Dear Parents,

SUPPORTING STUDENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

It is very important that teachers and parents work together to help children develop self-control in all areas. At the beginning of each year we need to reinforce our school rules SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS. This semester we are going to focus on being respectful. These rules cover most of what happens in school and at home:-

Respect our family- doing the right thing, working hard, making our parents proud. Respect themselves- eating the right foods, playing in appropriate places, using the toilet facilitates correctly. Respect teachers and other adults- doing as asked, using manners. Respect other students- playing fairly, behaving appropriate in the classrooms, helping others to learn. Respect the environment-putting rubbish in the bin, caring for the gardens, using equipment correctly. This is just a few examples. We appreciate your support in this.

We will be implementing a new reward system for those students who always follow the rules.

SAFETY OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

Picking up children in the afternoons is difficult at most school. However, it is very important that all drivers follow the road rules if the children are to remain safe. These are the most obvious issues:-

*We are safe, respectful learners.*
- Parking illegally. Parking officers come randomly and fines are very expensive ‘No Parking’- $169 and two demerit points, ‘No Stopping’ ‘Bus Zones’ and Double Parking- $304 and two demerit points.
- Illegal U-turns (across double lines)- $304 and three demerit points.
- Stopping too close to a Pedestrian Crossing - $405 and two demerit points.
- Calling to your children to cross the road other than at the crossing. There is no fine for this but you may lose your child.

If there is nowhere to park, drive around the block until there is one. Your children can wait safely on the Office steps until you find a park.

SAFETY INSIDE THE SCHOOL

No cars, other than staff cars, are to drive into the school grounds for any reason. We also ask you not to walk with your children through the staff carpark. This is to keep your children safe.

NEW SIGNS

Nobody can say that they don’t know what the rules are. Thanks to Mr Muller and his team we have three new signs that help students to understand the rules in different areas. There is one on the assembly area, one on the toilet block one outside the canteen.

Judy Smith
Principal

TEACHERS’ MESSAGES

COMPASS 2014

We are very fortunate again this year to be part of the Compass program. Compass is a partnership between the University of Sydney, the NSW Department of Education and Communities, and selected secondary and primary schools in Sydney and regional areas of NSW.

Compass supports students to feel confident, motivated, and prepared for their future. Compass staff work with schools and communities to ensure students are aware of the breadth of post-school options whether that is vocational training or higher education.

In 2014, our school will be involved in many projects that will be funded by the Compass program.

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One of these will be Stop Motion Animation. This program will be aimed at our Stage 3 students who will be working with film maker and lecturer Jack McGrath from Sydney College of the Arts. Jack will be assisting teachers and students in creating a stop motion animation film. Last week, Mr Muller and I went to a training session to improve our skills in the making of animated films. Below is a newspaper article featured in the Torch late last year.

Mrs Comninos
Compass Coordinator
SRC NEWS

Every year a new group of Student Representative Council (SRC) is elected. These children are elected by their fellow students. SRC members represent all students in the school and organise ways for students to participate in school life.

Congratulations to the following students on being selected for SRC 2014.
1/2L     Soheil Ardjmand and Diem Cao
1/2W    Hassan Ahmad and Jana Almaaz
2M       Jafar Hamed and Sophie Nguyen
3/4B    Khaled Moussa and Fatmah Kurdi
3/4T    Zac Maarban and Sienna Motti
4/5R    Tareq Ismail and Sara Abdallah
5/6M    Jad Elhashem and Nancy Au
5/6G    Ba Cao and Alyssa Asaad

I look forward to working with these students.

Mrs Ibrahim
SRC Coordinator

We are safe, respectful learners.
LIBRARY NEWS

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE 2014

The purpose of the Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is to develop a love of reading through experiencing a range of quality literature. In 2014 we are aiming to achieve 100% participation in the PRC. All class teachers will be supporting the students in reading books from the recommended book lists this year, however, students are also encouraged to read at home.

Students in K-2 will have 30 PRC books read to them during library and class lessons. Students in 3-6 are expected to read 20 books by themselves. Although time and books will be provided for this during class, we strongly encourage primary students to complete part of their challenge at home. Our library has a number of PRC books available to borrow.

For students wishing to record their home reading achievements, a reading record can be printed from this web site: https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/readingLog.html

All students entering the Premier’s Reading Challenge will receive a PRC certificate and appear in the PRC Gold and Platinum Honour Roll. The certificate shows the student’s name and school. Only the name will appear in the Gold and Platinum Honour Roll with no other identifying factors. Participating schools appear as a separate list and home schools are not listed individually.

BORROWING CHALLENGE

All classes are participating in a competition this term to see which class has the best borrowing record. At the beginning of each lesson the number of labelled cloth library bags brought in by students for that lesson are recorded visually on a chart so that the students can see how well their class is borrowing compared to the others. The current class leaders in this challenge are: 5/6M and 1/2L. Well done to both classes!

At the end of the term the students from the winning class will receive a lemonade ice-block. In addition, all students that are regular borrowers will be invited to spend a lunch session in the library using the iPads.

Please be aware that borrowing is focused on regular reading, not borrowing as many books as possible. Most students are borrowing one book per week, though a small number have discussed borrowing more books as they read every night.

Mrs Steinfurth
Teacher librarian

SPORTS NEWS

DISTRICT SWIMMING SUCCESS

On Monday 3 March, 13 students represented our school at the Bankstown PSSA District Swimming Carnival. All of these students performed extremely well and were a credit to our school. Their behaviour was exemplary. Thank you to the parents that attended and assisted on the day, it was great to have your support.

