Welcome to 2016! It is a great pleasure to welcome all students and their families to a new year of learning at Culburra Public School. It is a particularly exciting time as we welcome our Kindergartens to their first days of ‘big school’. We welcome a number of new students and families who are new to our school not just in Kindergarten but also in other grades – I know that you will be settled in to our school and find it a great place to be.

The P&C operated a very successful stall during the school holidays and on behalf of the school community I would like to thank the P&C ladies for providing this service to our families every year, it is greatly appreciated.

Eight classes have been formed this year as follows:

K/EM (Kindergarten) – Mrs McGill
Monday-Wednesday & Mrs Edwards
Thursday-Friday
K/1 R – Miss Reid
1/2 S – Miss Eagle
2/3 B – Mrs Barrett
3/4 M – Mrs Martin
4/5 E – Mr Evans
5/6 C – Mrs Wright Smith
4/5/6 W – Mrs Wilson

Classes are formed following the NSW Department of Education’s allocation of teachers based on the number of students enrolled and the recommended class sizes, which is kept smaller in the first three years of schooling.

Some key information about composite classes are as follows,

1. Students in both grades of the composite are taught to the outcomes of their stage through lessons that differentiate learning needs, hence the formation of learning groups in the classroom. The older students do not repeat the learning experiences of the previous year and are not placed in the composite class because they are the “dummies” – the only dummies at Culburra Public School are the ones in the storeroom used for CPR training.

2. Whilst there are a number of factors used to place students into class groups the key and most important factor underpinning class placements is learning. Whilst I understand that students may wish to be placed with their special friends I cannot always guarantee that all children can be placed with their special friends. It is important to focus on what is gained, the opportunity to make new friends and build friendships to add to current friendship circles. Friendships change, develop and grow over time and school is one of a number of experiences for children to develop their social repertoire, this will also help prepare our students for high school.

3. There are a number of excursions that take place throughout the year which are specific to a grade or stage. Kindergarten students attend an annual excursion to the Shoalhaven Zoo – if your child is in K/1 the Kindergarten students will still attend this excursion and the year 1 students will remain at school for a normal day of learning with their peers. Stage 3 will be attending an overnight excursion to the Berry Sport and Recreation this term – if your child is a year 4 student in the 4/5/6 class they will remain at school for normal lessons with their peer group during this time. An overnight Stage 2 excursion to Curraong is also planned this term, this brings back a traditional local outdoors excursion to our school. If your child is a year 3 student in the 2/3 class they will attend this excursion and the year 2 students will remain at school for normal lessons with their peers. The same principle will be applied when the Stage 1 excursion is finalised. Year 3 students in 2/3 B will also be able to try-out for representative sport, district swimming and athletics and the school choir.

Some general reminders:

- Please set aside Saturday 9th April (the first weekend of term 1 holidays) for our school fete. This will be held to commemorate our 40th anniversary.
- A reminder was sent home last week about the canteen, please note that the ceiling needs repairing from flood damage last year, do not send money or any lunch orders until you are advised that the canteen is back in operation.
Friday assembly will begin this week at 9:05 in the school hall - 4/5/6 W are presenting.

Friday remains our whole school sport day – students are to continue to wear their sports uniform on this day – notification for new students of their house allocation will occur this week. Further to this all students need to bring a school hat to school in order to access the playground, students without proper school hats will remain in the covered outdoor learning area. Some non-uniform hats have been worn by students last week – broad-brimmed hats can be purchased from the uniform shop and are the only types of hats our students can wear to school.

Our school app can be downloaded free of charge from the Apple and Google store. Please take advantage of instant delivery to your devices of newsletters and important notifications. The app also allows parents/carers to update changes in contact details – please take the time to notify the school of any changes in address of contact numbers.

Our annual Meet-The-Teacher evening will be held on Monday 8th February in your child’s/ren’s classroom. Years 3-6 will be held from 5.00 – 5.30pm and Kindergarten – yr 2 will be held from 5.30 – 6.00pm.

Congratulations to our 2016 school House Captains and Vice Captains:

Baranga
Captains
Jack Lonesborough / Chloe Hamshere
Vice Captains
Max Vukelic / Letoyah Wellington-Burton

Rikkara
Captains
Ty Farrell-Wellington / Paris Gauci
Vice Captains
Corey Kelly / Isobel Brown

Yawarra
Captains
Jarrad Dallas / Jordana McIntyre
Vice Captains
Connor Larkam / Jasmine Larkam

Gubindah
Captains
Michael Day / Shenae Boulton
Vice Captains
Zac Floyd / Joe-Lee Roberts

I look forward to another busy yet exciting year of learning for all at Culburra Public School.

Kind Regards
Melissa Day
Principal

Save the Date
SCHOOL FETE
40th Anniversary
Saturday 9th April 2016
10am – 3pm

We are looking for children who would like to show their talents at our fete – singing, musical instruments, magic etc.

More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Assistance and suggestions appreciated.

Celebrating a birthday this week:
Amelia
Jazmyn
Savannah

We hope you have a great day!!

CANTEEN NEWS
Please note that due to storm damage the canteen will be temporarily closed for approximately 4 weeks. We will advise when it will re-open.

CBOOSH – Out of School Hours Care
Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm during the school term
Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm during the school holidays and pupil free days.
Contact Jacinta on 4447 3069 and leave a message.

Culburra & Districts Preschool
20 Otway St Orient Point
Ph: 4447 2505

Community Managed Not-for-Profit Preschool
Catering for 2-6 year old children
Early Childhood + School Readiness Program run daily
Occasional Care Available
Open Mon-Fri 8am to 4pm 8 hours care for all children
Come and visit our preschool and meet our qualified, caring staff.

Burra Uniform Shop
New & Preloved Clothing
OPEN FRIDAYS
8.30am – 9.30am

Don't forget to download our school app to get all the latest news and the school newsletter.

CULBURRA COUGARS SOCCER REGISTRATION DAY
9am – 11am
13th February – Crockhaven Oval