

***“Educating successful leaders, confident and creative individuals  
and active and informed citizens”***

### Principal’s Message

#### **Welcome**

We welcomed with open arms 10 new prep students to school on Thursday. A particular welcome to the new families at our school, who have a student with us for the first time. Across other grades, we would like to welcome Jensen (Grade 3) and Bodhi (Grade 5) and their family into our community too.

#### **The Community Building**

Unfortunately, the works being completed at the Skipton Kindergarten are not yet finished. Over the break, I was asked to extend the hire of the community building and I have agreed to the kindergarten remaining at the school for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The space is now re-designed and will be used for our students for Art on Fridays. Whilst it was a difficult decision to ask the daycare part to be relocated, a continued hire for five days would’ve meant almost a full year without a purpose-built Art room for our students and I deemed this impact too great on the operations of the school.



#### **SunSmart & Nude Food**

This is a good time to remind families that we are a Sunsmart school. All students are required to wear a hat at all breaks, including whilst playing outside before school. Hats are available from the front office if you need one! Also – a friendly reminder we endeavour to be a Nude Food school, so any reductions to wrappers and plastics that you can make to student lunchboxes would be greatly appreciated. I got some stern feedback from some of our Grade 2/3 girls last year about my own lunches and have since purchased a new lunchbox to



make sure I’m totally on-board for 2021!

## Upcoming Events

### Parent Teacher Conferences – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> (4pm-7pm) and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February (9am-3pm)

Conferences are now able to be booked on Compass. The school is planning to conduct PTCs in the second week of Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3 in 2021. This provides extra opportunity for families and teachers to come together and plan for learning. If you would prefer to have this conference via phone, please book a time on Compass and notify your teacher or call the school. Students will be at school for a full day of learning on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, taking part in the specialist program whilst their teachers meet with families.

### Parent Helpers Course – Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February @ 9am

This session is for any parent or family member who would be able to volunteer for one day per week from 9am-10am to support students with their reading in the 2021 school year. The session will provide parents with some strategies and some practice on how to conduct informal reading conferences with students. If you are attending, please RSVP by emailing myself or calling the school.

### **Preps & Wednesdays in February**

For families who have students in Prep, just a reminder that there is no school on Wednesdays in February. The dates where Prep students don't come to school are February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Their first full week of school will be Week 6 (beginning 1<sup>st</sup> March).

### **Swimming Program**

The program begins with the "Show Your Skills" Day on Friday. Students will be completing their swimming lessons at the following times:

- Grade 5/6s 11am-12pm
- Grade 4s 12:30pm-1:15pm
- Grade 2/3s 1:15pm-2pm
- Grade P/1s 2pm-2:30pm

The permission note will be coming home today with the newsletter and volunteer request forms will be sent out on Monday.

### **The Next Four Learning Weeks @ Skipton:**

Term 1 Week 2		
Mon Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	Parent Teacher Conferences 4pm-7pm	At the school
Tue Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Parent Teacher Conferences 9am-3pm	At the school
Wed Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent Helpers Course (9am-11am)	Spare room
Fri Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming "Show Your Skills" Day	Skipton Pool
Term 1 Week 3		
Mon Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Swimming Program begins	Skipton Pool
Term 1 Week 4		
Mon Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Swimming Program continues	Skipton Pool
Mon Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Swimming Assessments Day	Skipton Pool
Tue Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School Review – Day One	At the school
Fri Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>	Skipton Swimming Sports	Skipton Pool

## **Garden Roster**

We ask that each family take a fortnight to come in when convenient and do some gardening. Jobs include mowing including the nature strip, weeding and sweeping paths. First name in list to coordinate please.

1<sup>st</sup> Feb – 19<sup>th</sup> Feb: Dione Gardiner, Jane Draffin, Emma Smith, Simone McAuliffe

20<sup>th</sup> Feb - 4<sup>th</sup> March: Gemma Molloy, Amy Sim, Billie Irving- Trew, Jane Gardner

5<sup>th</sup> March – 18<sup>th</sup> March: Michelle Liston, Margot Barr, Natasha Frisby, Elizabeth Kusanke