Welcome to our new families and welcome back to all our familiar faces.

Please take time to go through this first newsletter properly. There are quite a few attachments. Please don’t feel that all payments requested have to be made immediately – the purpose of the first newsletter is to assist you in planning your budget. We know that back-to-school time is an expensive period.

Today, the children were placed in classes. There is a high probability that we will be granted permission to form an extra class, our ninth, due to the number of children attending this year. However, this may take a couple of weeks to confirm. We are fortunate that we have been able to organize classes so that if a change is necessary, it will affect only one class, Year 3.

Classes and teachers this year are:
- KB: Miss Hayley Best
- KJ: Miss Marie Jaksic
- Y1: Mrs Kat Bevis
- Y1/2: Miss Ashleigh Matthews
- Y2: Mon/Tues/Thu/Fri: Ms Belinda McLean
  Wed: Mrs Kylie Chrysostomou
- Y3: Miss Noni Hoskins
- Y4/5: Mon/Tues: Mrs Jenny Reilly
  Wed/Thurs/Fri: Mrs Rebecca Hawkes
- Y5/6: Term 1: Mrs Georgie Lynch
  T2-4: Miss Amy Smart

Miss Hoskins is the Assistant Principal with responsibility for Years 3-6. Ms McLean has responsibility for K-2.

**Other members of staff include:**
- Support Teacher: Mr John Riley (Friday morning)
- Support Teacher: Mr Alan McFadyen, Th/Fri
- Teacher-librarian, M-W: Mrs Donna Kerves
- French (Tue): Miss Megan Capper
- ESL (Mon/Tue): Mrs Mary Sandstrom
- School Admin Manager: Mrs Mary Kidd
- School Admin Officer: Wed, Mrs Mary Smith
  Thu/Fri: Mrs Orla Kirwan

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**TERM 1 CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Wed 30 Uniform Shop open, 2.45pm</th>
<th>Fri 1 Canteen open</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Mon 4 Kindergarten children start</td>
<td>Tue 5 Text book sale</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thu 7 Swimming carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Mon 18 Parent-Teacher Night (times to be confirmed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6 - March</td>
<td>Tue 5 7pm, P&amp;C AGM</td>
<td>Thu 7 School photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Thu 14 Selective High School test</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Wed 27 Easter Hat Parade</td>
<td>Fri 29 Beginning of Easter break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10 - April</td>
<td>Mon 1 No school – Easter Monday</td>
<td>Tue 2 7pm, P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11 – April</td>
<td>Fri 12 Last day, Term 1</td>
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</tbody>
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**TERM 2**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 1 – May</th>
<th>Wed 1 Students return</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Tue 7 7pm, P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Tue/Wed/Thu NAPLAN tests for Y3 and 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Fri 28 Last day Term 2</td>
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STAFF NEWS
Miss Smart is on leave during Term 1.

Miss Van de Linde welcomed her daughter two weeks early, on Boxing Day. She will soon visit to show us Sadie Louise.

KINDERGARTEN
The Kindergarten class will finish at 2:45pm for this week only. After School Care will supervise the children enrolled in that service. From Monday, 11th February, Kindergarten will finish at 3:15pm.

P&C (PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION)
A reminder that the first P&C meeting of the year will be held next Tuesday night, 5th February at 7.00pm in the Library. All community members are welcome.

Our “experienced” parents are welcome at a “Tea and Tissues” morning tea to be held in the Library on Monday morning (4th Feb) to welcome the parents of new Kinders after they settle their children.

UNIFORM
For the benefit of new parents, a reminder that summer uniform will be worn from Monday to Thursday during Term 1 and sports uniform on Fridays. As part of correct uniform, all children must wear the correct Pagewood school cap. Navy socks are worn all week.

The next Uniform Shop opening date will be advised in next week’s newsletter. Please understand that it is run by volunteers who, like everyone else, have to juggle their commitments.

Orders can be placed via the office as per normal but will only be filled on the day that the Uniform Shop is open.

The Uniform Shop is located in the Canteen area.

CANTEEN
The P&C operates the school canteen, which relies on community volunteers for its continued operation. It is open on Wednesdays and Fridays at recess and lunch. Recess and lunch orders must be placed before 9.15am.

