Welcome back everyone, to Maimuru Public School. We hope all families enjoyed the summer holiday break. We love to see the children again looking so refreshed and ready for another year. Welcome to our Kindergarten students this year: Ella Steenbergen.

Welcome to our staff for 2016:
- Mrs Alison Pippard: Principal and Primary Teacher
- Mrs Natalie Carroll: Infants Teacher
- Mrs Angie Kay: School Administration Manager
- Mrs Vicki Burstal: School Learning Support Officer (SLSO)
- Mr Aaron Right: Cleaner
- Mr Colin Chapman: General Assistant

Principal: Alison Pippard
Phone: 63833219 Fax: 63833289
Email: maimuru-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
We’re on the Web! www.maimuru-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

School Times

**Bell Times**
- Commence School: 9.15 am
- Crunch and Sip: 10.15 am
- Morning Recess: 11.05 am – 11.30 am
- Lunch: 1.00 pm – 1.45 pm
- School finishes: 3.10 pm

Teachers are on duty at school from 8.45am each morning and until 3.30pm to supervise children.

The school enjoys strong links with parents and families and parents/carers are always welcome to make an appointment, or telephone, with any concerns or issues they wish to discuss. Mrs Pippard and Mrs Carroll are available most weekdays from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

**Allergies and Asthma**

Parents are reminded that the school does carry a spare adrenaline auto-injector and asthma puffer. However, these do not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with both up-to-date adrenaline autoinjector and/or asthma puffers should their child/ren be diagnosed with either Anaphylaxis or Asthma. Also, a current copy of the ASCIA Action Plan and/or Asthma Plan both signed and dated by your doctor when your child was diagnosed or if their condition has changed, is required by the school.

We ask that parents notify the school of any changes to your child/ren’s health status so that we can provide support during school hours.

**Special Religious Education**

Public schools offer Special Religious Education (SRE) classes for students. At Maimuru Public School our SRE (often referred to as Scripture) classes occur on Tuesday afternoons. Students attend these classes based on information taken from enrolment forms. Parents can nominate to withdraw their child from SRE, in writing, at any time. If students do not attend SRE they will participate in meaningful activities which may include reading, completing homework etc.

**Canteen**

Thanks to Jacinta Edgerton who has volunteered to start the Canteen Roster off this Thursday by serving up pizza for lunch with an ice block for dessert! Please return your orders TOMORROW as Mrs Kay is not in for the remainder of the week to sort the orders.

A new volunteer sheet for this term’s canteen is attached. Angie has completed it as best she can with some Mums doubling up on days. It would be much appreciated if you could volunteer for any unfilled days and return the form tomorrow. Thanks so much.

**P&C Meeting**

Our first P&C Meeting for the year will be held tomorrow, Tuesday 2nd February, at 3:20 pm, in the school’s library (Admin. Building). All parents are most welcome to attend. Our meetings are relaxed and friendly. They usually run for 1 to 1½ hours and provide an excellent forum for discussions and ideas. This meeting will run until 4.30pm. Staffing arrangements for 2016 will be outlined at this meeting.

**Year 6 Leader**

We welcome Matilda DeBritt into the role of School Leader for 2016. We are confident that she will be an excellent school leader. Matilda was presented with her Year 6 shirt and leadership badge last Thursday. Congratulations Tilly!

**School Uniform**

Thanks to all families for sending children back to school
in the correct uniform. The children look fantastic and it really does reflect pride in the school.

We would also like to remind parents and care givers that all students should have BLACK school shoes (preferably leather with arch support) to wear Mondays through Thursdays. Joggers should only be worn on Fridays and other special sports days. Maimuru School provides school hats. Please clearly label all clothing and belongings to assist with recovery of lost property.

**2016 School Resources**

We are asking parents and caregivers to provide the following items with their children for this year at school: a set of headphones (for use with the school computers), a box of tissues and a glue stick each term.

**School Books**

Many items and texts are supplied each year by the school to help families. We do ask, however, that parents make a $40.00 contribution to help cover the cost of textbooks. Please see the list of texts and their costs below. We much appreciate the prompt payment of these books. Thank you.

