Dear Stafford Heights Families and Friends

Welcome back to all our returning families and to the many new families who have chosen our school to educate your children. I hope your break was restful and you and your children are feeling energised and excited for a fun and productive 2018 school year.

Our school achieved many great things in 2017 and I’m excited to continue this in 2018. As Principal I will continue to work in partnership with the school community to enable and enact our core school priorities of Reading and School Culture including our PBL Framework.

We would like to welcome some new staff members. Miss Emily Jinks on 4/5 and Bernadette Sharry our Guidance Officer.

There have been some changes in roles for a couple of our existing staff – Mrs Majella Cooper was successful in attaining the position of Master Teacher at SHSS and will perform this role on Monday and Tuesday, continuing as 2/3 classroom teacher for the rest of the week with Mrs Belinda Abell. Ms Rebecca Redman is fulfilling the role of SEP Teacher for 2018.

Student Wellbeing and Unexplained Absences

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our students we would ask that all families follow procedure when a student will be absent from school.

- All children must be present in their classroom for roll marking by 9.00am.
- Teachers will mark the roll. Any child not in the classroom will be marked as absent.
- Children who arrive after the roll has been marked are required to go to the office to collect a late slip to give to their teacher.
- Office staff will check and clear phone messages left regarding student absences and a Daily Unexplained Absence report will be generated.
- Office staff will contact all families on the list by 10.00am, advising of the child’s absence and requesting an explanation.

How you can help us to keep your children safe:

- Provide a preferred current phone number/mobile number. If your number changes, advise us immediately.
- Phone the school by 9.00am to advise us if your child will be absent. You may leave a message on our answering machine if no one is available to answer your call. Stafford Heights State School phone number is 3621 2333.

At Stafford Heights State School we believe that communication between home and school is paramount and allows us to build a wonderful school community. This newsletter is our regular, fortnightly means of communication. Please ensure you read this to stay up-to-date with what’s happening in our school. This newsletter is also available on our website.

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Office hours

8.15am-3.15pm

Term 1, Week 2
February 1, 2018
Issue 1
School Assemblies will also be held weekly on Friday morning at 9.10am. We welcome all to our assemblies, where we celebrate great things happening to our school and our students as well as using the opportunity of having the whole school together to set out and reinforce our school expectations.

I look forward to working with all families within the Stafford Heights State School community to make 2018 a wonderful year for our school, our students and our families.

Abi Hurdley
A/Principal

Welcome to 2018! We are looking forward to another productive and community spirited year. Whether you are a returning or new parent or friend of the school, we look forward to getting to know you and having you involved. Please join us for tea/coffee or a cold drink before or after Friday assemblies, outside the tuckshop.

We are once again proud to host the 501st Legion’s Pink Stumps Day on our oval on Saturday March 10. Along with this entertaining Star Wars themed game of cricket, there will be other attractions including a carboot sale/market. If you would like to have a stall for just $10, please contact us via our secretary's email: staffordheightspandc@gmail.com

Community Education - Did you know that as a parent at the school, you are eligible for a discount on any class that you enrol in? Get to know other people in your community, upskill or take up a new hobby. Take a look at our Term 1 brochure as many classes will begin next week. Follow us on Facebook: Stafford Heights Community Education or visit our website: www.staffordheightscommunityed.com

P&C meeting Tuesday 20th Feb – 7pm Library
AGM March Tuesday 20th

The Year 6 student shirts should be delivered to the Uniform shop some time during week 5 (Feb 19 – Feb 23).

Positive Behaviour for Learning
Stafford Heights State School is a Positive Behaviour for Learning school. Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole-school approach to creating a safe and supportive environment that has a strong evidence-base where a safe and orderly school environment is important to learning. The school will continue to use and embed PBL into everyday life at school through teaching, learning and practising the skills we need to show Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for Property.

Students will receive Good Ones for showing Respect for Self, Respect for Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for Property throughout the school day. When students get 50, 100, 150 etc Good Ones they will receive a certificate at assembly. At the end of the term there will be a Staffie Celebration that students will be invited to if they have 250, 500, 750 or 1000 milestone. Be sure to ask your children if they have received any Good Ones and what skill they were showing to receive it. Please congratulate your children when they have reached a milestone as they have worked very hard to achieve this.

This year we will have a weekly focus that will be taught and practised both in the classroom and out on the playground.

Week 1 Take care of my own and other people’s belongings
Students will take care of their own and other people’s belongings by using all equipment and personal belongings respectfully and returning it to its place, helping to pack up and always seeking permission to borrow property belonging to school and others.

Week 2 Follow adult instructions
When at school all students need to show respect for others by listening to adult instructions and following them first time, every time. This shows the speaker that you are listening and are interested in what they are saying.

Week 3 Be on time to line up
When students are on time to line up they will stop playing when they hear the bell, get a drink and go to the toilet and then be seated in two lines waiting for their teacher. Students will then move back to the learning zone with the class ready to learn.

Week 4 Put your hand up to speak
Students will be practising how to show respect for others by always putting a hand up to speak and waiting for teacher’s response to speak. This way all students will be heard and given the opportunity to hear important information and focus on learning.

Class Reading Focus:
In 5/6M we are currently reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. We have enjoyed the fact that the writer uses descriptive language to express feeling. This is evident in the line "he would press his nose against the glass and his mouth was watering like mad". We have also looked at the QAR Questions and this is going to help us better understand how to answer Reading and Comprehension questions. We will be writing a short story later on in the term.

My Favourite Book
Book Club:
If you are ordering something from the current Book Club, please note that orders are due to the school office no later than 3pm on Wednesday 7th February.

Birthdays
Happy birthday wishes to the following students who will be celebrating birthdays in February: Scarlett C, Emily G, Bree, Ryder, Peppa, Kaitlyn K, Cassius, Charlie S, Indy S and Jake T-S

Stafford Scouts
Are you looking for an activity which is Fun and develops:
- Character
- Resilience
- Goal setting
- Leadership skills
- Respect
- Friends and a network for life
- A love of the outdoors

Come and trial scouts for a few nights
Joey Scout 6 – 8 yrs Wednesday 6-7pm
Cub Scouts 8-11yrs Wednesday 6-7.30pm
Scouts 11-15yrs Thursday 7-9pm
Venturers – 15-18 yrs Friday nights
Contact Murray 0438 560 297

CODING & ROBOTICS FOR KIDS
Learn How to Code to Modify the World of Minecraft.
Held at EDSCO Superstore – 12B Windorah Street, Stafford
Commences Saturday Feb 3 – 9:00 to 11:00am for 8 weeks. Students are required to bring their own laptop and power cord. Course Fee: $305.00