Wednesday, 3 February 2016

We’re so excited and we just can’t hide it!

We are trend setters!

6S is Super cool!

6S are the best.

We always pay attention.
Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome Back
I would like to give a friendly welcome to all of our new and current students, parents and staff. We are all part of the amazing Buxton Public School community, a school where we care for others and we are safe, responsible, resilient learners. We work as a team and we value student, parent and staff input. As the new Principal of Buxton PS, I aim to ensure that every child works to their personal best in a quality environment with expert teachers.

A closer look at the NEW Principal....
Firstly, I am thrilled to be the Principal of Buxton PS and I look forward to meeting all of the families over the coming weeks. The children have settled beautifully into school routine and it has been a pleasure to meet them and see them focus on their learning so quickly. I have been overwhelmed by the friendliness and acceptance of the students towards me and the support of the staff. I am certainly in a very special place.

I want to share some information with you about me and as you will soon see, if you haven't already, I'm good for a chat. So you may wish to grab a drink and find a quiet spot and take some time to read this first newsletter. There is a lot of information to digest!

My teaching and leadership experiences have been vast over the past five years and I have been fortunate enough to work in many roles across the region. I was an Assistant Principal at Harrington Park PS from 2006-2010. I then undertook the Highly Accomplished Teacher role at Campbelltown PS from 2011-2012. I moved into State Office to work in Assessment and Reporting and then to Claymore PS as a Deputy Principal from 2013-2014. In 2015 I became the Instructional Leader at Campbelltown PS where my focus was on curriculum (Literacy and Numeracy) and coaching/mentoring teachers to improve their practice and of course improve student learning outcomes. I have had some amazing opportunities to learn about the latest programs offered by the Department of Education and I look forward to sharing these with the staff at Buxton PS.

In my role as a parent, I am the very proud mother of two daughters Eliza and Charlotte, who are 17 and 13 years old respectively. Eliza is completing the HSC this year, so between both of us I am certain that my dining room table will become a very busy work space! I’m just hoping that it may encourage Charlotte to study a little harder or at least look like she is. I am fortunate enough to live locally and have done so for 20 years, so not having to cross Narellan Rd daily has come as a welcome change.

Finally, I want to encourage you to come and speak to me if you concerned about something in our school and take the relevant process of initially contacting your child's classroom teacher then the stage supervisor if there are concerns about your child. Please, if you are unsure of anything, just ask! I am really looking forward to getting to know all of your children and your families. All the very best for 2016!

School Newsletter
Once a fortnight we will be publishing newsletter and on the opposite week an events calendar will be sent home to all families.

Staff Development Days
At the beginnings of Term 1, 2 and 3 there are Staff Development Days, prior to the student’s first day back at school. On these days we focus on mandatory training, such as Child Protection, First Aid procedures and planning for the school year. Our first day was spent learning about some of our mandatory training and looking at staff roles and responsibilities for 2016. We also looked at our school strategic directions for 2016 and the programs that will be running this year.

Welcome to Kindergarten children and families
Welcome to a new and exciting beginning. We advise all parents to say their goodbyes quickly under the COLA area next to the Administration area and pick the children up in the same area in the afternoon.
For the remainder of the year, the children will be lining up under the COLA with the rest of the school and at the end of the day they will be walked back to the area for dismissal or to catch the bus.
The children have settled very well into school routine and have started to make valuable friendships.
**Classes for 2015**

We have been lucky enough to keep our original class structure for 2016. The following organisation should remain the same for 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Alison Rourke</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Sue Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Tameka Twist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Robyn Syphers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2U</td>
<td>Tameka Twist</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2X</td>
<td>Sarah Roberts (3 days) Christie Urquhart (2 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3T</td>
<td>Sue Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4O</td>
<td>Leeann Lamplough</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5N</td>
<td>Sarah Wyper (4 days) Michelle Warwick (1 day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6S</td>
<td>Leah Britton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery/RFF</td>
<td>Debby Neich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Holly Pirie (2 days)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Support Teacher</td>
<td>Michelle Warwick (4 days)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLSO</td>
<td>Sue Sutcliffe, Sue Munday, Chris Carbury and Vicki Mathaisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Staff</td>
<td>Naomi Wright, Anna Carson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA and Cleaning Staff</td>
<td>Russell Apps, Vickie Chalker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
<td>Eva Krattli (1 day)</td>
</tr>
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For your reference, Miss Twist supervises Kindergarten and Years 1 and 2, while Mrs Davies supervises Years 3-6.

**School Hours**

Our school hours are 8:55am -3:00pm. Playground supervision begins at 8:30am. Please ensure that child does not attend school before 8:30am as there will be no supervision. At 8:55am all children line up under the COLA area near the administration building.

**School Uniform**

Thank you so much to the parents who have made every effort to ensure that our students attend school in their full school uniform. Your support ensures that our students show pride in their school and in their achievements. Our uniform is available from the school on Wednesday morning 8:30am-9:15am and Friday afternoon from 2:30pm-3:15pm. I want to extend a huge thank you to the volunteers who tirelessly manage the uniform shop on a voluntary basis and give up a great deal of their time ordering and selling the uniforms. We are very privileged to have such dedicated parents in our school community.

All students should wear a school hat to school every day as we have a NO HAT NO PLAY policy and children without hats need to play in the COLA area.

**Bike Safety**

All students who ride bikes to school are required to wear helmets and must enter and exit the school through the car park, via the pathways. There are bike racks at the front of the school. Please ensure that your child follows road safety rules when riding to and from school.
Nut Awareness Policy
We have students enrolled at our school who have severe (in some cases potentially fatal) allergic reactions to products containing nuts or egg. In the interest of their health and safety we would like to inform you of the following guidelines:
We request that students do not bring nuts or eggs to school. There should be no trading or sharing of food, food utensils and food containers. Bottles, other drinks and lunch boxes should be clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this please call me.

Swimming Carnival
Next Thursday 11th February all students in Years 3-6 and those children in Year 2 who turn 8 this year, will have the opportunity to attend the swimming carnival. Notes went home last week with details of the event please return the permission notes and money as soon as possible. Students in K-2 remain at school to participate in a water fun day. Information to be provided soon.

School Assemblies
In Term 1 our assemblies will begin in Week 2, this Friday 5th February at 2:00pm. These assemblies are open to all parents and carers of students in Years 1-6. Our Kindergarten children will join whole school assemblies in Week 4 of Term 1. Every class gets the opportunity to present an item at assembly throughout the year. Your child’s class teacher will notify you when this is happening as well as the events calendar that will be sent home.

That’s all for now and I look forward to an exciting year of working together to provide optimum learning experiences for your child, as they strive to do their personal best.

Alison Rourke

Buxton Public School P&C News
A warm welcome to the new Parents and citizens of Buxton Public School.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th February 2016 in the school staff room at 6.30pm.

All are welcome.

The Buxton P&C Annual General Meeting will also be held on the 8th March 2016 at 6.30pm.

More to come in the next Grapevine....

The P&C Uniform shop is open Wednesday mornings 8.30am-9.15am & Friday Afternoon 2.30-3.15pm.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 1

Tuesday, 9 February:
P & C Meeting 6:30pm

Thursday, 11 February:
Swimming Carnival

Tuesday, 8 March:  P & C AGM