We are safe, respectful learners.
The team consisted of Paris Americanas, Elana Topalidis, Maya Tabaa, Zaynab Abdallah, Lily-Jean McNair, Mohammed El-Adib, Corey Baldwin, Zach Ingram, Zac Yaghi, Jad Elhashem, Ali El-Zebdah, Ewin Clay and Immanuel Mansour.

A huge congratulations to Elana Topalidis for finishing 2nd in the 9 years girls 50m.

Mr Toland

### STUDENT AWARDS

#### CLASS AWARDS

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<tr>
<th>KINDERGARTEN H</th>
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<td>Karymah Ismail</td>
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<td>Flora Youssef</td>
<td>Danyelle Yaghi</td>
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<td>Mohamed Attar</td>
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<td>Jebriel El-Ali</td>
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<td>Qori Johnson-Sue</td>
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<td>Michael Mhanna</td>
<td>Milad Mustapha</td>
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<td>Cindy Dao</td>
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Crunch&Sip® Comes to Wattawa!

What is Crunch&Sip®?
Crunch&Sip® is a break during class when students can refuel on fresh fruit and veg and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.

Crunch&Sip® encourages fruit and vegetable snacking and drinking water. Healthy eating behaviours are modelled in the classroom and reinforce the nutrition messages in the PD/H/PE curriculum. By making fresh fruit and vegetable eating and water drinking normal in the classroom, healthy habits can be formed and continued into adolescence and adulthood.

The Crunch&Sip® break gives students the opportunity to eat the piece of fruit that might otherwise be left in their lunchbox. Students are also more likely to eat their fruit or vegetables and drink their water if their friends and peers are all doing it too!

We will begin having Crunch&Sip® breaks on Monday. Please make sure your child has a piece of fruit or vegetables and small bottle of water each day.

Mrs Ibrahim and Mrs Wright (Co-ordinators)

P & C NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting was held this morning Wednesday the 5th March in the small hall. An election of the executive committee took place. Details of the meeting and new Executive Committee members will be announced shortly.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will continue in the playground on a Wednesday morning from 8.45 til 9am. All new parents who wish to join our banking programme please see the banking coordinators at one of the Wednesday morning banking stations. Or leave a message with the office ladies to be contacted.

UNIFORM SHOP

Stock of size 6, 8 and 10 S/S Polo Tops has now arrived. If you placed an order for these items they are now available for pick up at the office.
Uniform shop hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 8.45 til 9am.

If you are unable to make these times then please see the office ladies for an order form and you will be notified when your order is complete.

Sheree Ingram
P&C President

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE RETUNE?
As the final step in Australia's move to digital-only TV, some channels will change frequencies. After they've changed, you'll need to retune your digital TV, set-top box or digital TV recorder to find the channels that have moved.

These moves will free up broadcasting spectrum so that it can be used for new services such as mobile broadband. Just like the switch to digital-only TV, the retune is being carefully planned to make sure the change is as easy as possible. Different areas will need to retune on different dates, so to find your date visit the website at www.digitalready.gov.au/retune where you can sign up for a reminder SMS or email.

WHO DOES IT AFFECT?
The retune will affect most TV viewers in Australia. But if you are watching TV via the Viewer Access Satellite Television (VAST) service, the retune won't affect you. If you watch your free-to-air channels via pay TV, your set-top box may be retuned for you by your provider.

You may find some of your equipment will automatically detect changes to the channels and retune itself, or it may prompt to retune. If you are missing a free-to-air digital TV channel or channels you will need to retune.

If you live in an apartment, you may be using a shared antenna system. If you are experiencing issues trying to retune your digital TV equipment after your retune date, you should first contact your property manager or body corporate.

HOW DO I RETUNE?
If you are missing TV channels, you can start by pressing the "MENU" button on your remote then look for your "set-up" options.

Next, try to find words like: "channels" or "auto-tuning".

WHEN DO I RETUNE?
Your retune date depends on your location and the transmitter from which you are receiving your TV signal. To find your retune date, enter your address into the 'Get retune info' box on the website at www.digitalready.gov.au/retune.

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You'll need to retune your digital TV, set-top box or digital TV recorder on or after your area's retune date, not before.

Some people within the same town or city will have different retune dates. This is because some areas may be serviced by a number of TV transmitters. The retune will take place across Australia progressively until the end of 2014.

**WHY DO I NEED TO RETUNE?**
Some TV channels are being moved to free up broadcasting spectrum so that it can be used for new services such as mobile broadband.

**SERVICE DISRUPTIONS**
There are Likely to be some service disruptions around the time of the retune date. due to work being conducted at the transmission site. These temporary outages are unlikely to Last Longer than a few hours and you aren’t required to do anything during these periods. If you have lost any TV channels before your retune date you may be trying to retune during a scheduled outage.

**PARENTAL LOCKS AND FAVOURITES**
If you use favourites or parental Lock settings you may wish to write these down before you retune, as retuning might delete these settings.

**HELP AND ADVICE**
If you are having difficulty retuning your equipment check your manufacturer’s handbook for instructions on how to retune, ask a friend or family member to help you. Visit information the retune website at www.digitalready.gov.au/retune or call the Digital Ready Information Line on 1800 20 10 13. 8arn to 10pm (AEST), 7 days.

There will be advertising in your area in the Lead-up to your retune date. Local community organisations will also be informed about the retune in their area so they can help spread the word too.

8 www.digitalready.gov.au/retune **1800 20 10 13**

We are safe, respectful learners.
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