Dear Parents & Friends

The weeks are certainly flying past and it has been a very busy start to 2015 for students and staff. Transitions to new rooms and introductions to new staff and students have gone remarkably well and everyone is settled into their daily routines. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the staff.

Information Update Forms

Thank you to those parents and carers who have completed and returned the blue information update forms. This information is essential to ensure our records reflect student’s current circumstances. While I understand that the package can appear daunting, can I please urge all outstanding forms to be completed and returned to school at your earliest convenience.

Medication Changes

Medication can be an essential element in student’s daily routine and it is vital that we maintain accurate records at school. If your child has a change of medication or is on antibiotics, can you please complete the “Medication Update” form. These are available from school or can be downloaded from the web page.

Student Welfare Policy

The new Student Welfare Policy has been implemented this term. There are some significant changes to the policy and parents are invited to review the document at the P&C meeting on Wednesday 25 February. The meeting commences at 10:00am and all parents and friends are invited to come along and share experiences. A delicious morning tea will be provided!

NDIS

There is a lot of confusion around the NDIS and the procedures required to link up with caseworkers and planners. The school is currently sourcing out experienced workers to speak to parents and assist in the initial transition. I would strongly urge parents to begin thinking about plans and to log onto the webpage and complete the Eligibility Checklist.

Learning Support Team Meetings

Learning Support Team meetings are currently being organised by your child’s teacher. These meetings are essential to plan for Semester One and to review medical, behaviour and mobility plans.

Keep this Date Free

Week 8 March 18th will be our annual Grandparents Day. More details to follow soon!!

Assisted Travel

There have been some minor adjustments to the Assisted Travel management this term. We are trialling a “one vehicle at a time” strategy during loading and unloading of students each day. This will hopefully ease the congestion of cars and buses vying for space in the narrow driveway. Times of runs should not be majorly effected; however your transport provider will talk to you about any small adjustments.

Just a reminder that contact should be made with drivers prior to them arriving for normal pick up, if your child isn’t accessing assisted travel that day. Please liaise with your driver to ensure that all current contact details are exchanged.

If your child’s afternoon transport arrangements change, or if you are accessing an alternate service such as After School Care, can you please notify the driver and let school know of the changes.

Thank you for your assistance in these matters.

Tracey
Welcome to Room 8!

My name is Olivia and Amanda is our wonderful SLSO.
It is week 3 already and room 8 have been busy cooking, gardening, playing games and learning about Australia!
We all looking forward to getting to know each other in the year ahead!

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrate a birthday this month
Nick Sutherland 4/2  Scott York 6/2
Adam Hoare 25/2  Kai Poon 26/2
Connah Newman 27/2
New South Wales

Community Forum

Maitland Town Hall, Heritage Room
281 High Street, Maitland
Thursday, 5\textsuperscript{th} March 2015
Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm

You are invited to:

• Hear detailed information about the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
• Meet members of your local National Disability Insurance Agency team.
• Learn about becoming involved with the scheme.
• Ask questions.

To RSVP and for accessibility assistance, please call Emma Harding, by Friday, 27\textsuperscript{th} February 2015 on 02 49420360 or email EngagementNSW@ndis.gov.au.
Welcome to my news page. Each newsletter I will be posting interesting facts about our dedicated school Staff”……..Enjoy!!

**Staff Profile**

**Name:**  Michael Peate  
**Nickname:** Peatey  
**Favourite Colour:** Sky Blue  
**Favourite Sport:** Basketball  
**Favourite Footy Code & Team:** NRL NSW Blues 
**Favourite subject at school:** PE / Drama  
**Three people I would invite to dinner:** Michael Jordan, Katy Perry, Shelly Rush-Nichols  
**If I won $$$$$$ I would :** Buy an Island