Please note: This is the last Newsletter for 2015

2015 - On behalf of Mrs Power and myself, a huge thank you to our staff, students and community members for an outstanding year at Governor Philip King Public School. We have experienced many successful initiatives and projects throughout the year and have seen great results from our students. Congratulations to our P&C for a huge year of hard work resulting in some great fund raising and increased resources for our students. Thank you to the community for being involved in many of our events and carnivals throughout the year, as well as for the on-going support for our school. I would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas. I hope that you get to spend quality time with family and friends over the holiday season.

2015 Presentation Day Assemblies – Our formal presentation day assemblies occur this week. These are an opportunity to recognise students for their hard work, commitment and dedication to learning throughout 2015. The assemblies are as follows:

Wednesday 9 December - Year 5 and 6 assembly starts at 9am
Year 1 and 2 assembly starts at 11.45am

Thursday 10 December - Year 3 and 4 assembly starts at 9am
Kindergarten assembly starts at 11.45am

Friday 11 December - Sports Assembly 9am

Wednesday 16 December - Year 6 Graduation Assembly

Please be aware that these assemblies are formal occasions. Toddlers and young children need to remain seated and quiet and the expectation is that all mobile phones will be switched off at the start of the assembly. We are looking forward to seeing lots of parents and family members at our presentation day assemblies.

Semester 2 Reports - All reports were sent home on Monday 7 December. Please take the time to discuss your child’s achievements and successes throughout this year. It is also a good opportunity to reflect on areas for future focus for next year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child’s class teacher.

P&C - Thank you to our P&C, last week I was presented with a cheque for $10 000. This money is the result of a huge year of fund raising by this dedicated team. The money we received will be used to continue upgrading classroom technology for our students.

Farewell Year Six - Next week sees our Year 6 students complete their seven years of primary education. It is always a time of mixed emotions for parents, staff and students. It is always wonderful to see our Year 6 students start the next step in their learning journey, but also sad to see our school leaders move on to bigger and brighter things. Next week we will celebrate the end of Year Six with their Farewell, and next Wednesday (16 December commencing at 9am) we will hold the Year 6 Graduation Assembly. On behalf of all Governor Philip King students, staff and community members we wish our students all the best and look forward to hearing about their successes and triumphs over the coming years. Congratulations and Good Luck.

Last Day for students 2015 - The last day of school for students this year is Wednesday 16 December. School will resume for students in Years 1-6 on Thursday 28 January 2016.
Party Day - Next Tuesday (15 December) is class party day. All classes or grades will have sent out information about the individual celebrations that will be taking place. The Canteen will be closed on this day but will be open next Monday and Wednesday as normal.

2016 Parliamentarians - Yesterday the Year 5 staff notified the students who ran for parliament of the outcome of the elections prior to the Stage 3 Presentation Day assembly. This ensured we are able to have parents attend on behalf of the successful candidates. It also meant we were able to support candidates who missed out. The positions of Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister will be announced on Wednesday.

2016 Organisation - Our staff are currently working on plans and structures for classes for the 2016 school year. In a school the size of ours this can be a time consuming process. We want to ensure we get the structure and composition of the classes accurate. Due to our numbers we need to ensure we are accurate in our enrolments before we can place students into their new classes. This is why it has been so vital and important that parents notify us if they are extending their holidays into term one next year. When students return after the Christmas break they will return to their 2015 class group. This will remain the same for the first week and a half. The reason we have decided to start the year this way is to avoid establishing classes and then needing to restructure the school if we don’t receive our anticipated number of enrolments. Our teachers are currently planning the units of work which will be completed over this period. Work will be of a substantial nature following on from concepts covered this year. I wanted the community to be aware of our plans in advance so student parents will again understand the need to structure our school in this manner for the first few weeks. Our aim is to ensure we get it right and once classes are established they will remain the same for the entire school year. This process has proved successful at the beginning of the last few school years and ensured once classes were formed they remained the same.

Parent Online Payments - Early next year our school will be implementing the Parent Online Payments (POP) system. Once set up our school will be able to accept electronic payments from parents/carers using the Westpac Quick Web. This will allow parents/carers and the community to deposit funds directly into the school’s bank account via a secure Westpac site. Watch the Newsletter for further information about this service.

Front Office Closed - Please be aware that the front office will be closed on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December 2015. As these are staff development days, the ladies in the front office will also be undertaking a variety of professional learning activities.

Uniform Sales - The front office will be selling uniforms on Wednesday, 28 January to Friday, 30 January in the first week of Term 1, 2016.

School Website Class of the Week - 6SR is GPK's class of the week! Visit our website to see all the great things that have been happening in 6SR.

Instructions:
Click on ‘School Years’ tab
Click on side tab ‘What’s Happening in …’
Click on your grade under ‘School Years’ tab if you missed seeing your class!

GPK 2016 Swimming Carnival - This will be held on Tuesday, 23 February, 2016 starting at 12:00pm and finishing at 3:00pm.

Upcoming Events -
Week 10
9 December - Years 5/6 Presentation Assembly - 9am in the hall.
Years 1/2 Presentation Assembly - 11:45am in the hall.
Year 6 Farewell
10 December - Years 3/4 Presentation Assembly - 9am in the hall.
Kindergarten Presentation Assembly - 11:45am in the hall.
11 December - Sports Assembly - 9am in the hall.

Have a great holiday break!

Jason Corcoran
Principal