Wednesday 6th February, 2013

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Wattle Park Primary School for another busy and fun filled year. Welcome also to Jasmine in 2A and her family. Jasmine and her brother Aiden in Grade 3 have just commenced at Wattle Park this year. All of the Grade 2 students have settled back into school life extremely well. The independent behaviours and work habits that have been re-established have enabled them to start the school year smoothly. They are enthusiastically following the classroom structures and routines. The children have begun to make new friends and many are already willing to become leaders and take on responsibilities, such as Scarecrow and SRC monitors.

MORNING ROUTINE

The music from 8:50am is a reminder to students and parents that the school day is about to begin. Students are able to come inside and hang or put their school bag away, hand in notices and place lunch orders in the basket. Students can then choose whether they would like to stay inside or go outside and continue to play until the bell rings. Once the bell rings all students should move directly to their classroom.

CLASSROOM MATERIALS

We would appreciate it if your family could donate a box of tissues and a bottle of Coles brand Aloe Vera pump hand wash to share with the children in your child’s class. Please give these to the class teacher. It is essential that all children have a Wattle Park green notice folder which is brought to school each day.

HOMEWORK

Commencing this year all children at Wattle Park will receive weekly homework tasks. In Grade 2 this will include four homework tasks which are expected to be completed over a week. More information will follow shortly.
SPECIALIST PROGRAM AND SPECIAL FEATURES OF GRADE 2 PROGRAM IN TERM 1

This year Grade 2 students will participate in a variety of specialist programs in 2013. The following timetable indicates the specialist timetable for Grade 2 in Term 1.

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<tr>
<td>Art (Miss Antonino)</td>
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<td>Library (Mrs Wheatley)</td>
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<td>LOTE (Mrs Peszynski)</td>
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<td>Music (Mrs Caulfield-Lloyd)</td>
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<td>PE (Mrs Downes)</td>
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It is important that each child brings an art smock and library bag to school. Weather permitting the children will be participating in a fitness session with the Grade 2 teachers. Please consider appropriate footwear for your child on Thursday so that they can fully participate in each session.

HOME READING

It continues to be very important that you get back into daily home reading routine in which you praise all attempts made by your child to trial new reading strategies that they have learned at school. Grade 2 parents will notice the 100 - 200 Word list in your child’s Take Home Folder which reinforces not only the sight words learnt in Grade 1 but the correct spelling of many useful common words. In addition each child will have a personal reading journal in which they will record the books which they read at home.

MATHS BAGS

The very popular Maths Bags will recommence in term 2. As in Grade 1 each child will have the opportunity to bring home a Maths Bag which includes Maths games, activities and a reflection book for the children to record and share what they have done with the class.

EXCURSION TO MELBOURNE MUSEUM

There will be an excursion linked to the integrated unit “Under the Sea Unit” to the Melbourne Aquarium and Ricketts Point, on Thursday 28th February. It will be a very exciting time for all! The children will participate in the Creature Features: Beneath the Sea Program at the Aquarium. More details will follow in coming weeks. Please ensure that the Essential Item component of the School’s requisites and contribution levy is paid and return your child’s permission form as soon as possible.

We encourage you to pop in and say hello if we have not yet had a chance to meet. We value the partnership between school and home so that we can support your child to be happy and achieve success in Grade 2 in 2013.

Kind Regards,

[Signature]

Amanda Chetcuti, Moira Spierings, Narelle Albert, Amanda Dwyer, Vicki Phillips and Gayle Cope