Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the 2016 school year. It was lovely to meet many of you on parent / teacher night last week and I hope you enjoyed meeting your child’s teacher and school learning support officer (SLSO) and found the evening informative. Soon, you will be invited to meet your child’s teacher for their planning and review meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to tell us about your child and let us know what you feel is important for your child’s learning this year. We make the biggest impact on your child’s learning when we work together on mutually agreed goals. This partnership between the school and our families is very important.

This year, we will continue with our three year plan for school improvement. We measure our improvement against the School Excellence Framework, which supports all NSW public schools in their pursuit of excellence by providing a clear description of the key elements of high quality practice across the three domains of learning, teaching and leading.

Our three broad strategic directions in our 2015-2017 school plan are

1. Give every student a voice
2. Professional learning to make every day count
3. Strong and positive family and community partnerships

Details of the school plan are published on the school website and our 2015 Annual Report will be published in April.

Our school counsellor, Jay Dahl will be running a series of parent seminars later this term and into term 2. Jay will be offering the Triple P Stepping Stones training for parents of children under 12 years of age with disabilities. Keep your eye out for the information flyers on Skoolbag (download the app for your iPhone or android smart phone), our Facebook page and website. Notes will also be provided closer to the date. The tentative dates are Monday 4 April, Monday 2 May and Monday 16 April.

We will also be offering some opportunities throughout the year for parents to come and meet each other, develop some social connections and be involved in the school.

I look forward to working with you this year to give your children the best education we can!

Anne Flint
Principal
Hello from S14

Hello and welcome to S14! We have Michelle, Hanna, Jennifer, Arif, Ellis and Isaac in the class. We all have our individual personalities and interests. Together we create a classroom that has lots of fun and laughter.

Michelle looks forward to swimming every Friday morning. She smiles when we walk into the swimming pool. Michelle enjoys listening to sensory stories and she loves playing with instruments during music therapy.

Jennifer is most interested in sensory toys and playing on the swing. Her favourite toys are shakers and balls. Jennifer also enjoys songs on the interactive whiteboard and painting with her hands. She has been trying her best to walk with her walker.

Arif smiles a lot during sensory story times. He loves feeling the textures of different objects. Arif also likes spending his leisure time watching patterns on the interactive whiteboard. He enjoys walking around the school during our weekly community access program.

Ellis' favourite lesson is cooking. He loves tasting different food and helps mixing the ingredients together. Ellis enjoys music therapy. He gets so excited when music starts and he likes playing with different instruments.

Isaac loves to see his friends and teachers in the morning. He reaches his hand out to say “hello!” His particularly likes playing with a ball. He gently pushes it and he smiles when the teachers play with him.
Hanna always loves her music. Some of her favourite singers are the Spice Girls, Tina Arena, Back Street Boys and Britney Spears. She enjoys her quiet times in the sensory room listening to her music. Hanna also likes the Liberty Swing and the merry-go-round.

The start of the term has been very busy but I am delighted to have such a lovely bunch of students and a very supportive SLSO, Vicki to work with. I can’t wait to participate in all the fun events this year!

From: Acer Chor

Holroyd Family Festival
Food, Fitness & Fun
Friday 4 March 2016
5.30pm - 9.30pm
Holroyd Gardens
Corner Walpole & Pitt Streets, Merrylands

Cooking with 2015 My Kitchen Rules Winners Will & Steve, fun with Lazy Town’s Sportacus & Stephanie, fireworks and much more!

Ride a bike to blend your own Smoothie, and go in the draw to have the Western Sydney Wanderers run a Clinic at your School!

For more information
phone 9840 9840 or
visit www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

REMINDERS

School Attendance: School attendance is compulsory. Parents must provide an explanation for every school absence. You can put a message in the communication book or telephone the school. If for any reason you intend taking your child out of school for an extended period of time, please contact the school as early as possible so that we can make the necessary arrangements and I can consider approving leave or an exemption from attendance.

Sick children: Please do not send sick children to school. Many students at Holroyd School are still developing personal care skills, such as washing hands, using the toilet, covering coughs and sneezes and blowing noses. It is very easy for germs to spread quickly through the school. This means that other students and staff often become sick too. Every time a staff member is off sick, the school pays for the replacement staff from the school budget. This is money we cannot spend on resources that support teaching and learning.
Welcome from S26

S26 is having a productive and exciting start in 2016. Arthur, Lorenz, Gabriel, Andy, Stanley and James have settled well into the class routine and are showing good progress. During community outing programme at Homebush the students are learning to take turns, listen, wait and follow simple instructions. This is an important part of our PBL programme because it develops students social skills and enables them to practise travel training and road safety. At Homebush S26 students also participate enthusiastically in our fitness programme by power walking in groups around the park, eating healthy snacks and excising on the cardio equipment.

This semester in our unit of work we are concentrating and exploring the theme ‘Australia’. The students have been involved in making posters and charts by using water paint, crayons and glue in our creative art and history lessons. In the next few weeks, we will do more interesting and exciting activities related to the theme.

Until next time Arthur, Lorenz, Gabriel, Andy Hoang Vo, Stanley Shi, James Lin, Manuel and Pankaj.
News from J1

J1 has been working hard, settling into the new class. We are enjoying the new experiences with new classmates and teachers. Chinese New Year was taking place in the first weeks of term so our first art works were inspired by these celebrations.

We are studying geography this term and began by exploring different sites within our primary playground and locating each on a playground map. We are also enjoying other parts of our learning, including primary sport and music therapy with Tommy.

Adam, Awel, Jacob, Karam, Kevin, Tyler and J1 staff, Helen and Sue wish everyone a wonderful 2016.
Parent/Teacher BBQ
9th February 2016
“Precious”

BMS Multicultural Carer Support Group
A project of Boronia Multicultural Services in partnership with The Meadows SaCC

Are you caring for a child living with a disability?
Concerned about the changes to the disability services?
Want to know how can other services support your role as a Carer?
Precious BMS Multicultural Carer Support Group can assist in trying to find the right support for your needs

Information sessions presented by various Guest Speakers to discuss needs/concerns of Carers and share information.

Activities organised for Carers to relax and have a good time

The support group can offer Carers:
- Confidential listening and support
- Help to access existing services, activities and resources

When: Fortnight from 10am – 12pm
Meetings dates for 2016 Term 1 — 1st, 15th & 29th February and 14th March 2016

Where: Toongabbie Community Centre.
244 Targo Road, Toongabbie, NSW 2146

Contact: Malaika R.S.V.P is essential on (02) 9631 1777

Morning Tea provided

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Website: www.bms.org.au