Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to term two everyone. I hope everyone had a great break. I am feeling very relaxed and rested after spending time in Fiji on my honeymoon over the holidays.

A warm welcome to Toby, James, Madeline, Annie, Kimahri, and Annika who have joined our class this term!

**Our Learning**

Our Curriculum Overview and timetable is attached here, as is a Jolly Phonics Overview. Please note that many core skills in the Curriculum areas listed remain the focus of our learning throughout the whole year.

Our whole school theme for this term is the “Me and My History.” This theme will incorporate aspects of the ‘Child Protection Curriculum’ (with a focus on the Relationships strand) through Health. History (from the new Australian Curriculum) will also be incorporated. The History topics covered will include My History, My Family, How families remember and My Family’s History. One of the first tasks we are going to do is to make a *Baby Photo Gallery.* This week I am asking the children to bring in a baby photo of themselves and to share a story or event from their early childhood with the class. This term Mrs Ryan and I are also hoping to combine for a “Grandparents Day” at some stage. Hopefully we can get some Grandparents to come in and share their baby photos...
and photos or stories from their school days. The Life Education Van will also be visiting the school this term. Topics covered will include personal safety, friendship and families. On Thursday of next week we have some special guests coming to school. They will be teaching us about safety around pets as a part of the “Responsible Pet Ownership Program.”

Our “Better Buddies” sessions are eagerly anticipated each week by both the Reception and year 7 children. Our six new children have already been introduced to their “big Buddies” and I have attached some information here for new parents on the Better Buddies program and the founding body of this program – The Alanah and Madeline Foundation.

Term two is traditionally the term when we conduct the Premier’s Reading Challenge as a part of our Home Reading program. This ‘Challenge’ is something our whole school participates in, along with many other schools across the state. The system we have used in the past with the Junior Primary children - whereby all children in the class have the same 12 books on their reading list, seems to be the easiest to manage. There will be more information on the Premier’s Reading Challenge closer to the start date about half way through the term.

Rosalie Kathigitis is on long service leave after week 2 this term so Sally Anderson will be taking the class for Health and PE on Thursdays and Art on Wednesdays.

**Reading Roster**

Please let me know if your commitments have changed – new parents we can always use additional helpers if you are free at any stage.

Thanks for taking the time to read this Class Newsletter. Looking forward to catching up with you all soon.

Regards,
Melinda Paterakis