A note from the Principal…

Our first Partnership Pupil Free Day has been organised for Friday 13 March, 2015. Staff across our Partnership schools will spend the day working on Mathematics. Year level teams across sites will work together at a number of locations. We are looking forward to sharing our learning with students. As part of our focus on Mathematics Five Focus Teachers will be working with Ann Baker who is the Departmental Mathematician in Residence for 2015.

This year Ms. Lexie Dewey is teaching the Arts from Years 1-7 as a specialist curriculum area. Students will be working in the area of Drama, Dance and Music in the Arts Studio.

Mrs Tanya Elliott is teaching Indonesian to all classes across the year. This term the year 5, 6 and 7 classes have exposure to language and cultural studies.

School Choir has started for the year with students in years 5, 6 and 7 part of weekly practices leading up to the Festival of Music.

A reminder to all families that Disabled Car Parks are only to by used by cars displaying a permit. The Emergency Vehicles Parking area must be kept clear in both the Peachey and Davoren car parks.

We have enabled parents to use our car parks when they are free but car parks are officially for the staff of the school.

It was pleasing to see the number of families attending our Acquaintance Evening on Tuesday 17 February, learning about our specialist programs, meeting teachers and enjoying the barbeque.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday March 3, 2015 at 3.30pm. All welcome.

All students from Reception to Year 7 are required to wear the school uniform daily. We believe that wearing the uniform promotes a sense of belonging and school pride. It also enables the identification of students who are not part of our school and also reduces peer pressure. All students are required to wear a school approved sun safe hat daily.

A reminder to the school community that pets are not be brought onto school grounds.

The Arts

During term 1 so far, students from years 1/2 have been focusing on improvisation skills, expressing feeling through facial expressions and body language, and role-playing familiar stories. The year 3/4 students have worked on these same skills and have also participated in reading and acting out play scripts. The year 5/6/7’s have begun practicing their Grease scripts and have learnt some dance choreography to some modern songs. I’m sure we will have some award winning performances to show off soon!
Cultural Studies with Bu Elliott

Students from R-7 will get a taste of ASIA this year with our new curriculum area called 'Studies of Asia'. This year the school’s focus is on Indonesian Language. In term 1 the year 5, 6 and 7’s have been learning to speak Indonesian with Tanya Elliott. Students get an opportunity to speak, listen, write and read Indonesian.

Topics covered include:

- Greetings
- About me
- School in Indonesia
- Numbers
- Money
- Shopping
- Animals
- Days of the week/months
- My house
- Colours
- My family
- Shopping

Many classes have started displaying student work around their rooms and buildings. Students have enjoyed writing and speaking about themselves in an Asian language and all classes enjoyed exploring the many different flags of Asia (displayed in building 10 and 11).

Student comments:

'I like learning Studies of Asia because it is very interesting and I also like to hear Bu Elliott speaking and teaching us words and numbers in Indonesian'. D yr 7

'I like learning how to speak Indonesian. I am starting to like writing in Indonesian'. O Yr 7

‘Bu Elliott has taught me numbers in Indonesian and it is really cool’. M Yr 7.

2015 School choir.

Each year, students in years 5, 6 and 7 have the option to participate in our school choir. These students then go on to participate in the Northern Choir Festival of Music joining 13 surrounding schools in term four. This year, our school has 75 participants, 25 boys and 50 girls. The choir is taught and led by choir trainer, Carol Lee and supported by myself, Rosa De Ruvo and our Arts specialist Lexi Dewey.

Choir coordinator Pamela Warner.