The first opening day will be this Friday 1st February.
Could all volunteers, both new and existing, please complete the attached sheet and return as soon as possible.

BAND
Mr Psaltis will be here next Wednesday, 6th February, to begin organising the Band.

ADVERTISEMENTS
We sincerely thank our advertisers for their support of our school. The NSW Department of Education and Communities and Pagewood Public School do not endorse these companies or individuals or their services and products.

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Kids After-school Zone
(K.A.Z)

Term 1 starts 6/2/2013

What is K.A.Z: A free service provided by professional and trained volunteers to provide assistance to primary school kids (Grade 2 to 6) who have difficulty with their weekly homework and basic school work. (Some of our PPS Scripture teachers organise and act as volunteers for this fabulous program.)

Where: Kingsford Church of Christ, 399 Anzac Parade, Kingsford (near the Kingsford Round-about and on the same side of Crystal Car Wash). Enter through the side gate and follow the signs.

When: Every Wednesday, between 3.45 to 5.00pm.
Kids must sign in and sign out by an adult (parent/guardian).

Requirement: Registration and Consent forms must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian on or before attending K.A.Z.

Contact: Winnie 0410663889 or please come in and meet the team to find out more information about K.A.Z.
A reminder of school routines and processes…

**SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIME**
Students are expected to arrive at school between 8.45 and 9.15am. School staff do not enter on duty until 8.45am.

In the interests of safety, no children are to be dropped, unaccompanied, before 8.45am. No supervision by the school staff is provided before 8.45am.

Students arriving at school before 8.45am should be enrolled in Before School Care. This excellent facility, accredited at an extremely high level, is in place in our school to provide a safe place for those children who must be at school early. Please contact Grace on 9666 6128 to arrange enrolment.

**DEALING WITH PROBLEMS**
In all cases, any issues should be raised first with the class teacher or teacher concerned. The relevant Assistant Principal can assist if the issue has not been resolved, i.e. Miss Hoskins can assist parents of children in Years 3-6. Ms McLean can assist parents of K-2 children.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
Limited financial assistance is available for those families in need of some support. These funds can assist in the purchase of uniforms and in the provision of core educational activities. Please contact Ms Hogan if you wish to request assistance.

**TEXTBOOK PURCHASES**
A bookseller will be at school on Tuesday, 5th February, to sell the textbooks needed for all classes. Please be advised that this is a one morning event only. Families which do not use this service will need to buy textbooks at the shopping centre. Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet. Payment cannot be returned early – only on Tuesday please.

**RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION**
Only students with written permission notes will be placed in Scripture groups that differ from last year. Kindergarten students and new students will be placed according to information on enrolment forms. The religious instruction groups are: Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox and non-Scripture. Scripture classes are run by volunteers from relevant churches. Classes are held on Friday mornings, from 9.15 to 9.50am. Scripture starts in week 2.

**DISMISAL OF STUDENTS**
Over the years, many children have delayed their departure from school, playing on the field, basketball court or play equipment. However, in accordance with a memorandum from the Department of Education and Training, all students will be directed to leave the school promptly on dismissal.

**MEETINGS WITH TEACHERS**
Staff meetings will be held on Tuesday mornings before school. Could parents be aware of this please, as it means that teachers will be unavailable for interviews on those mornings.

**SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
This will be held from 9.30 to 2.30 next Thursday, 7th February at Botany Pool. All students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be involved. In addition, Year 2 students who turn 8 this year may elect to participate. Parents are welcome as spectators. A permission note is attached to this newsletter. In the interest of your child’s safety, please complete the Swimming Competency form honestly.

**HONOUR AWARDS**
The Honour Awards System will start afresh this year. Awards from last year will no longer be valid.
10 awards: Rainbow Award
20 Awards: Silver Award
30 Awards: Gold Award

**EMAIL NEWSLETTERS**
If you would like to receive newsletters by email, could you please complete the slip below, and return it to Ms Hogan’s office. I will continue sending it to all of last year’s email group so those people do not need to complete this section.

