Dear parents, carers and friends of our school,

Welcome back to the 2015 school year at NSW’s first ‘Marine Primary School’.

I particularly welcome our 45 new Kinders and all of the new families to our school community from near and far, including New Caledonia!

Check out some of the beginning of year photos on our website and on our Facebook page. Delightful!

I can report a strong enrolment for 2015 (currently 343) with some class operating over the target size to ensure equity and fairness. We therefore have no room for ‘out of zone’ enrolment requests.

As expected, we are running 13 regular classes as well as our integrated support class program.

In the meantime, I have been around to all classes and the energy and enthusiasm makes me feel very optimistic for a successful year of learning for your child.

As you probably know, at our school we are committed to the development of the whole child, consistent with our Vision:

Our school is a place where we all learn, to understand our world, others and ourselves so that we can accept challenges, create, and be the best that we can be!

We have had many enquiries about school contributions (school fees), so please find a separate page with more information around typical school costs and our school fees. We believe that Sandy Beach PS provides outstanding value for money and appreciate the investment you make to help us deliver quality. Thanks for paying your fees!

We welcome Ms Donna Williams as a new permanent teacher to our staff. Donna is very excited and loving her class 3W. Welcome back to our Learning and Support Teacher, Mr Mick Potter following some sick leave last term. We all missed you and we are glad you are back!

Ray Rincheval
Proud Principal

Did You Know?
We now have two volunteers trained to run Primary Ethics and an alternative to Christian SRE. It is possible that sometime in 2015 we will be able to run one or two of these classes during Scripture time on Wednesdays. Of course, the Christian Special Religious Education (Scripture) will still run for the majority of students whose parents have not withdrawn them from these lessons (see www.ccssm.org.au). Priority for Primary Ethics will go to students already withdrawn from SRE and whose families have already expressed interest.

Did You Know?
You can pay your school fees (resource pack and voluntary contribution) online. Go to our school’s webpage and look for the ‘Make a Payment’ tab.

Did You Know?
Parent-Teacher interviews for 2015 can be scheduled for any time in the first half of the year – by mutual arrangement with your child’s teacher(s). Some parents love to have a parent-teacher interview earlier rather than later to set the scene and discuss any issues.

Did You Know?
We will have a Meet the Teachers opportunity on Monday evening 9th February. This is not a time for formal parent-teacher interviews but more like a social gathering to get to know our wonderful teachers – especially the new ones.

What’s New or Different for 2015?
- Sun Shelter over the glaring concrete on our top quadrangle
- Implementation of the new Science syllabus
- Improved provision for students with dyslexia (entrenched reading difficulties)
- Improved provision for teacher professional learning through collaboration, coaching and mentoring
- Introduction of Primary Ethics - an option for those who have opted out of SRE
- An eventual move to electronic newsletters rather than paper-based newsletters
- More parent-information sessions around new syllabuses
- More ‘spending money’ from the government that will improve our ability to cater for different types of learners in our school - expect some innovation in how we deliver learning opportunities for our boys and girls
- A new class teacher, Donna Williams, on Year 3 from the beginning of the year and a new teacher to be selected Term 1 and begin in Term 2.
**Library News**

Welcome back! Over the holidays you may have found books that belong to our school. We would appreciate these being returned to the front office or directly to the library as soon as possible. Please encourage your child/ren to borrow and return books every week so they develop great borrowing and reading habits early.

Your child’s class has their library lesson on:

**Monday** – Mrs Reedy 5/6R, Mr Murgatroyd 6M
**Tuesday** – Mrs Baldwin 1B, Mrs Crooks 1C, Mrs Acason 3A, Ms Williams 3W
**Wednesday** – Mrs Eggleston 2E, Miss Nichols 2N, Mrs Dawes 4HD, Mrs Craig 4/5C
**Thursday** – Mrs Carpenter & Mrs McNab 5CM, Mr Guihot KG, Miss Esposito KE

**Library Bags**

Each child needs to have a named waterproof sealable bag to keep their library books in. Thanks to Robyn Salmon for making some library bags that are for sale in the library for $4. You can decorate your own bag with iron on transfers, fabric texta or paint.

---

**Snack Shack News**

Welcome back to all our parents and children. Menus will be sent home this week, please keep it in a handy spot, alternatively look it up on our school website.

If you would like to volunteer at the canteen please ring or drop in to see me.

We have our Sticker Sheets for sale again at a cost of $32 it’s a handy way to pay for lunch orders if you don’t have any money on the day. If you wish to purchase a sheet please see me.

Our first meal Deal Day will be held on Wednesday 25th February, order bags will be sent home this Friday. Recess fruit muffin, or a piece of fruit or cheese and crackers. Lunch spaghetti bolognaise or vegetable spaghetti, bottle of water and an icy tube.

Jody Phillis—Canteen Supervisor

---

**FREE BUS TRAVEL TO SCHOOL**—all infants children Kinder to Year 2 are entitled to this regardless of where they live.

Primary students Years 3—6 must reside at least 1.6km (as the crow flies) from the school. This year we have been informed by the local bus company Ryan’s that no primary students who live in Sandy Beach are entitled to this free service this year. Your child is still permitted to catch the bus but you will have to pay. Please contact Nigel at Ryan’s Bus Service on 66 54 1063 for further information.

Some children who live in the Emerald Beach, Seacrest Estate and Holloways Road areas have been given an exemption for this year, this is reviewed regularly.

Please contact the school if you require any further assistance.

---

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WOOLGOOLGA PHYSICAL CULTURE CLUB** is commencing lessons on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th February for girls from 4 through to Ladies at Sandy Beach School Hall. Physi is a unique sport and is a fitness class combining choreographed exercises, basic ballet, gymnastics and dance all in one. For further information please contact Gail Airlie at the school or phone 66 54 2362.

**SOCCER REGISTRATIONS** are now open and can be completed online at www.myfootballclub.com.au

**REGISTRATIONS** are now opening for BCU Coffs Tri on 7 & 8 March please visit www.villagesports.com.au for further information.