Principal's Message

Welcome back to another school year everyone! A special welcome to all our new students and families! We have had a very happy, positive and productive start to the 2013 school year. I look forward to working closely with parents, staff and students to ensure that all our students achieve the highest possible educational outcomes and have an enjoyable and memorable year at Marayong South Public School.

Staff

I would like to welcome back Mrs Parsons who has returned following maternity leave. I would also like to congratulate Miss Obeid, who has commenced full time permanent employment at our school this year (how lucky are we?). We have two beautiful new members of staff, Mrs Mitchell and Miss Fowler. We are very happy to welcome both these teachers to our wonderful school. Mrs Gillon was transferred to another school (closer to her home) just before the holidays, she will be greatly missed by us all.

P&C

Our P&C AGM is on Wednesday 13th February at 6pm in the school staff room (situated in the administration block). We would love to see as many parents as possible joining the P&C. Our P&C are a wonderful group of parents that work really hard to support our school. I strongly encourage all parents to attend this meeting and get involved with our P&C.

Teacher/Parent Interviews

This year Teacher/Parent Interviews will be held in Term 1 on Wednesday 3rd April. It is much more productive to have interviews earlier rather than later in the year. These interviews will replace the Teacher Information Night previously held in Term 1. We felt that it would be more beneficial for parents to have one on one time with their child’s teacher to discuss any issues of concern and to have specific questions answered, rather than a general information evening. All general information will be sent home to parents and placed on the school website.

EASING SCHOOL ANXIETIES — as parents we must help our children to develop resilience and responsibility from an early age.

All kinds of stresses can make a child feel worried and nervous about going to school. For all ages, a regular morning routine with set times and activities — bathroom, get dressed, eat breakfast, gather gear, be ready at door — provides a sense of security and structure.

Lay down set times for homework, bedtime and lights out. Everyone can help prepare lunches and set out clothes for the next day. Put out packets and cutlery needed for breakfast. Get your children into the habit of rising when their alarm rings and be ready to lock the door at a set time,
whether they have everything they need or not. One morning of having to go to school with uncombed hair or missing a sock will usually fix bad habits.

Be persistent and don’t apologise for insisting on routines. Some children may need extra help or training but most of them can quickly adjust to your expectations and those of the school.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The security of one familiar teacher can change quickly for this age-group as they move from one class to another with different teachers and routines. Reassure them that they can cope with the changes by reminding them about things they have mastered in the past. Make sure they get plenty of sleep. Give them time and space to adjust.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

The fear of making (or not making) new friends, harder work, scary new teachers, confusing buildings, missing the bus can build up for new high school students. Stay calm and encouraging but if they don’t seem to settle down after a few weeks, it is worth talking to the school so you can work together to allay fears or help fix any problems.

Please do not hesitate to speak with your teacher if you have any concerns or questions. It is important to keep communication lines open. Parent/Teacher interviews can happen at any time throughout the school year, so please do not hesitate to contact us through the school office.

Warmest regards
Mrs Mandy Hollis
Principal

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**PLEASE NOTE**

**THE DRIVEWAY IS CLOSED FROM 8AM – 4PM TO TRAFFIC FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN**

**ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2013**

If you know of any friends or neighbours that have a child turning 5 before the 31 July 2014, please ask at the administration office for an enrolment form.

**CANTEEN NEWS:**

Canteen will be closed on Mondays from 4 March until the end of Term 1 until further notice.

The Canteen will be CLOSED for cleaning and stocktake on the last day of Term 1, Friday 12 April.

**Productive Parents**

Marayong South Public School will continue our “Productive Parents” program this year. “Productive Parents” is a program designed to build friendship groups and support networks between families within the school community. Parents will have the opportunity to meet each week for morning tea and assist in making vital classroom resources to support your children’s learning. This will provide parents with a forum to
chat informally about school life in a relaxed and friendly environment. You may be asked to cut, laminate, sort resources etc. All resources will be provided. Thank you to all those parents who have already been involved in our program and for their ongoing support within the school. All parents are welcome.

“What productive Parents” will commence on Monday, 18th February 2013. The program will run every Monday, between 9am-10:30am in the Counsellor’s room (Block E - Kindy). If you have any queries in regards to the program, please see Miss Obeid or ask at the office for a note.

Miss Obeid Coordinator

University Competitions:
The Australian Schools English, Mathematics, Computer and Spelling Studies competitions were given out on Friday to Years 3-6 students. Parents of students in Years 3-6 may elect to have their children sit any or all of the competitions. There is a cost of $8 each for English, Mathematics and Computer and $11 for Spelling. All students will receive certificates and a full analysis of their results.

Computer Skills
Tuesday 21 May
Spelling Comp
Tuesday 18 June
English Comp
Wednesday 31 July
Maths Comp
Tuesday 13 August

These competitions are not compulsory. If you wish your child to participate, please send the note below to the office with the money no later than the closing date of Friday 22 March, as paperwork must be processed.

What’s Coming Up...
February
• Mon 11 Newsletter home
• Wed 13 Swimming Carnival for competent swimmers
  K-6 Assembly 11.30am
  6pm P&C AGM meeting
• Fri 15 What’s On home
• Mon 18 Kindergarten finish
  at 3pm from today
• Wed 20 K-6 Assembly
  11.30am. House Captain inductions
• Tues 26 Scripture commences
• Wed 27 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 2K. Yrs3-6 Assembly at 12.15pm host 6P
• Thurs 28 2012 Year 6 catch up

March
• Fri 1 What’s On Home
  Summer PSSA starts
• Mon 4 Canteen closed
• Wed 6 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 1/2C. Yrs3-6 Assembly at 12.15pm host 5/6G
• Fri 8 Term 1 School Activity
  Levy due
• Mon 11 Canteen closed
• Wed 13 K-2 Assembly
  11.30am host 1M. Yrs3-6 Assembly at 12.15pm host 5N
• Thurs 14 Zone Swim Carnival
  Selective HS Test
• Fri 15 What’s On home
• Mon 18 Newsletter home