Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to our 2016 school year. I would like to take this chance to welcome all our new families and staff members to our Coopers community.

**COOPERS PLAINS STATE SCHOOL - STAFFING FOR 2016**

Principal                  Ms Wendy Neal
Administration Officer    Mrs Louise Duce

**Teachers**
Mrs Leeanne Jackson        P/1J
Mrs Catherine Atkinson     P/1A
Ms Sally O’Neissiy         2
Mrs Rhiannon McLean        3/4M
Mrs Dionne Healy           3/4B
Ms Tanya Byrne             3/4B
Mrs Vicki Morrison         5/6M
Mr Martin Woodbury         5/6W

**Specialist Teachers**
STLAN                      Mrs Judy Tye
EALD                       Ms Siu Ling Chan
PE                         Mrs Cath Peak
Music                      Ms Melody Fawssett
LOTE                       Mrs Yulia MacDermott
Teacher/Librarian          Ms Fiona Eastwood
Guidance Officer           Mr Robbie Spence
Chaplain                   Mr Steele Sutton
Instrumental Music Teacher Mr Tony Bryer
Intensive Support Teacher  Mr Nicholas Smith
Teacher Aides              Mrs Janet Schot, Mrs Teena Dench, Mrs Philippa Hall Mrs Cathy Hughes
Groundsman                 Mr Shane Johnstone
Cleaners                   Mr Nathan Wilson, Mr Kevin Clark, Mrs Karen Gamack

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**Use of the Car park**

Just a reminder that the correct use of the car park ensures the safety of YOUR CHILD. The area outside the hall is a 2 minute “Drop Off and Pick Up zone”. This means that there is to be NO PARKING longer than 2 minutes in this area. **You are not to park in this area and leave your vehicle.** If your child is not waiting in this area we ask you to drive around again so that there is not a parking jam in this area. Parking is available in designated areas in the car park. Parking spaces are limited so a great alternative is to park in the Village Avenue Church car park and walk across the road to the school.

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**Resource Scheme**

At Coopers Plains State School we aim to make the start of the school year both financially and managerially easy for parents. There is no need for parents to run around madly trying to fulfil a booklist. We supply everything your child needs to participate fully in their educational program. In order to finance this, we will be sending out an invoice for the Resource Scheme which will be $75.00 per student for the year. In doing our resources this way, it saves parents and caregivers a large amount of money. Invoices
are being sent home this week. As always, please contact the principal if you are unable to meet any of the financial costs of your child’s schooling as we can arrange payment options. Payment options are detailed at the bottom of the invoice.

**Parent/teacher Meetings**

Parent/teacher meetings will be held during the period 22 February to 4 March. Class teachers will be sending home notes regarding these. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss with the class teacher your child's needs and the educational goals you would like your child to attain.

Wendy Neal
Principal

**School Review  16 – 18 February**

We will be welcoming the members of the School Review Panel, Rod Kettle, John Enright and Lee Gerchow next week.

The new reviews for Queensland state schools are an important part of the Education and Training’s school improvement agenda.

Every state school, including independent public schools to have a review at least every four years. The review will be conducted in a professional manner by reviewers who have been selected and trained by the School Improvement Unit (SIU).

The review team will look at our School's performance data and other relevant school information. They will also conduct interviews with staff, students, parents and other members of the school community. Before visiting the school the review team will have looked at our school profile, headline indicators and other available information, including our school website.

During the review, the review team may request to look at other information and resources such as our School Curriculum Plan and Data Plan and OneSchool information.

The review team will engage in conversations with a range of staff, parents, students and community.

**Staff:**

School Leadership Team (Principal)

- Other school leaders
- Administration team (AO2 and AAEP)
- Teachers and teacher aides
- Specialist support staff
- Other school staff

School Community:

- P&C President
- Parents and students
- Other community representatives (e.g. local businesses and partnerships and local government representatives)

**Classroom Visits**

- Classroom observations are a valuable part of the process.
- Where possible they should be representative of a variety of classrooms and teaching practices within the school
- We will be organising a teacher to accompany reviewers during classroom visits to provide class relief and to allow the teacher to be interviewed privately.

