on this day. Your primary age child should have a note about this today.

Parent Helpers
At the end of last year I wrote to the Bombala Lion’s Club to invite their members to take part in a Literacy program to develop and foster reading skills. I have had a limited response and am now seeking the support of the parent community to assist with children’s reading using the MULTILIT program. We will provide training before the commencement of the program. Please contact the Office or your child’s class teacher if you can assist.

Until next week
Regards
Jo

TRIVIA QUESTION

Who was the most recent Australian to win the men’s singles title in Wimbledon?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

We worry about what a child will become, yet we forget that they are someone today!

Stacia Tauscher

ATTENTION YEAR 5 PARENTS

COOBA CAMP IS IN WEEK 8

Please feel free to start making part payments for this camp.

CANTEEN CLOSED TOMORROW THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY

PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED CANTEEN MENU FOR INFORMATION ON SPECIALS, THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT TO LAST YEAR!

P&C WORKING BEE

Saturday February 20th 2016

Just a few hours is all we need
To mulch, to garden and to weed.
Some muscles, a shovel, rake and spade
To concrete our buddy seats in the shade.
**CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING**

Our BDPSSA Cross Country carnival is in Week 7—11th March. As time is short we are going to commence training and related activities this week. Please ensure your child wears suitable footwear and takes any necessary preventative medication.

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**TENNIS ANYONE!!**

Thursday Ladies Tennis is looking for players, old and new, to play in our tennis competition. Our comp runs every Thursday from 9.15 until 11.30 (approx) from February until June. If you think you might like to meet some new people, have a laugh while doing some exercise, then come along to the tennis courts in Young Street next Thursday 4/2/16 from 9.30am when grading will take place. No experience necessary. The competition will begin the following Thursday 11/2/16. If you would like any more information, or would like to put your name down (names to be in by 4/2/16), please feel free to contact Lauren Yelds on 6458 5201 or 0418 585 274.

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**BAND**

All students wishing to participate in the band program please return your contracts by this Friday. Band will commence next Friday 12 February. All term 1 band fees MUST be paid before commencement of the program!

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**Taking Enrolments Now!**

Monaro Dance Centre offers classes in Classical Ballet, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, contemporary & preschool dance classes

For more information please email enquiries@monarodancecentre.com.au or call 64527600/0423303180

www.monarodancecentre.com.au

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**BREAKFAST PROGRAM ROSTER**

If you are able to help out, please add your name to the roster attached and drop back into the office.
Welcome to 2016

SIGN UP DAY
27th February 12 PM @ POOL
All Past and New Players welcome
Free Sausage Sizzle
We are looking to field teams in
U7, U8, U9, U10, U12, U14, U16
For the first time Girls League Tag
REGO Only $40 per Child
Included Socks and Shorts
IF YOU WANT TO PLAY
PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME DOWN
Please bring along a copy of Birth Certificate
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## EATZ BOMALA

### CANTEEN MENU TERM 1 2016

#### Hot Food
- Beef Pie $4.00
- Sausage Rolls $4.00
- Chicken Burgers (Lettuce Mayo) $6.00
- Chicken Burgers (add tomato & Cheese) $6.50
- Chicken Wrap (Lettuce Mayo Tomato Cheese) $7.00
- Pizza (Cheese & Bacon) $3.00
- Chicken Nuggets (6) $4.00
- Hot Dogs (add cheese SOcents) $3.00
- Wedges (with Sour Cream Sweet Chilli) add cheese SOcents $5.00
- Toasted Sandwiches (Ham, Chicken, Cheese or choice of filling) $3.00
- Spinach & Feta Rolls $6.00

#### Sandwiches (Ham, Chicken, Pork, Turkey, Beef, Egg) & Salad
- Rolls $6.00
- Wraps $7.00
- Chicken Caesar Wrap (Tuesday Only) $8.00

#### Salads
- Greek Salad (Lettuce, Cucumber, Fetta, Onion, Capsicum with homemade dressing) (Mondays only) $5.00
- Caesar Salad (Lettuce, Bacon, Egg, Croutons, Parmesan Cheese, dressing) (Tuesdays only) $6.00
- Chicken Caesar Salad (Tuesdays only) $7.00
- Louise’s Low GI Salad (Chicken, sundried tomato, fetta, cucumber, carrot, lettuce, mustard vinigarette) (Thursdays only) $7.00
- Lou’s Protein Salad (Fridays only) $7.00

#### Drinks
- Boost Juice Orange, Skinny, Immune $3.50
- Daily Juice (Orange/Apple) 500ml $4.00
- Dairy Farmer Choc/Straw 500ml $4.00
- Moove Choc/Straw 300ml $3.00
- Devondale Choc/Straw 200ml $2.50
- Just Juice Fruit Box (Apple, Apple/Blackcurrant, Orange/Mango, Orange, Paradise Punch) $2.00
- Water $2.00

#### Ice Creams
- Sunny Boys (Razz and Cola) $2.00
- Icy Twist $1.50
- Paddle Pops (Choc, Banana, Rainbow) $1.50
- Golden Gaytime $3.50
- Paddle Pops Shaky Shakes $2.50
- Dixie Cups (Vanilla) $2.00

#### Snacks
- Brownies $1.00
- Choc Chip Cookies $1.00
- Muffins (Choc, Blueberry Apple & Cinnamon) $2.00
- Chips (Various Flavours) $1.50
EATZ Bombala

Specials Menu Only

Available every Second Week Commencing Week 3

Regular Menu is also still available

MONDAY – Bacon & Egg Roll $3.50
TUESDAY – Meatball Sub (Lettuce, Meatball & Cheese) $4.50
WEDNESDAY - Nachos $4.00
THURSDAY - Sausage Sandwich (1 Sausage) $2.00
(2 Sausages) $3.00

Please Note: These specials are strictly every second week ONLY.