From the Principal...

2015 Class Structures - We were very pleased to be able to form classes last Thursday for the 2015 school year. We reached the required number of students to form 22 classes. We formed classes once our confirmed student numbers were approved by the Department of Education. The students came back settled after the holidays knowing that they would, in most cases, be with their previous teacher. The students have been working on school based units which are both meaningful and relevant to their current grade level. I appreciate the patience, support and understanding of the staff, students and parents, and trust that the decision to wait for structuring our classes has again been valued and will now provide stability for the remainder of this year. I would remind parents that students have been placed in their classes after careful consideration by each child’s 2014 class teacher, grade supervisor and support staff. We have placed students based on their academic needs and parental input provided in Term 4 last year. Classes have not been formed based on social circles and friendship groups. Our students are provided with opportunities throughout the day during recess, lunch and grade activities to interact with friends. Class time is about academic improvement and need. We look forward to a successful and settled year.

Grade Information - This year we will not be holding a ‘Meet the Teacher Evening’. Instead grades will be sending home detailed information about both grade and class structures for 2015. This information will be sent home in the next couple of weeks. Please take the time to read the information provided.

Class Assessments - Over the next few weeks class teachers will be completing a variety of assessments with their new students. The purpose of all assessments is to gauge student learning and provide valuable base line data on your child’s strengths and areas of need. Assessment data also allows teachers to plan and direct teaching content at students’ point of need, ensuring more engaging lessons. Students will complete on-going assessments throughout the year so we can accurately monitor and track their progress.

Main School Entrance - Our procedures for entering and exiting the school in the morning and afternoon have not changed. Parents and students should be using the pathway into the school during morning arrivals. The front pedestrian gate will be open throughout the day for parents to access the front office via the main footpath. We are requesting that in the afternoon parents use the side gate into the infants area and the front gate behind the Year One classrooms to enter and exit the school. There should be no pedestrian traffic down the main footpath. This avoids large volumes of people all trying to leave using the same footpath resulting in the gardens being trampled. Under no circumstances should any parent or student enter or leave the school via the car park gates. Please support us in ensuring the entry into the school remains intact by following our simple routine and reinforcing this with the students. Your support with continuing our procedures will be greatly appreciated.

Exemption Forms - Any families planning overseas holidays or extended leave must complete an exemption form. These are available through the front office and must be completed a minimum of 2 weeks before travel occurs. If families do not complete exemption forms, the absence of students will then be recorded as an unexplained absence in the roll and on their record cards. A note written after the event will not change the unexplained absence. Parents must seek the approval of the principal prior to the leave being taken. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please contact the front office.

Community Languages Program - Our school is in the unique and very fortunate position that our school offers 5 different community languages at our school. Students at Governor Philip King have the opportunity of acquiring, maintaining and developing a community language in the course of the normal school day. Many countries around the world recognise the benefits of learning a second and sometimes even a third language at primary school level. Every student at Governor Philip King is involved in our community language program.
P&C Executive - Congratulations to the new executive of the P&C. All positions have now been filled. We look forward to another successful year working with our community.

President - Ferah Yilmaz
Vice President - Franca Siracusa
Treasurer - Kira Newcombe
Secretary - Serena Hunt

Notes and Money - Parents are reminded that all money and notes need to be handed in to the front office. All money and notes should be placed in the envelope provided for processing. Parents are reminded to observe cut-off dates for money and notes. Unfortunately due to commitments to venues we are unable to process money after the due date printed on all notes that are sent home.

Keeping your child safe - Parents are asked to help us to keep their children safe by ensuring they have appropriate supervision arrangements for their children before and after school. Students should not be at school before 8:30 am as there is no staff supervision available. If you need help with before and after school care you may want to consider booking your child into the Outside School Hours Care provided by Allambie Road Before and after School Care (located next door to Governor Philip King). If you want your child to access this program please call Allambie Road Before and After School Care directly (98234262) and request a place.

Approaching Your School

From time to time parents or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to:

- Discuss the progress or welfare of own child;
- Express concern about actions of other students;
- Enquire about school policy or practice;
- Express concern about actions of staff.

It is therefore necessary to have procedures that will help solve problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results are usually achieved from working together.

These guidelines aim to:

- Provide a guide in order that concerns are dealt with in an open and fair manner;
- Ensure that the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected and upheld;
- Support sensitivity and confidentiality;
- Help reach an agreed solution.

