



Newsletter: Thursday 02 February 2012

## DEAR PARENTS

Welcome to the beginning of 2012 and a special welcome to our new families.

On Tuesday we welcomed 17 children to kindergarten. And 8 new children into Prep I am sure that photographs were taken at the front gate of many homes as children began their schooling adventure.

It is a significant event when a child begins at Kuyper; and we will probably experience a variety of emotions when leaving a child with a teacher for the first time. One of the strongest feelings I had as a parent was of sadness as I realised that my children were growing up, a milestone had been reached and my children were becoming more independent. For some of us there can be a sense of loss.

There are also feelings of excitement, anticipation and hope. We all believe that schooling, carefully and lovingly crafted will help to educate a child and all parents want that. We want our children to be educated, as cute as they are at age five we don't want them to remain at that age. The question is . . . What does an educated person look like?

True education is about helping children understand their relationship with God and their place in His world. This is our great responsibility as parents.

Schools have been compared to gardens, in fact the word *kindergarten* is German and means "child's garden". It is a lovely word and conjures up images of growing plants, fruits, vegetables, wonderful colours, exploration and fascination. After all a garden is a place where things are cultivated, plants are carefully nurtured as they grow towards maturity.

Schooling at Kuyper is a bit like a garden, where teachers and children investigate God's world. We hold that teachers, while experts in their fields are partners with parents in the nurture of their children. Together, parents, teachers, grandparents, siblings, friends etc want children to know this is God's world and we want them to explore it.

If we really believe that this is His world and that the purpose of Jesus' death was to redeem the world then we and our children will need to work out how best to serve him. One of the first things we must realise is that God is intimately involved in this world. All things exist because Jesus says so, He is Lord of all.



Mrs Lyndal Mitchell is our new Year 4 teacher and we are very pleased to welcome her to our school. Lyndal is married to Mark and has three children who attend Wycliffe Christian School. Lyndal is an experienced teacher who has a love of visual arts and languages. She loves Jesus and has done so since an early age. Please make her feel welcome. She will be at our Principal's evening on February 7 in the Hall.

Don't forget that we are having a Principal's night on Tuesday 7 February, I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Yours in Christ



Mark Collett





## Calendar

### TERM 1 2012

#### FEBRUARY

- 07 Principal's Community Evening
- 11 Celebration Assembly with Year 7
- 15 Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
Board Meeting 8:00 pm
- 16 Swimming Carnival
- 22 School Photos
- 24 Celebration Assembly  
Yr 7 and Yr 10 Vaccinations
- 27 Primary & Secondary Zone  
Swimming Carnival

#### MARCH

- 03 WORKING BEE
- 05 Primary State Swimming Carnival
- 06 Prep Class Vision Screening
- 07 Secondary State Swimming Carnival
- 14 Yr 7 Vaccs & Yr 10 girls vaccs
- 19 Yr 9 Canberra Camp starts
- 20 Board Meeting
- 28 Grandparents Day
- 29 New Families Evening

#### APRIL

- 02 Yrs 9/10 Information Night
- 03 School Cross Country
- 05 End of Term

### BUS PASSES

Students presently travelling by bus will be allowed to travel for free until Friday 11 February. Bus pass application forms that were returned to the office this week have been forwarded to the bus company.

### NEWSLETTERS

As this is our first newsletter for 2012 we have sent home one copy to each of our families. As of next week the newsletter will be emailed unless you have specifically asked for a paper copy..

### FORMS

Reminder to parents to return ALL completed forms to the office. It is important that we keep our data up to date. All forms need to be returned to the office by Friday 10 February.

### DATES FOR TERM 2

It has been brought to our attention an error in the Parent Handbook regarding term dates. Students return to school on **MONDAY** 23 April and it is a **9** week term.

### SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Kuyper's Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday 16 at Richmond Swimming Pool, Laurence Street, Richmond. All students need to be taken directly to the pool at 8.45 am for roll call and be picked up again by 3.00pm. More information will be in next week's newsletter.

### SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our school photos will be taken on Wednesday 22 February starting at 9:00 am. All students will be sent home an envelope next week to place orders. Family photos will also be taken. This is only for students enrolled at Kuyper. Envelopes for family photos can be collected from the office.

### UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Our uniform shop is now open on Tuesday mornings only from 8.00 am - 9.00 am. Orders can be placed at the office at any time.

### READING GLASSES

2 pairs of reading glasses were handed in this week.  
1 pair is a girls set with blue frames in a cream coloured "Versus, Versace" case. The other has bronze oval frame in a black Esprit case. Please see the ladies in the office.

