Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to Term 3, 2015. We hope you have had an enjoyable holiday. It is hard to believe we are half way through the year. We are extremely proud of the work already produced thus far and are excited about the learning which will take place this term.

This term we welcome Miss Berenschot to the Year 6 team. She has returned from Canada and will teach 6B for the remainder of the year.

The following is a proposed outline of the Stage 3 teaching and learning programs for the term and some additional information regarding upcoming events.

**Dates for the Diary**

- **Monday July 20**: BYOD for Year 6 and 5/6M commences
- **Monday July 20**: Ryde School Spectacular Dance Audition
- **Wednesday July 22**: 5/6M and 5W visit from Jonathan O’Dea (PBL)
- **Tuesday July 28**: ICAS English Test (before school)
- **Wednesday July 29**: Open Day and Grandparents Day
- **Thursday July 30**: Maths Olympiad Test 3
- **Monday August 3**: Highlander Cup (first game at 4pm)
- **Wednesday August 5**: Stage 3 Dance commences (wear sport uniform)
- **Tuesday August 25**: Book Week Character Parade
- **Thursday September 10**: Maths Olympiad Test 5
- **Friday September 18**: Last day of term

**Weekly Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4/5W</th>
<th>5J</th>
<th>5D</th>
<th>5/6M</th>
<th>6A</th>
<th>6G</th>
<th>6B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computers</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 10.00 am</td>
<td>Monday 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Friday 12.30 pm</td>
<td>Friday 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Tuesday 9.00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music</strong></td>
<td>Monday 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Monday 9.40 am</td>
<td>Monday 9.40 am</td>
<td>Tuesday 9.00 am</td>
<td>Monday 10.20 am</td>
<td>Monday 10.20 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PE</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Thursday 10.00 am</td>
<td>Thursday 10.00 am</td>
<td>Monday 9.00 am</td>
<td>Thursday 9.00 am</td>
<td>Thursday 9.00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library (Research and Borrowing)</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday 12.30 pm</td>
<td>Monday 9am</td>
<td>Tuesday 9.50am</td>
<td>Wednesday 12.30 pm</td>
<td>Thursday 2 pm</td>
<td>Monday 12 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spelling Mastery: Monday – Thursday 11.30 am
Scripture: Tuesdays 10.30 am – 11.00 am
Assemblies: Tuesday 2.00 pm (even weeks)
Dance: Wednesday – students will need to wear sport uniform on Wednesdays (starting in Week 4)
Maths Problem Solving Groups: Thursday 12.15 pm – 1.10 pm
PSSA Sport: Fridays 9.00 am – 11.00 am (all year)
Key Learning Areas

**English:**

**Speaking and Listening**
Through whole class discussions and group work, students will have the opportunity to analyse, and synthesise the views of others. They will listen attentively to more lengthy and challenging spoken and multimodal texts to gather and evaluate key information. Later in the term students will prepare an oral procedure or explanation of something they can do.

**Reading and Viewing**
Stage 3 classes will use a range of historical and scientific factual texts in order to enhance vocabulary and to explore more sophisticated punctuation and grammatical features. Comprehension strategies will be explored when reading fictional texts.

It is very important that students read for at least 20 minutes at home each day. We encourage you to read with your children when possible and remember to use the Super Six Reading Strategies; predicting, visualising, making connections, questioning, monitoring and summarising. Students in Stage 3 are encouraged to borrow from the library for home reading. The Premier’s Reading Challenge list is also a great place to start looking for fantastic reading experiences, as is the school library website, with a list of ‘100 Must-Reads For Kids 9-14’. [http://lindfieldpublicschoollibrary.wordpress.com/](http://lindfieldpublicschoollibrary.wordpress.com/)

**Writing and representing**
Students will take part in regular modelled, joint and independent writing sessions. They will develop the skills required to write a range of imaginative texts using a range of literary devices. Students will also write informative texts including procedures and explanations, and persuasive texts such as text reviews. When we assess writing we are critiquing the following categories; text structure, audience, ideas, persuasive/descriptive devices, vocabulary, cohesion, paragraphing, sentence structure, spelling and punctuation.

Spelling Mastery will continue to explore the four forms of spelling: phonological knowledge (how words sound), visual knowledge (how words look), morphemic knowledge (how words change form) and etymological knowledge (where words come from).

