Happy Chinese or Lunar New Year
Gong Xi Fa Cai!
That’s the traditional Chinese New Year greeting that means ‘Wishing you Prosperity’ in Mandarin. Chinese New Year celebrations traditionally last for 15 days from the first day (during a new moon), to the 15th day (a full moon). Each day holds a special significance that varies according to local traditions. Before the arrival of the New Year, homes are thoroughly cleaned to sweep away ill fortune, and to welcome good luck. On New Year’s Eve there are family gatherings to celebrate and enjoy sumptuous traditional feasts, and to greet the New Year with fireworks at midnight.

The celebrations culminate with the Lantern Festival. Each year is associated with one of the 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac. For 2015, it’s the Year of the Sheep, Ram or Goat.

This week we will celebrate our school’s cultural diversity at a school assembly on Thursday 12:20. Join us in the Hall to enjoy a visiting performance by a dance group from Africa.

Many cultures are present in our school community. If your child has traditional cultural dress that represents your family, then they should wear their special clothes at the assembly. Parents are also welcome to join us in their traditional clothes.

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<th>School Term 1: 27 January – 2 April Dates for your Diary</th>
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<td>Thurs 19 Feb Multicultural assembly 12:20</td>
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<td>Fri 20 Feb District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Sun 22 Feb Carnivale 10am-4pm Qbn Park</td>
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<td>Mon 23 Feb Yr2, K-3W, K-4C swimming lessons</td>
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<td>Wed 25 Feb Gathering in the Park 3:30pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 26 Feb Yrs5/6 Mogo and GeoScience</td>
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<td>Fri 27 Feb P&amp;C Discos</td>
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<td>Sat 7 March Baby and Kids Expo 10am-2pm</td>
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QUEANBEYAN BABY / KIDS EXPO at QPS Sat 7 March 10am-2pm

- Market Stalls Parenting Info
- Service Stalls Business Stalls
- QPS P&C BBQ Coffee and gelato
- Face Painting Jumping Castle
- 11:30 - Magic Show
- 12-1pm - Balloon modelling
- 1pm – Magic Show

Free Raffle Draws – Check your ticket!
Live Demonstrations and Talks - 10:30am - Family Day Care
10:45am – Impressions Dance & Fitness

Come along for a fun day for the whole family!
To book a stall email Trish: patricia.chivers1@det.nsw.edu.au

Daily Routines
Parents, it is important to establish daily routines to ensure each student is safe. Before school the playgrounds are supervised from 8:25am. If you need help before this, before school care is available from 7am on our school grounds. The school day finishes at 2:55pm. If you collect your child before this time it is registered as a partial attendance.
Please ensure students know their plan for the day, including after school arrangements. This would avoid the many reminder phone calls to school through the day.
Sports News - Mrs Dionne Bryant

This year my role within the school is to deliver the movement component of the PDHPE syllabus. In Term 1 I will be working with most classes. Many of these lessons will held outside and it is compulsory that all students wear their school hat. Students in Kindergarten and Year 1 will be working on the development of gross motor and fundamental motor skills through gym circuit activities. Students in Year 2 will be participating in Bluearth lessons. Students in Years 3 to 6 will be working on throwing, catching, bowling and two handed striking with a bat based on cricket and field events for athletics. They will have a reflection and goal setting book in which to record their thoughts, goals and learning.

Run Club
We are now in our third week of Run Club and the 21 participating students are gradually building their running stamina in readiness for the cross country later this term. We have students of all abilities attending from those who are super fast to those who are happy to move along at a steadier pace. There is room for 9 more students. If your child is 8 years old or older this year and would like to attend they can join us on Tuesday and Thursday on playground 2 from 8:15am to 8:45am.

PSSA Representatives
Kallie Gumm, Trenae Morshead and Hayley Perry will be attending the zone trials for girls’ cricket on 3 March. We wish these students well.

Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all of the students who attended and swam in a variety of races. I was very impressed by the number of students that entered the more difficult races, such as butterfly and individual medley. The spirit of the day was a stand out for me. If your child enjoyed participating in the carnival I would highly recommend that they join the local swimming club, as this will help to enhance their swimming fitness and race ability. This year the 4x 50m relay race between the senior boys team and the parent/teacher team was won by the parent/teacher team, after being soundly defeated in 2014.

Congratulations to Mrs Rosser for her coordination and running of our school swimming carnival. Thank you to the teachers (at the carnival and at school) for their talents, skills and flexibility. Thank you also to the parents who assisted with marshalling and timekeeping and those who came along to support the students.

The results are still being finalised. The ribbons will be distributed and names published at a later date.

QPS Swim Team
Good luck to the 34 students who will be representing Queanbeyan Public School at the Queanbeyan District Swimming Carnival at the AIS on Friday 20 February.
Anniversary of ‘The Apology’

Students at Queanbeyan Public School came together on Friday 13 February for an assembly to acknowledge the seventh anniversary of The Apology to the Indigenous peoples of this land. We recognise that we need to ‘right the wrongs of the past so we can move forward with confidence to the future’. The theme for the assembly was: ‘Heal the past, Build our future, Together’.

The taking away of many Aboriginal children from their mothers, families and communities caused a lot of pain and suffering that has continued to affect people throughout their lives. Students in 5/6W wrote haiku poems to express their ideas and reflect their personal responses.
Library
Welcome back to the Library in 2015! Borrowing has started!
All students K-4 need a cloth library bag to borrow. If you do not have a library bag, a cloth shopping bag, a pillow case, in fact any cloth bag will be perfect for the job!
The Premier’s Reading Challenge has started. Last year we had 631 students complete the challenge and it would be amazing if we could beat that this year. The school has an expectation that all students complete it and we are very happy to help in any way we can. It is a wonderful opportunity to promote the importance and pleasure of reading.
K-2 students will complete the Challenge in the class, with their teachers however some Yr2 students will be encouraged to complete the 3-4 Challenge. Students in Yr3-6 complete the Challenge independently and will need to do some of their reading at home. They are given opportunities to read each day at school and are expected to read for homework each week, so there should be no problem for every child to complete it. Please encourage your child to read and record their reading. Both their class teachers and I will support them at school but you can make an enormous difference from home too. If they are having trouble finding books or feeling anxious about the reading, please encourage them to speak to me and their class teacher, we are here to help. Books you read to your children also count in the Challenge, as do listening to a book on disc or viewing a book reading on YouTube.

Fran Handley
SaCC
Queanbeyan Young Parents Group invites all young parents in Queanbeyan under 25 years of age to our T1 excursion to Lollipops Majura Park. Come along 11am-12:30pm for free entry and lunch provided, Wednesday 18 Feb.
Brain Gym workshop: Unresolved Reflexes - Saturday 28 Feb 9am-12:30pm, at SaCC. Resolving reflexes may lead to improvements in health, behaviour, concentration, and progress at school, including social integration. Cost is just $10 for parents/carers/community and childcare workers, or $5 concession.

For more information, or to RSVP, phone Brooke 6297 2167