The following outlines what the school has paid per child:

**Kindergarten:**
- READ IT: $3.59
- My Special Word Collection: $3.18
- Targeting Maths: $15.51
- Handwriting: $11.42
- Homework Contracts: $12.68

Total: $46.38 (ex GST)

**Year 2:**
- READ IT: $3.59
- Targeting Maths: $15.51
- Targeting Mental Maths: $10.59
- Targeting Handwriting: $-
- Reading Conventions: $13.05
- Spelling Conventions: $12.23

Total: $54.97 (ex GST)

**Years 3-4:**
- Targeting Maths: $15.51
- Targeting Mental Maths: $10.60
- Targeting Handwriting: $-
- Reading Conventions: $13.05
- Spelling Conventions: $12.23

Total: $51.39 (ex GST)

**Years 5-6:**
- Targeting Maths: $15.51
- Targeting Mental Maths: $10.60
- Reading Conventions: $13.05
- Spelling Conventions: $12.23

Total: $51.39 (ex GST)

**Primary Homework:** Primary homework commences this week and should be returned each Friday. Students will have a unit of spelling, a unit of mathematics and home reading to complete each week. Students may also like to practice times tables each week. In addition, students may access the following online programs at home:

- Reading Eggs
- Spelling City
- Mathletics

**Times Tables Drill:**
- Year 3: x2
- Year 4: x3
- Year 5 and 6: x9

**Student Music Lessons**

Mr Mark Corkery from the Young Regional School of Music will continue at Maimuru for both school and private music lessons. Both private and class music lessons will commence this Wednesday, 3rd February. Parents who wish for their children to have private music lessons at school, who have not enrolled their child/children, will need to contact the Young Regional School of Music to enroll their children before lessons can commence. The telephone number for the Young Regional School of Music is 6382 5735.

**Whole School Excursion**

Our whole school excursion will be to see a performance of the 52 Storey Treehouse at the Canberra Theatre Centre on Friday, 29th April.

**2016 YSS Primary Camp Excursion**

The 2016 YSS primary excursion will be a trip to Canberra in the last week of Term 3. Details regarding the excursion will be sent home as they become available.

**Healthy Food**

Healthy food is promoted at school and we would like to encourage all families to really help in supporting this policy. It can be difficult for children when they see some of their classmates eating inappropriate food for recess and lunch.

Children are asked not to bring chips, lollies, chocolates or fizzy drinks to school. There are so many healthy alternatives for recess and lunch. Thanks.

Our school will continue to have our Crunch and Sip break (fruit/vegetable and water break) at 10.15am. Having a break for fruit/vegetables has been very successful in the past, giving the children that extra boost for the session before recess. Please ensure that your child brings along some fruit/vegetables each day for our Crunch and Sip time. It is best if this is just a small prepared fresh fruit or vegetable snack that takes no more than 5 minutes to consume and does not require peeling or hand washing afterwards.

**Transport Forms**

**BUS:** Transport forms will be given to students who catch the bus by the bus driver. When they are completed, please return them to school as soon as possible so that they can be processed.

It is extremely important that we have the most up-to-date contact details if parents are not at their usual pick-up point. Should you require another copy of the bus timetable, please let Angie (in the office) know.

**CAR:** Students in Kindergarten and other students who live more than 1.6km from the bus pick-up/ drop-off point (or students living that distance from school and not on the
Parents Contact Information

It would be very much appreciated if you could complete a Contact Information Update sheet which was forwarded home last week and return it to the school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Could you also indicate on the form if you would like your contact details included on the list which is distributed each year to all parents? Thank you!

Authority to Publish

The new enrolment forms contain a section to gain permission to publish student photographs not only in school newsletters, but also in the general media. Should you wish that your child NOT BE included in general media publications, please inform the school as soon as possible. Please see Parent Contact Information Sheet to list your preferences. Thank you.

Late Arrivals / Early Leavers and Absences

We shall continue with the Late Arrival / Early Leavers sign in/out book which is in the office. Thank you to all parents who have taken the time to complete this important requirement.

We would like to remind parents of students arriving late to or leaving early from school to present to the office to complete the Late Arrival / Early Departure signing sheet.

Late arrivals include those students who are not arriving before the morning assembly. Early leavers are those students who leave before the class commences packing up for the afternoon.

Absences: We will require a note to clarify the reasons for those students absent from school. Please make use of the attached Notification of Absence notes or the School App to notify the school of any absences. ALL absences need to state the date/s of absences and the reason for absence.

Thank you for your support in this area.

Complaints Policy

Each year, in line with the NSW Department of Education (DoE) policy, we like to extend a reminder to parents that if at any time you feel concerned about anything to do with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and tell someone so that any issues can be resolved. It is our aim to work with all of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to ensure a productive, safe and enjoyable experience for our students.

However, should you feel that you must raise any concern formally, the DoE has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. A brochure which provides information about how to lodge a complaint and a Complaint Form are available from the school office.

Home Reading Folder

Infants and Primary students will need to bring a Home Reading Folder (plastic pocket folder like the newsletter folders) to school each day. Thank you to those parents who have already supplied their child’s home reading folder.