**What happens then?**

At the completion of the review the team will present it’s findings to the Principal. A written report will follow with more detailed information to support our school’s improvement agenda. Our ARD/Principal Supervisor, Ms Susan Phillips, will be given a copy of the report and will work closely with us to respond to the findings.

The SIU will continue to monitor our school performance after the review is completed.
When ordering from Book Club this year you now have 2 options. 

1. Fill out the form on the back of the brochure and place this and your money or cheque (made out to Scholastic Australia NOT the school) in an envelope with 'Book Club' and your child’s name clearly marked on the outside. These MUST be given to your classroom teacher. Teachers will then send orders to the office in a folder.

2. Order and pay online with the LOOP system. (Linked online Ordering & Payment system) The instructions for this are on the back of the brochure but simply visit scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the app. If you choose this option you do NOT need to fill in an order form or send anything back to the school!

The first issue is due in by FRIDAY 19th February. Books take about a week to be delivered after the closing date. Books are delivered to your child’s classroom and handed out at going home time.

Any further questions please ask your child’s teacher or Mrs Tye, the Support Teacher – Literacy & Numeracy. ([tyle4@eq.edu.au](mailto:tyle4@eq.edu.au)) Mrs Tye works Tuesdays Wednesdays & Thursdays.

The school library welcomes all our borrowers and their families. Borrowing and class times have been set for this semester. All loans are for ONE week with the options of extending a loan if requiring more time to finish OR swapping earlier when necessary. This can happen any day before school when the library is open or on Tuesdays and Thursdays when staffed by the teacher-librarian. Library classes are as follows: Year 2, Yr 3/4M, 3/4B will be on Tuesday; P/1J, P/1A, 5/6W, 5/6M on Thursday. Any parents wishing to borrow books to share with their children can also become borrowers of our school library. Any Tuesday 1.40-2.00 (before assembly) please feel free to come in and browse, borrow or chat about books.

Library lessons for all classes this semester will be grounded in the general capability of Critical and Creative Thinking, specifically in the context of INFORMATION LITERACY or inquiry skills. A major skill we'll be developing in library lessons will be posing questions. Families interested in looking at the big picture of the skills involved across the prep to year 10 levels, please click on this link: [http://www.acara.edu.au/verve/_resources/General_capabilities_CCT_learning_continuum.pdf](http://www.acara.edu.au/verve/_resources/General_capabilities_CCT_learning_continuum.pdf) OR come and ask Mrs Eastwood for a hard copy.

"Thinking that is productive, purposeful and intentional is at the centre of effective learning."

Looking forward to seeing you in the library,
Mrs Fiona Eastwood, teacher-librarian and Mrs Janet Schot, library-aide

**PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION NEWS**

Our first P&C Meeting is Tuesday 23 February at 8.30am in the old hall. Newcomers are most welcome.

**Uniform and Tuckshop News - Tuckshop now open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday every week.**

The Tuckshop has had a great start to the school year. If you have any questions about vegetarian or halal options please see Sri in the Tuckshop, she would be happy to help. Volunteers are an important part of any organisation and Sri would love your help. If you can help for 1 / 2 hour, an hour or longer once a week, fortnight or month please ask how at the Tuckshop. It is a fun and happy way to be involved in your school community. **Check the specials on Wednesday and Thursdays.**

**CHAPPY CORNER**

My first two days as the new Chaplain were spent with our wonderful Prep students. We were all in this new adventure together & made it through our first week with smiles on our faces. It was a wonderful experience supporting the students to feel settled & connected into the school community. The focus over the last few weeks has been to set up the Chappy room to provide a fun and safe place for the students to connect. I have had anywhere up to twenty students each break utilising the space. The focus for the Chaplaincy program moving forward in term one is meeting the students whilst establishing what support the service can provide for our students this year!

Chappy Steele