This term, all students will be taking part in the Premier’s Spelling Bee. This competition is a great way to strengthen the students’ vocabulary and to develop strategies to spell unfamiliar words. The official word lists for the 2015 Premier’s Spelling Bee are now available: [https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/2015-premiers-spelling-bee](https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/2015-premiers-spelling-bee)

Password: robot

**Mathematics:**
Throughout this term students will develop their skills in working with percentages and decimals, 3D shapes, angles and chance. Towards the end of the term we will revise the more challenging concepts taught throughout out the year such as fractions, division and conversions of measurement. Emphasis will be on the five interrelated processes which encourage students to work mathematically. Problem Solving groups will continue this term. Each student will be involved in activities which require them to pose questions, identify appropriate strategies for solving problems, work cooperatively, explain the reasoning behind solutions and reflect on the process and outcome of a maths investigation. We will also continue to use the Mathletics program for homework to complement the concepts being covered in class.

**Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE):**
Stage 3 will touch on the principles of Australian democracy and explain its development over time. They will learn about government; investigating the people and processes involved in the functions of State and Federal government, exploring the responsibilities of different levels of government and how parliament works. Our Canberra visit in Term 4 will complement the learning here. We will stay overnight in Canberra, driving down on Wednesday November 4 and returning Thursday November 5.

Both 5/6M and 4/5W will be using ‘Project Based Learning’ (PBL) to explore the HSIE outcomes.
Science and Technology:
All Stage 3 students will be investigating the living world through the unit ‘Survival in the Extremes’. The unit explores how structural features and other adaptations of living things help them to survive in their environment. Students will describe the structural features of native Australian flora and fauna, will understand how they help them to survive in their environment, and will research conditions needed for particular plants to grow and survive. Students will also study the physical conditions of the environment and how these affect the growth and survival of living things.

In ICT lessons with Mr Brock, Year 5 and 6 will learn to edit images using Paint.NET, developing skills at selecting and manipulating images using a layering process. Parts of some lessons will be spent using the TypeQuick program to develop touch typing skills. Students will also explore Computational Thinking using the Bebras online challenges later in the term.

PDHPE:
During Term 3 PE lessons, students will be focusing on developing and maintaining an active lifestyle. Students will participate in moderate to vigorous activities and learn about how to maintain and improve physical activity levels. In Personal Development students will partake in the Child Protection program. Students will describe safe practices that are appropriate to a range of situations and environments.

This term, Interrelate will be held on the evening of Wednesday 2 September in the school hall. The Stage 3 session “Preparing for Puberty” will commence at 7.15. We encourage you to come along with your child for this very important lesson.

Creative Arts:
Students will continue to partake in visual arts lessons and will make artworks for different audiences, assembling materials in a variety of ways. Stage 3 students will have opportunities to improve their keyboard skills with Mrs Joyce in weekly music lessons. Students will continue to study the concept of harmony, especially the 4 chord progression used in modern songs.

Stage 3 students will also rehearse this year’s Music: Count Us In song ‘Gold’, which will be performed nationally on Thursday 29 October.

Homework:
Homework is important, as it instils time management and planning skills, which are an essential part of high school life. It is important that students monitor their own stationery to ensure they have the correct materials for classroom work. Some items, such as glue sticks, may have run out and need replenishing.

Year 6 Camp:
We are all looking forward to the camp to Canberra and Jindabyne in Week 6. Thank you for being so prompt with payments thus far. Please note that the final payment of $580.00 is to be paid by Friday August 7. Please note that all medical and consent forms are to be completed online at http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/schoolcampmedicalform before Monday 27 July 2015. You must enter the Booking Number: 0460460, Booking Start Date: Monday, 17 August 2015 and Booking Venue: Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre. Also, we will be hiring skiing gear but clothing such as waterproof jackets and pants are not included in the cost. Additional information will be sent out closer to the date.

Bring Your Own Device:
We are very excited by the commencement of BYOD in our Year 6 and 5/6M classes. Students are reminded to bring their iPads to school fully charged. They are to sign their iPad in, by placing it in the cabinet allocated to their class, in the Community Room, any time before 8.50am from Monday – Thursday. They will sign them out each day when taking them home.

Year 5 Selective High School and leadership opportunities:
Year 5 students applying for Selective High Schools in 2016 will receive their applications late in Term 3. Later in the term and in Term 4, we will be looking to prepare Year 5 students, who are keen to take on leadership positions in 2016.

We are very much looking forward to parents, friends and grandparents visiting our classrooms on Wednesday July 29 in Week 3, as part of Education Week. Please feel free to contact us at any time and thank you again for your continued support.

Stage 3 Team
Miss Mustaca – 5/6M (Stage 3 Supervisor)
Miss Waters - 4/5W, Mrs Degan – 5D, Ms DelValle – 5J
Miss Maclaine – 6A, Miss Berenschot – 6B and Mr Gortley – 6G