A New Year
by Brendan Gorman

Welcome Back!

It has been an amazing journey to see students step back into classrooms and begin a new year. In a new year, students embark on new challenges, seek to improve and build upon previously learned knowledge, skills and attitudes. Students at St Peter’s have certainly hit the ground running with rich, authentic and deliberate learning taking place in all classrooms. Often there is a perception in society that teachers work limited hours and take long holiday periods. For the staff at St Peter’s this couldn’t be further from the truth. Our staff have worked throughout January, preparing for what I am convinced will be a brilliant year of learning.

It has been terrific to welcome the many new students who have joined our school and see their smiling faces as they commence at the best independent primary school in the Macarthur region. Our 80 new Prep students are beginning their time with us and we look forward to seeing all they will accomplish.

Over the holidays further development of our physical facilities has taken place and I am grateful to our Schools Council who have seen the merit in creating refreshed and modern learning spaces.

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Over the holidays further development of our physical facilities has taken place and I am grateful to our Schools Council who have seen the merit in creating refreshed and modern learning spaces.

Our second Prep classroom is a breath of fresh air within our school. An adult mobility toilet has also been installed along with much needed meeting space.

Last week, our staff participated in a number of professional development sessions where they have shown their willingness to continue learning. Staff embarked on training in Inquiry and have been developing strategies to assist in sparking each student’s interest in learning. I am excited to see what unfolds in our classrooms this year.

Students were advised of their new houses on Monday which will form a major part of our Personal Development program for all students in Kindergarten to Year 6. There was much excitement as students met and began to discuss how the new arrangements will support their wellbeing. We look forward to sharing with parents more on this new initiative in the near future.

Meet the Teacher Afternoon / Evening and Community BBQ

Next Monday afternoon / evening, our teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents. You are also invited to share in a community BBQ. Sausage on a roll and drink combos will be available for $4 and Coffee from the St Peter’s cart will be available for $3. There will also be ice blocks available to purchase for $1.00 each.

This is a great opportunity to meet with other parents at the commencement of a new year and we hope you can join us.

The two sessions of ‘Meet the Teacher’ are an opportunity for you to let the teacher know anything about your child/ren that you feel is necessary. It isn’t a structured parent teacher interview. Details of parent teacher interviews will be made available later in the term.

Scholarships at Broughton

What’s New?

Our learning community is enhanced by the contribution our staff make. We welcome a new concept to Learning Enhancement in 2016.

Mrs Heather Gillespie is heading up the Learning Enhancement team.

Our Learning Enhancement Interns:

Miss Rachel Chin
Mr Stuart Connell

Our Staff

We welcome back Mrs Judith Shepard (KS) from Long Service Leave. Mrs Jennifer Aston has returned from Maternity Leave and is teaching (6A) from Monday to Thursday.

Congratulations to Mrs Kiera Parata (nee Higgins) on her marriage to Dean and to Mrs Felice Morris (nee Schoenfeld) on her marriage to Brad through the holiday period.

Which House is your child in?

Sport

Healthy Habits

by Fiona Hornman

Children are learning habits that will often last them a lifetime. Consider the following:
Breakfast is important. Children who eat breakfast have better concentration. Eating breakfast can reduce snacking, on high-energy foods in the afternoon, both in adults and children.

Rep Sport Trials

Rep sport trials commenced this week for IPSSO sport teams and will be finalised during sport next week. The sports available for students to try out for are: Mixed Oz Tag, Mixed Basketball, Girls Soccer and Cricket.

Students who are successful in making the teams will compete on a weekly basis against Broughton Anglican College, Wollondilly Anglican College, Oran Park Anglican College and Macarthur Anglican School. Summer sport will run during Term 1 and Term 4.

Tennis

If you are interested in having tennis coaching for your child on a Wednesday, during school hours, you can enrol now for Term 1 coaching. Details are as follows:
Group A: (Years 1 and 2): 12.50 pm – 1:50 pm (lunchtimes)
Group B: (Years 3 and 4)
Group C: (Years 5 and 6)
Note: Groups B and C will have a rotating schedule between 9.30 – 11.30 am.