Library

This year Library lessons will occur on Mondays and they commenced today. Please ensure that your child/children have a soft, water resistant bag with them on MONDAYS so that they can commence borrowing from our School Library. Thank you!

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held after school in March. A note will be sent home with dates and times available.

Swimming for Sport

Students will have the first of two swimming sessions tomorrow, 2nd February. This will provide the students with the opportunity to hone their skills before the YSS Swimming Carnival in Week 5. Both Mrs Carroll and Mrs Pippard will be in attendance, but we ask if parents are able to assist, their help would be appreciated.

Swimming practice will be between 11.30-12.30. A permission note was sent home last Thursday. Should you require another note please let Angie know.

Young Small Schools Swimming Carnival

Wednesday, 23rd February is the date set for the Young Small Schools Swimming carnival at the Young Pool for all students K-6. Maimuru School will be organising the carnival again this year. All parents are encouraged to attend to support their children and assist with supervision. Teachers will be involved in judging, recording, etc.

If the weather is unsuitable for swimming (stormy weather only), an announcement will be made over 2LF and ROKKY FM advising of the postponement. The back-up date is Friday 26th February – the Young District Carnival is the following Monday, 29th February!

The carnival commences at 9:00 am with the Open 100m Freestyle, followed by age 50m freestyle races. Please meet teachers at the pool at 8.45 am.

Children wear their sports uniform and they will need swimmers, towel, sunscreen, etc.

The carnival allows ALL children the opportunity to enter into either 50m or 25m events for each stroke. All entries mean points to our school in the handicap trophy. Only PSSA events are counted toward the Swimming Shield.

Parents – Don’t forget the parent relay, please bring your cozzies!!

Please complete and return (tomorrow) the attached permission note for the YSS Swimming Carnival.

A program for the day will be forwarded home on when it is finalised.

Bookclub

For those parents new to the school, Scholastic Australia gives the parents/students of schools the opportunity to order books at a reduced price. Each month, the school is sent pamphlets of available books.
in different reading levels. These levels are found at the bottom of each pamphlet. The pamphlets are sent home with the newsletter which indicates when the orders are due back at school. Should you wish to make an order, complete the order form within the pamphlet and return this along with total money owing to the school by the due date. Cheques are to be written out to the school. The school then writes a cheque for the culmination of the order to Scholastic. This is an excellent opportunity to add to your child’s home library. Orders from parents also contribute to school points to top up our library with new books.

PLEASE RETURN ORDERS FOR THE ATTACHED BOOKCLUB BY MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY – THANKS!

**Term 1 School Assembly**
The first student-run assembly for 2016 will be held on Friday, 8th April along with the first Enrichment Day.

### Reminders

Please note/return the following to school as soon as possible:
- Canteen Order
- Contact Information Update
- Permission Note Young Small Schools Swimming Carnival
- Canteen Roster volunteer sheet
- Book Club Order

### Dates to Remember - Term 1

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<tr>
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<td>2 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>23 February</td>
<td>Young Small Schools Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>29 February</td>
<td>Young District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>1 March</td>
<td>P&amp;C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</td>
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<td>7 March</td>
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<td>5 April</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>YSS Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>6-7 April</td>
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<td>WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY</td>
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<td>ENRICHMENT DAY</td>
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<td>26 April</td>
<td>STUDENTS Return for Term 2</td>
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**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A copy of the minutes from the last meeting of 2015 is attached to this week’s newsletter.

**Next P&C Meeting**

**TOMORROW!**

**Tuesday 2nd February 2016**

**Commencing 3.20pm**

**To finish by 4.30pm**

**THE GREAT HOST FAMILY HUNT IS ON AGAIN!**

**World Education Program (WEP) Australia**, a registered, non-profit student exchange organisation is looking for volunteer families who would like to host a 15 to 18-year-old girl or boy.

Our students come from countries such as **Italy, France, Belgium, Finland and Chile** and are **arriving in July 2016**. They are looking forward to living and learning about Australia and enjoying our famous Australian hospitality and lifestyle.

Without the generosity of families around the world, student exchange could not exist. Experiencing a foreign language and culture in your own home is the next best thing to living overseas.

To request a free information pack for your family, contact us today!

1300 884 713 info@wep.org.au www.wep.org.au

World Education Program Australia Limited – WEP Australia ABN 82 064 388 867 A NON-PROFIT STUDENT EXCHANGE ORGANISATION REGISTERED/APPROVED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS/REGULATORY AUTHORITIES IN NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND AND VICTORIA.

(Left) Some very happy faces in the Infants room on the first day back at school!