Dear parents /caregivers,

I would like to welcome both you and your child to year 5 in 2015.

Currently we have a straight year 5 class which has 20 students. It is important to remember however that while your child is enrolled in year 5, they are a part of the stage three learning group at our school. With this in mind, Mrs Marks (the year 6 teacher) and myself are currently testing the students with the view of placing students from both year 6 and year 5 into graded learning sessions for Maths.

This means that some students from year 5 will have Mrs Marks as a Maths teacher and I will have some students from year 6 in my Maths group. We are yet to finalise these groups, and these learning sessions should begin in the next week.

I encourage you to read the grapevine each week so as to be informed about specific activities that happen throughout the school year.

**Activities that relate specifically to year 5 are as follows;**

Library borrowing time is Tuesday morning, but students are able to borrow and return books during lunch times when the library is opened.

Scripture will be held on Friday morning’s beginning in the next few weeks. If you do not wish your child to be involved in scripture sessions you must supply a written note stating this. Your child will be given supervised, class work to complete when not attending scripture.

Teacher release time is Tuesday morning. During this time, year 5 will have PDHPE sessions with Ms Patterson and library sessions with Mrs Vermeulen. This is the best day to make contact with me for discussions about your child’s progress if you wish.

Sport is Friday afternoon.

We encourage each child to be actively involved in our school’s ‘Crunch and Sip’ nutrition program. To be involved, each child will need to have a piece of fruit or a vegetable to eat as a snack prior to recess. We also encourage drinking of water at various times of the day and a water bottle is ideal for achieving this.

Homework: Homework activities will be sent home on Tuesday of each week. These activities are to be completed and returned to school by Friday of the same week. Homework will begin in week 3 of this term.

Units of work that will be covered this term are as follows;

History: Australia’s place in the world.
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education: Safe living - Bike and Road Safety as well as personal protection.

Students from both year 5 and year 6 will have the opportunity to put into practice the concepts treated in Road and Bike Safety lessons by participating in our annual Stage Three Camp to Delicate Nobby, where they will ride both on the road and the beach to and from this camp. This camp will take place in week 5 of this term and detailed notes will be sent home shortly about this camp.

As a heads up, notice is also given that a major excursion is planned for Term 3 of this year. This excursion will be to Sydney and is 4 nights in duration. Further information about this excursion will be handed out during the year.

Your child also has the opportunity to participate in surfing lessons this term. These lessons will be held on Thursday mornings and your child has already received notes regarding this. Please return these notes ASAP so numbers can be finalised.

There are a number of items that I would like each child to provide in order that our class learning sessions operate smoothly. These items are as follows.

1. 1 (or two if you would like) box of facial tissues.
2. Pencil case containing lead pencils, red, blue and black biros (I would prefer these not to be Gel pens please), coloured pencils and textas.
3. 3 glue sticks, (these will be collected from each child and placed in a drawer for use by the entire class).
4. A book or folder to be used for Homework activities.
5. A school hat/cap. This is a most important item as we will be involved in many outside learning activities during the year and students are not permitted to participate in these activities unless they have a school hat on.

There will be a ‘Meet and Greet’ session on Thursday 19th February at the school commencing at 6.00pm. This is a great way of touching base with each other if you can make it. If not, I look forward to meeting with you throughout this year.

Tim Cross

Year 5 teacher.