On occasion, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

**Note:** No parent should directly approach another person's child.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONCERN</th>
<th>APPROPRIATE ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The academic progress of own child</td>
<td>Directly contact the child's teacher either by note, phone or in person to arrange a suitable time to discuss any issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The welfare of own child</td>
<td>For minor issues directly contact your child's teacher to clarify information. For more serious concerns, contact office. State nature of concern and arrange a suitable time to talk with class teacher, grade supervisor (Assistant Principal) or Senior Executive member. To convey information about change of address, telephone numbers, emergency contact details, custody orders, health issues, please contact the office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actions of other students</td>
<td>Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem. Contact the grade supervisor (Assistant Principal) for playground problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School policy or practice</td>
<td>Contact front office. State nature of concern and make an appointment to see Deputy Principal or Principal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions of a staff member</td>
<td>Contact the front office and state concerns to Principal or Deputy Principal Arrange to meet with the Principal and staff member concerned.</td>
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The classroom teacher or grade supervisor should be the first point of contact when resolving issues or seeking clarification.

In very rare cases, where people wishing to express concerns, do so in an aggressive, threatening or violent manner, the principal (or nominee) has the legal authority under the 'Inclosed Lands Act' to:

- Direct the person to immediately leave the school grounds;
- Call the police to remove the person should he/she refuse;
• Withdraw future permission (by letter) for the person to enter the grounds without permission of the Principal;
• Seek further legal avenues.

Values Education - We are pleased to inform that the Education in Human Values Program where students learn about important values will continue this year. The students already have a general awareness of the values and they will understand the importance of students practising these values in their daily life and becoming caring and responsible citizens. We encourage all parents to have regular discussions about these values with their children at home. Many parents may be amazed at the different aspects of the values that the children know and learn about. Apart from learning about how values are important aspects of their character and their impact on family and friends, students also learn a quote, listen to a story, learn a song and complete activities to understand the many aspects of each value. This values program complements our SRL (Safe, Respectful, Learner) program for the whole school, as well as our Personal Development Key Learning Area.

The value for Weeks 3 and 4 is Good Manners. Good manners are when we speak and behave with respect for ourselves and others through sweet speech, warm greetings, courteous and polite behaviour, gratitude, appreciation and responsible behaviour. Students will learn the importance of having good manners. Please encourage your children to use good manners at home and in the community. Mrs S. Kumar, Student Engagement.

P&C News - Yesterday the P&C held the first meeting for 2015. At this meeting the position of President was again open for nominations. Mrs Ferah Yilmaz was voted in as the new President of the GPK P&C Association. Congratulations and we all wish you the best for your new role.

I would like to thank all those who have worked hard during my term as President and wish you every success in 2015 and beyond. Former P&C President. Mark Cavanaugh.

2015 Kindergarten Students - We would like to welcome our new kindergarten students and their families to Governor Philip King Public School. An exciting journey of learning and making new friends is beginning for these students. After their first full few days of school, there were some very tired kindergarten students heading home on Friday. After a weekend of rest, all students arrived back at school on Monday ready for another exciting week of school. We look forward to a year of fun, friendship and success.

Library News - Library times for parent borrowing have changed for 2015. Borrowing Home readers will commence next week on Monday 16 February. Please note, that the Library will be opened from 8:00-8.50am on the following mornings only: - Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Ms. Halabe.

GPK Swimming Carnival Report 2015 - The school swimming carnival was held last Wednesday at Prairiewood Leisure Centre. Congratulations to the 25 swimmers who competed and had fun. We shared the pool with King Park Public School once again and continued with the half day format with both schools getting through all the events comfortably.

Good luck to the 15 students who have qualified for the Zone Carnival which is to be held on Tuesday 3 March at the same venue!

STANDOUT PERFORMANCES
Trinity Doan (6BS) has qualified for 5 events at the Zone Carnival.
Anthony Nguyen (6SR), Xaviour Saveski (6GH), Sydney Nguyen (3JL), Baylee Brgudac (5LF), and Danika Long (6SR) have qualified for 4 events at the Zone carnival.
Baylee Brgudac (5LF) is the fastest girl in our school.
Anthony Nguyen (6SR) is our fastest boy.
There were no school records broken this year but once again there were some very fast times swum by our students.

FINAL RESULTS
1ST SUPPLY 115 2ND SCARBOROUGH 71 3RD SIRIUS 56 4TH ALEXANDER 26

A Big thank you to Mrs Filippin and Mr Brgudac for their help on the day. Thanks also to the GPK teachers for helping at the carnival!

Reminder:
Zone Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 3 March at Prairiewood Leisure Centre.
SSW Area Primary Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 17 March at Gordon Fetterplace Aquatic Centre, The Parkway, Bradbury commencing at 8.30am. Mr Hoyle.

Have a great week!
Jason Corcoran
Principal
FREE LESSON WITH THIS AD
(Applies to new students only)

Tiny Tots  
Twinkle Tots  
Jazz  
Tap  
Classical Ballet

Acrobatics  
Funk  
Hip Hop  
Drama  
Singing  
Troupe

Contemporary  
Cheerleading  
Mum’s Fun Dance  
Private Lessons  
Eisteddfods & Concerts  
Junior Hip Hop Boys

Classes taught in Bossley Park

CONTACT IRENE 0412 381 233
WWW.ICACADEMY.COM.AU