



MILLFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS



28th January, 2014

Phone: 49981331 Fax: 49981719
Email: millfield-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.millfield-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Day 1, 2015

Welcome Back

It has been great to see everyone back looking so relaxed, and keen to get going for a new year of school. We have heard some amazing holiday stories, including some new brothers and sisters arriving through the holidays. At this stage we have 59 students returning for the new school year (up from 51 in January 2014).

Our new Kindergarten students have been attending meetings with Miss Pringle this week, and are starting on Monday.

It looks to be a great year ahead with some exciting new programs in store, as well as the continuation of many of the programs that have seen our students show significant improvement over the past few years.

These include involvement in:

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program – This will involve students participating in kitchen and garden lessons throughout the year. There will also be plenty of opportunities for parents to attend tastings and events.

Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) – This program involved explicit teaching of Numeracy, in line with the individual needs and abilities of each student.

Numeracy at Home: This will be incorporated into our new look homework program, and involves playing some fantastic games that boost Numeracy Skills.

Regular Learning Support meetings for all students to ensure parents are informed of their child's goals and achievements.

Classes for 2015

Students were today placed in their classes for the 2015 year. Due to large numbers in Year 2 and Year 4, we have decided to split these grades to ensure that all classes maintain the great student to teacher ratio that we are known for at Millfield. This also allows us to maintain flexibility if new arrivals occur throughout the year. Each student has been carefully placed according to a range of factors while maintaining friendship and gender groups (e.g there is no top and bottom Year 4 class). Students will continue to be taught the same content regardless of class placement. If anyone has any questions about class placement please feel free to speak to Mr Anderson.

Class	Number of students in grade			Total Students
Miss Pringle's Class	K (10)	Yr1 (4)	Yr 2 (2)	16
Miss Cornish's Class	Yr 2 (9)	Yr 3 (7)	Yr 4 (7)	23
Mrs Butler's Class	Yr 4 (5)	Yr 5 (8)	Yr 6 (7)	20

*Dates for your
Calendar*

Term 1, 2015

Friday 30th Jan
No Assembly

Monday 2nd Feb
Kindergarten starts

Monday 9th Feb
Canteen starts

Tuesday 10th Feb
Swimming Carnival
(Ages 8 and up)

Welcoming New Staff

We welcome Mrs Cathy Vogt who has been appointed as our new Instructional Leader (Literacy and Numeracy). Cathy joins us for the next two years for two days per week and will be charged with improving Literacy and Numeracy results in the early years. Cathy has been the Assistant Principal at Bellbird Public School for many years, has recently been a regional numeracy trainer, and relieved as Principal in a number of local schools. She brings with her a vast amount of expertise in Literacy and Numeracy (including being a published children's book author), and we look forward to working with her at Millfield P.S.



2015 also sees the return of two of our permanent teachers from Maternity leave. It is great to see Mrs Melissa Butler and Miss Heidi Lightfoot back in 2015. Mrs Butler will be teaching the 4/5/6 class, while Mrs Lightfoot will be here Thursdays and Fridays to provide Library and RFF.



Miss Lightfoot



Mrs Butler



Wet Weather test passed!

The wet weather has been the perfect time to test out our new COLA extension today. It is a great addition to our school, and provides us with an undercover eating area and extra space through the wet weather. It will also be utilised as a stage at events like the Spring Fair and Presentation Day. A huge thank you to the P&C who have half funded this project as part of the DEC's Joint Funding Program.

Change of Details

Did Santa bring you a new phone for Christmas? Maybe the time allowed you to move house? Please ensure the school has your most up to date contact details, address and emergency contacts in case we need to find you at any time. Changes can be made by writing a note, popping into the office or phoning the school.

Homework Changes

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to talk about a range of school issues through phone surveys at the end of last year. From these conversations homework was brought up numerous times. We have endeavoured to take comments and suggestions on board and will be implementing some changes to homework this year.

- Homework will be handed out and returned on **Wednesdays**. This will allow some extra time to complete on Weekends if you wish due to afternoon commitments.
- Each child **not receive any formal homework** unless requested by parents.
- Instead students will each week receive a **home reader and Numeracy game** to borrow for the week.
- Students in the older grades will also receive some **small project type tasks** throughout the year.
- If you wish to obtain extra homework for your child, please see your child's teacher.

Looking forward to working with you in 2015!