Welcome to 2016

A warm welcome to the 2016 school year is extended to all of our families especially those joining us for the first time. We are looking forward to a great year at GNPS and hope we will be able to work together to provide a wonderful year whilst creating positive educational experiences for your child. Kindergarten students will begin on Monday, as they will be having their individual Best Start Assessment completed today and tomorrow. This term will be another busy term with swimming carnivals, cross country, Easter activities and lots more. A Term 1 calendar will be sent home with next week’s newsletter.

Class for 2016

We have started the year with 15 classes, however we are still finalising our numbers as we wait for all students to return and for Kindergarten students to start.

A full list of staff and their classes will be in next week’s newsletter.

Staff News

I would like to welcome two new staff members to GNPS this year, Mrs Tenille Cappello and Miss Brooke Simpson. Mrs Cappello will be teaching 3CY with Mrs Young. Mrs Cappello will be teaching 3CY on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Miss Simpson will be teaching 4/5S for the year.
Staff News (continued)
Mrs Johnson is taking leave for 2016 and will return in 2017 to GNPS.

Mrs Marshall and Mrs Young are currently on long service leave. Mrs Marshall, for today and tomorrow only. Mrs Upcroft will be teaching 1/2M for these days. Mrs Marshall will return to school on Monday.

Mrs Young is on leave for two weeks. Mrs Cappello will teach 3CY for this week and on Thursday 11th and the Mr Jason Calwell will teach 3CY on Thursday and Friday of next week. Mrs Young will return to school on Friday 12th Feb.

Also congratulations to Mrs Vearing who is expecting her second child in June. When Mrs Vearing goes on maternity leave Mrs Upcroft will take over 2UV on a full time basis.

Come and Meet the Teachers Evening
This year we will be holding a “Come and Meet the Teachers” Evening instead of the Parent Information Evenings. This will be held on Tuesday 9th February between 5.30 and 6.30pm. Teachers will be in their classrooms during this time and parents and caregivers are welcome to come along and meet their child’s/ children teacher/s. This will provide an opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet their child’s teacher in a relaxed setting and ask any questions that they need to ask. This will hopefully make it easier for parents and caregivers, as they will only need to come on one night rather than to each classes Information Evening.

School Uniform
It is wonderful to see the majority of students return to school in their correct uniform. This year we will be continuing with the uniform draw. A reminder that rabens are not allowed to be worn to school. Black closed in shoes are to be worn. The only jewellery to be worn is plain sleepers/studs (other jewellery accepted for religious or medical reasons only)

No nail polish is to be worn.

Hats
During Terms 1 and 4 at Griffith North Public School students are required to wear school hats in the playground. Hats are available from the canteen for $16 each. The girls wear a red hat and the boys wear a grey hat.
P&C Meeting
Our first P&C Meeting for the year is being held next Thursday night at 7.15pm in the staffroom. All parents from Kindergarten to Year 6 are invited to attend. I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible there!

Assembly
The first K-2 and 3-6 Assemblies for 2016 will be held on Tuesday 9th February, as next week the teachers will be going through the expectations and procedures at assemblies. The first 3-6 assembly will be the Captains, Prefects and House Captains Induction. Assemblies will be held on Tuesdays K-2 11.35am and 3-6 12.35pm.

Library Bags
It is a good idea for all students to use a library bag to help protect our books and keep track of them. Library bags are available from the school canteen @ $16.00. Other commercial or home-made library bags are also acceptable. Plastic grocery bags are not acceptable. All Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2 students need a library bag to borrow from the school library.

Developing the Borrowing Habit
For children to develop the habit of borrowing library books they need to borrow and return books on a regular basis. This can be achieved by reminding children the night before their library day to get their library books and library bag ready for school. Notes go home when books are overdue and parents can help by checking bags on a regular basis.

Canteen News
Welcome Back
Firstly, I hope everyone had a great relaxing holiday and are ready to get back into the swing of things. The 2016 Canteen rosters are enclosed in this week’s newsletter. If anyone is interested in helping in the canteen or making a cake, slice etc, it would be greatly appreciated. Please fill out the roster and return ASAP. A 2016 menu will be sent home next week. There have been a few price increases as well. A reminder that all lunch orders need to be handed in by 9.15am, so that you can be guaranteed what you have ordered.

Thanking you
Adele and Paulina
Canteen Supervisors

Swimming Carnival
On Wednesday 17th February 2016 GNPS will be conducting its annual swimming carnival which is being held at the Griffith Aquatic Centre. All students from Years 3-6 are expected to attend, along with the Year 2 students, who are turning 8, who have indicated they are able to confidently swim 50m. Buses will be leaving at 9.20am.

Permission notes will be sent home next week. Please return permission note and money by Monday 15th February 2016.
Green Mean Machine

On the last day of the school last year, the Green Mean Machine planted plants in the garden near the canteen and it looks fantastic. Thank you to Bunnings for donating these plants to the school. I would also like to thank Mrs Adams for organising this project for the school and the students.

Out of School Hours (OOSH) at GNPS for 2016

Unfortunately there has been a set back with the “Out of School Hours” care that was meant to start this term. Western Riverina Day Care are still waiting for final approval to begin this, so hopefully this will begin next term. If you would like more information regarding this please contact Tahnee Jamieson on 02 69643440 or email Tahnee@wrfdc.com.au.

First Day Back at School