Click on the following link to enrol: http://tonytennis.com/book-enrol/ or call Tony on 0418414780

IPSHA Sport Trials

Throughout the year various opportunities arise for children to trial for IPSHA teams in different sports. These trials are extremely competitive and require team members to be currently playing at a representative level in that sport. If your child has an outstanding ability in a sport that may not be aware of, please feel free to contact me or have your child let me know so I can provide the necessary trial information if the opportunity arises.

Swimming Carnival

The St Peter’s Anglican Primary Annual Swimming Carnival is on next Thursday, 11 February at The Gordon Fett Aquatic Centre, Bradbury. The carnival is for all students in Years 3 - 6 as well as those students in Year 2 who turn 8 this year and are capable of swimming 50m of any recognised stroke.

Parents are requested to transport their children to and from the carnival. Children who travel to and from school by public transport and those who attend OHSC, will be transported to and from school to the pool in the school mini bus. Please indicate the need for transportation on your return slip.

Any parent or carer who is able to assist staff on the day would be greatly appreciated. Please return the parent helper slip on your child’s permission note.

Uniform

It is terrific to see our students looking so good in their uniforms when they are worn correctly. Thanks for your understanding if our staff inform you of discrepancies with how some children are wearing their uniforms. All students are expected to be wearing the correct uniform each day.

School Fees

Just a reminder about paying fees by credit card. The current surcharge is 1.2% for Visa / Mastercard and 1.5% for AMEX. For example if you pay $500.00 on school fees by Visa credit card the total amount due is $506.00 ($500.00 + 1.2% Visa surcharge).

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House Update

There was great excitement on Monday when students in Years 1-6 were allocated their new Houses. As announced at the end of 2015, we have reviewed our House structure to ensure that we are giving students the opportunity to gain the most benefit possible from these groups, including social and emotional learning, working together as a team and participating in sporting and other competitions. Students met with their House teachers and participated in a variety of "getting to know you" activities, made up House cheers, and one House even decided on a secret handshake!

On Tuesday, Year 6 met their Kindergarten buddies. The Kinder / Year 6 buddies are students from the same house. They had a lovely time getting to know one another and playing together for a short time. Kindergarten certainly enjoyed meeting their bigger friends and we think Year 6 enjoyed it as much, if not more.

Year 6 also participated in elections for House captains. We would like to congratulate the following students:

- **Argyle** House Captain: Aden M.
  Vice Captain: Stevie S.
- **Bligh** House Captain: Rei jeli R.
  Vice Captain: Bridie L.
- **Cook** House Captain: Amala A.
  Vice Captain: Manoj W.
- **Cumberland** House Captain: Marvin R.
  Vice Captain: Lauren M.
- **Durham** House Captain: Reagan S.
  Vice Captain: Kyce D.
- **Roxburgh** House Captain: Blake W.
  Vice Captain: Jasmine P.

These House leaders will be inducted at the first Primary Assembly in Week 4.

Football Development League

Mr Norm Boardman will once again be running the ‘Football Development League’ commencing on Monday, 15 February. The program will run for six weeks at a cost of $45.00 billed through Schools Council. Parents need to visit the School Office or email administration@stpeters.nsw.edu.au to register their child/ren.

Kindergarten to Year 2 classes will run every Monday morning from 7.30 - 8.30 am. Year 3 to 6 classes will run every Thursday morning from 7.30 - 8.30 am.

Library

by Sandra Busutel

Borrowing

Borrowing will commence for all students in Week 3 (8 February). Students from Prep to Year 4 need a library bag in order to borrow.

A note about library borrowing

Our school library has on its shelves literally thousands of fabulous books from the very basic to lower secondary to cater for all readers. By encouraging children to borrow a library book/s each week we aim to foster their enjoyment of reading and love of books. Children are encouraged to borrow a book that is appropriate to their reading ability but also within the bounds of their age and maturity level and which can be read in 1 to 2 weeks.

