Welcome everyone to the 2015 school year at Queanbeyan Public School. We have a few new staff and several members of staff who are returning from leave. We have 27 mainstream classes this year, one more than last year, and 5 supported learning classes, the same as last year.

P&C
Welcome to a new year at QPS. The P&C’s first meeting for 2015 is to be held 6:30pm, Monday 9 February in the Staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend, so please come along and see what we do. Just a reminder that as the year starts, to be a financial member of the P&C (to have voting rights), the $1 membership fee needs to be paid - at a meeting or through the Front Office. I’m looking forward to another fantastic year as a member of QPS P&C.
Kym Bush, 2014 P&C President

Stage 1 Swim School
Swim school is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain confidence in the water and learn survival skills. Students in Year 2, K-3W and K-4C will have the opportunity to attend swim school in Weeks 5 and 6 of this term (23 Feb to 6 March). Students in Year 1 will follow in Weeks 7 and 8 (9 to 20 March). If you are available to help, please send a note to your class teacher.

Thank you, Stage 1 Team

PSSA Basketball
Congratulations to Heela, Jasmine, Claudia and Ally who were successful in being selected to participate at the Girl's PSSA Zone Trials. Congratulations to Tupou, Jack and Ryan who were successful in being selected to participate at the Boy's PSSA Zone Trials.

Dionne Bryant, Sports Coordinator

Q City Travel
Students going to Year 3 need to reapply for a bus pass. Application forms are available from the Front Office. All bus passes will be distributed to children as we receive them from Q City transport.

School Term 1: 27 January – 2 April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates for your Diary</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9 Feb P&amp;C 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Tues 10 Feb School Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Thurs 12 Feb EnviroMentors workshops Yr4</td>
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<td>Fri 13 Feb Anniversary of Apology to the</td>
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<td>Stolen Generations</td>
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<td>Wed 25 Feb District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Fri 27 Feb P&amp;C Discos</td>
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<td>Tues 3 March Scripture commences</td>
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<td>Sat 7 March Baby and Kids Expo 10am-2pm</td>
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Queanbeyan Public School
Before and After School Care Program
Situated on school grounds
QPS students only
Bookings are being taken for 2015
7-8:55am and 2:55-6pm daily, each term
New Kindergarten children welcome!
Before school care includes breakfast.
After school care includes afternoon tea, homework club, arts/crafts program, outdoor sports, active sports program, games/toys Register now: 0414 607 396 Email: schoolsout@netspeed.com.au www.schoolsoutcare.com.au

SACC - BABY AND KIDS EXPO
at
Queanbeyan Public School
Sat 7 March 10am-2pm
To book a stall email Trish: patricia.chivers1@det.nsw.edu.au
Free entry with a raffle ticket
Entertainment for the kids
Come along for a fun day for the whole family

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: just $10 for parents/carers/community and childcare workers, or $5 concession.
RSVP: Brooke 6297 2167

Isabella St Queanbeyan NSW 2620 ● Ph 02 6297 2144 ● Fax 02 6299 4282
Web Address www.queanbeyan-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Email queanbeyan-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Queanbeyan Public School

Every Day Counts

School Attendance – Information for Parents and Caregivers

It is important for children to attend school all day, every day. School provides children with a wide range of learning experiences that extends their knowledge and understanding; that develops their thinking and problem solving skills; that improves their fitness; and that enables them to make friends and build positive relationships with others.

If children are away from school, parents/caregivers are responsible for contacting the teacher, by email, note or phone, to let them know the reason for their child’s absence. Teachers are responsible for marking an attendance roll and are required to record an explanation for all absences. The school will send home a letter requesting an explanation if one is not received. Attendance information is recorded in the Semester Reports.

Family and social activities and dental appointments should be arranged outside of school hours. Children should not be taken out of school for these reasons. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A certificate of exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. If a child is to be absent for more than 15 days, then parents/carers may apply to the school for a Certificate of Extended Leave, prior to their child being away.

Punctual, regular attendance enables children to make the most of the educational opportunities available to them. Regular attendance helps children to develop a sense of belonging to a peer group and assists in building important coping and friendship skills. Confident children are more likely to do well with their learning and behaviour. Arriving at school and class on time gives students time to greet their friends before class; ensures they are present for the important learning activities timetabled early in the day when the students are most alert; helps them learn the importance of punctuality and routine; and reduces classroom disruptions.

Students who arrive at school after 8.55am are to report to the Administration Office to collect a yellow late slip, before going to class. Parents/carers who are collecting students during school hours need to go to the Administration Office. Classrooms will be contacted, by the internal phone system, and students sent to the Office to meet their parents. All partial absences also need to be explained.

The school’s supervision roster starts from 8.25am and finishes at 2.55pm. There is no staff available to ensure the safety of children in the playground prior to or after these times. We understand that many parents have commitments at work which require them to leave before 8.25am and not be able to arrive back at school at 2.55pm. There is a Before and After School Care service which operates from 7.00am to 8.55am every school morning and from 2.55pm to 6.00pm every school afternoon, available within the school. Alternatively, you may be able to make arrangements with friends or neighbours for the supervision of your children. Some families in the school with working parents take turns to take each other's children to and from school. As well, many employers will be sympathetic to parents with responsibilities for caring for children and will allow some flexibility in parents' working hours. By law, employers are restricted from treating an employee detrimentally on the grounds of their status as a carer. Whatever arrangements you make, you need to understand that you remain legally responsible for your child prior to 8.25am when supervision begins and after 2.55pm when supervision ends. We ask that you ensure that your child is not left unsupervised at the school before 8.25am and after 2.55pm. Children travelling home from school by bus are supervised in playground 3 until 3.25pm when all the buses have finished their routes.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child’s attendance. Research shows that higher student attendance is generally associated with higher student achievement.