Child’s name: _________________________
Parent’s Name: _______________________
Email address: ______________________
Please circle your preference:
  I would like to receive both email and paper newsletters.
  I would like to receive only email newsletters.
MAKING PAYMENTS TO OUR OFFICE
We request that parents make payments for sport, excursions and other activities only on Friday mornings. This allows teachers to devote maximum time to educational programs rather than counting money daily.

All payments should be given to the class teacher so that they can be recorded in the class money folder. This also assists office procedures and avoids unnecessary banking.

SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND
For families new to our school, some reminders about a few safety procedures:

- The school playground is not the place for any toys such as scooters, bikes, skateboards or in-line skates. This includes before and after school and at school functions which may occur at the weekend or in the evening.
- The play equipment can only be used by the children at lunchtimes, not before and after school.
- In accordance with the Companion Animals Act, dogs are not permitted on school property at any time, whether or not they are on a leash. Nor should dogs be brought to any school activity at another venue.
- No parent is permitted to speak with someone else’s child in a disciplinary manner. Any difficulties with a child other than your own must be referred to the teacher.
- When using the pedestrian crossing when the supervisor is on duty, please wait until she has stopped the traffic before you start to cross.
- Parents are not permitted to drive in to the school grounds at any time.
- Please do not do a U-turn across the double lines in Page St outside the school.
- All visitors and volunteers must sign in at our office and wear a badge while on the school site.

PROHIBITED EMPLOYMENT DECLARATIONS
Attached to this newsletter are “Prohibited Employment Declarations”. Anyone who volunteers to work with children in schools is required to complete one of these forms. If you anticipate that during this year you will have direct contact with students, e.g. hearing reading, driving children to sport carnivals, volunteering in the canteen, assisting on excursions etc, please complete a form and return it to the principal’s office as soon as possible. New forms must be completed each year.

MOBILE PHONES
Students who bring mobile phones to school do so at their own risk and are responsible for their security. The school will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. Parents should note that secure storage of students’ personal property is not available at this school.

If students use mobile phones inappropriately, depending on the circumstances, action may include:

- banning the student from bringing a mobile phone to school;
- confiscating mobile phones from individual students;
- applying student disciplinary provisions as per this Discipline Code.

Generally, a mobile phone will be used inappropriately if it:

- disrupts or is likely to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with school operation;
- threatens or is likely to threaten the safety or well being of any person;
- is in breach of any law.

Inappropriate use of mobile phones will include students using them to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any SMS or text message, photographic, video, social media or other data transfer system available on the phone. Mobile phones are to be switched off during class time. Messages can be retrieved at the end of the day.

Toys such as Ipods and Gameboys are not to be brought to school.
GENERAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION (SCHOOL FEES)

In 2013, the General School Contribution fee will be $42 per child. The P&C considered a family subsidy but decided that this should be a "per child" amount.

Funds raised from these fees are put towards the purchase of essential resources such as paper, art and craft items, reading materials, computers etc.

I stress that payment of the General School Contribution is a matter for decision by individual parents and/or caregivers and is voluntary. Our school would welcome your contribution as this will enhance the resources made available to your children.

A payment slip is attached.

FRENCH PROGRAM PAYMENT

The French program at our school has been running for many years and its continuation has been ratified by the P&C. All children participate in the lessons. Miss Capper will begin this year’s French in Week 2. The payment for French is $50 per year.

PAYMENT FOR FRENCH PROGRAM

Child's name: ____________________
Child's class: ____________________
Amount enclosed: $25 for Terms 1 and 2
or $50 for Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4.

READING VOLUNTEERS

There are a number of opportunities to assist with reading programs in the school.

1. Some class teachers invite parents of children in the class to hear reading. Please contact the teacher directly.

2. We are always seeking volunteers for the reading program run by our Support Teacher, Mr Riley. Mr Riley will be here on Friday mornings and particularly needs volunteers to work with him and his students. However, if Friday is not convenient, he is able to provide training for you to implement a reading program with selected students at other times. If you are able to assist with Mr Riley’s reading program, please complete the slip below and return to your child’s class teacher.

MR RILEY’S READING VOLUNTEER RETURN

Name: ____________________
Child’s class: ____________________
I am able to volunteer to assist with the reading program on (please circle):
Mon  Tue  Wed  Thurs  Fri
My contact numbers are:
_________________   __________________