For this reason certain guidelines are in place:

- Prep children may borrow 2 books from the caterpillar.
- Children in Kinder and Year 1 may borrow 1 book from the Junior Fiction shelves.
- Year 2 students may now borrow 1 book from the Junior Fiction and from Term 2, Non-Fiction shelves. We have 3 bays of chapter books which have been especially chosen for Independent Readers in Kinder, Years 1 and 2.
- Primary children (Years 3-6) may borrow 2 books from any section. In some books the content is suitable only for Years 5 and 6 and these cannot be borrowed by younger children eg: some Harry Potter books, fantasy and crime.
- Should you have any concerns about the type of book your child is reading then please don’t hesitate to speak to the library staff or myself.
- Of course, please advise your child’s class teacher if your child is working beyond these levels.

At times, a book borrowed may be finished in prior to the next Library lesson and to cater for this the Library is open every day from 8.30 – 8.50 am or the 2nd half of lunch. If accompanied by a parent, students may also change their book straight after school.

Book Corner

Picture Book

Ages 5-7

Series: Zoe’s Rescue Zoo

A perfect series for 5-7 year olds, about a girl called Zoe who works at a rescue zoo. Not only does she have a wonderful talent for this, she also has a fantastic secret - she can actually talk to the animals!

The Cuddly Koala by Amelia Cobb

When Great Uncle Horace brings back lost and homeless animals from his travels around the globe, it falls to Zoe and her mum, the zoo vet, to settle them into their new home. Zoe’s good at this, because she can understand what they say and talk to them but that’s a secret. A new baby koala has arrived at the zoo, and he’s very clumsy. Zoe is a bit worried he’s going to hurt himself, so she comes up with a very cuddly way to keep him safe!

Book Club

Book Club 2016 is “CASHLESS”

Book Club LOOP is the online ordering system

Go to


- Simply grab your Book Club Catalogue.
- For a quick start, just click on ORDER or Register first to save your details for next time (existing Scholastic Store customers can simply log in).
- Select your school and your child’s class.
- Add your child’s first name & last initial (so the school knows who the book is for).
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue.

All orders are sent directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child’s classroom if you order by the close date. Afterwards, there’s no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details back to your school!
Music

by Jane Flack

Training Band

It is exciting to hear that we have a number of enthusiastic students who are keen to join our Training Band this year. Information about this process will be available in Week 4.

'Introduction to Strings' Program

Mr George Kowalik, our Strings Conductor, will be running the 'Introduction to Strings' program each week from Monday, 22 February (Week 3) in the School Hall and conclude Monday, 4 April. The cost is $100.00 (payable on the first day). Each student will be loaned a violin for the duration of the program. Introduction to Strings is open to all students from Years 1 to 6.

Welcome to our new Prep and Kindergarten Children

Prep Chindinas

Victoria A.
Jordan A.
Preston B.
Jennifer B.
Nishi D.
Hesanya D.
Scarlett G.
Zoe K.
Ethan L.
Peter M.
Manmi M.
Henry O.
Lachlan P.
Faith P.
Kensi S.
Ariel T.
Annabelle W.
Andrew Z.

Prep Koalas

Robin A.
Guy C.
Emma C.
Noah D.
Archie D.
Any A.
Benjamin G.
Riva K.
Angus M.
Isabella M.
Tristan M.
Savannah N.
Sabah P.
William P.
Olivia P.
Noah S.
Archie S.
Sophie T.
Eloise W.

Prep Wombats

Phoenix A.
Viduk A.
Noah A.
Veruschka B.
Eleena B.
Ryder C.
Henry C.
Finn D.
Gurnooor G.
Adrian G.
Savannah H.
Oliver H.
Tiana L.
Lucas L.
Alexander M.
Nate M.
Emily M.
Ava N.
Lucas T.
Matthew T.
Karissa V.

New Students

We would like to welcome the following new students to our school who have joined us in Years 1 to 6:


Private Tutors for 2016

Piano Tutors

Mrs Koula Johnson: 0405 680 028, 9642 7358 or koula.johnson@optusnet.com.au
Mrs Jiann Bekes: 0411 300 560, 9642 8290 or signp@optusnet.com.au
Mrs Marion Hall: 9603 7760 or marion@marionhall.com.au

Violin/Viola Tutor

Mr George Kowalik: 0418 485 210 or zkowalik54@gmail.com

Singing & Drama

Mrs Tamryn Kyselov: 0408 198 507 or tamrynkyselov@hotmail.com. Mrs Kyselov will return in Term 2 after maternity leave.

Guitar

Mr Andrew Summerell: 0425 351 349, 8783 7445 or zarm@bigpond.net.au

Piano, Percussion, Singing & Year 3-6 Drama Group

Mr Jacob Fleming: 0435 164 125 or jacobflemingmusic@gmail.com

Please remember that these tutors have been approved to provide lessons in our school, however, they are not employees of our school. If your children are interested in pursuing lessons with either of our new tutors, please contact them directly to discuss this further.

Our New Prep Learning Space

Enlighten • Engage • Enrich
School Tours

Our next School Tour will be on Friday, 19 February at 9:30 am. If you know of anyone interested in attending St Peter’s, please encourage them to contact the School Office and register their interest in attending.

Calendar Reminders

TERM 1: 29 January – 8 April

Week 3
Monday 8/2/16
K-6 Meet the Teacher/ Open Classrooms
Session 1: 4.00 – 5.00 pm
5.00 pm – Welcome to 2016 Community BBQ. All welcome.
Session 2: 6.30 – 7.30 pm

Thursday 11/2/16
Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival

Week 4
Monday 15/2/16
Junior Primary Assembly: 11.30 am
Primary Assembly: 2.30 pm

Friday 19/2/16
Morning School Tour: 9.30 am

Week 5
Monday 22/2/16
Taste of High School

Wednesday 24/2/16
P&F Meeting: 7.00 pm

Friday 26/2/16
House Colour Day: 9.00 am – 3.15 pm
K – 2 Disco: 3.00 – 4.00 pm
3 – 6 Disco: 4.30 – 6.00 pm

Week 6
Monday 29/2/16
Junior Primary Assembly: 11.30 am
Primary Assembly: 2.30 pm

The School Prayer

Jesus, our Master and our Friend. You came to show us the truth and to teach us the way of life; Send your blessing on our School. Guide by your Spirit, the children and their parents, the teachers and staff, and the Schools’ Council. As we work together with one another and with you, may St Peter’s Anglican Primary School be a place where children learn and where all discover the true meaning of ‘Life through Christ’.

Amen

P&F

The first P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday, 24 February at 7.00 pm in the School Hall Meeting Room. Due to limited numbers at the final meeting of 2015, voting needs to occur again. All positions are declared vacant. Anyone interested should contact Mr Gorman, in the first instance if they’d like to discuss what is involved.

A huge thank you to the previous committee and the new people taking on positions in 2016.

Wet Weather Pick Up Arrangements

In the event of rain, below is the process for afternoon pickup for Grades K-6.

Kindergarten to Year 2

All students in Kindergarten to Year 2 are taken to the sheltered area near the School Hall playground. Parents are asked to collect the students from there and move quickly with your child/ren to exit out of the red tunnel gate.

Older siblings will be with their younger Kindergarten to Year 2 siblings as per usual.

Car pick up will still go ahead with Kindergarten to Year 2 stopping outside the Hall gates (marked yellow lines) to collect their child/ren.

Years 3 to 6

All students in Years 3 to 6 will be collected from the verandah of the church hall.

Car pick up for students in Years 3 to 6 will go ahead as per usual arrangements.

Bus students will be taken to the church hall verandah and escorted to the bus.

Car Park Etiquette

A reminder to all parents that each numbered car spot is reserved for staff members each and every day. We ask that you do not park in any of these spots, for even a few minutes, at any time of the morning from 8.00 – 9.30 am.

Please also note that parking in the specified church car park, adjacent to the church hall off Cordeaux Street is not permitted. This car park is for church use only. We are mindful of the fact that a large number of children move through this area and must remain safe.

We appreciate your support in this.

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