Issue #01 – 1 February, 2017

From the Principal

Welcome to the 2017 School Year

I would like to welcome back everyone to the 2017 school year at Greenslopes State School. It has been wonderful walking around the classrooms seeing everyone getting back into the routines of their new classes. A special welcome to our new Prep students and their families, and to the number of new students attending Greenslopes State School for the very first time.

A special welcome to our new staff members. These are:

- Nicola Leslie Deputy Principal
- Lyn-Marie Mead Year Three
- Loren McInnerney Year Three
- Salene Watson Year One
- Karina Denyer Year Two
- Emily Rankin Year Five/Six
- Jan Stuart-Street Strings

I would like to acknowledge the retirement of Mrs Marg Ahern over the school holidays. Mrs Ahern retires after many years teaching across both State and Private educational institutions. I commend her for her tireless efforts over her career and wish her every happiness in retirement.

Over the next year, our school staff, along with the wider school community will be focussing on three key areas for improvement. These are:

- 1. By the end of 2017 we will implement an explicit approach to the teaching of Reading Comprehension Strategies through a Guided Reading Framework, so that we have up to 70% of students in Year 3 and 60% of students in Year 5 achieving in the Upper 2 Bands for Reading.
- 2. By the end of 2017 we will have a school wide system in place for the joint construction of Success Criteria and Learning Intentions so that we have a systemised consistency ensuring 100% of teachers are embedding the practice across all Learning Areas.
- 3. By the end of 2017, each teacher will work to develop critical and creative thinking skills by developing a questioning matrix for use across the school system based upon Bloom's Taxonomy for use in Reading 2 Learn planning and integrating the Digital Literacies and Technologies across Learning Areas.

We look forward to a productive and rewarding school year.

Parent/ Carers Information Sessions

As part of the induction of new families into their classes, we are offering a parent information session. This evening will provide parents with an opportunity to meet the teachers who will go through the expectations

and routines for each of their classes. These sessions will be held on Wednesday 8 February commencing at 5:15pm. Each session will run for 30 minutes and will be repeated at 5:45pm to enable parents to visit two separate classrooms.

Active School Travel

The official launch for Active School Travel in 2017 will take place on Friday 3 March, with the first official 'Walking Wheeling Wednesday' taking place the following Wednesday (March 8). There will be further details as we get closer to the event.

I would like to remind people to follow and abide by the local road and parking regulations around the school, in particular the pickup and drop off area before and after school. I have already had to speak to a number of members of the community regarding parking and road safety around the school. I remind everyone that the safety of the children of Greenslopes State School is the responsibility of the community and not just a few. I have already made representation to both council and police regarding enforcement, and I encourage anyone with a concern to contact the Brisbane City Council on 3403 8888.

Absence notification process

Please remember to call the school absence line on 3421 2366 or text 0428 680 815 early in the morning if your child is going to be away or late for school so your child's absence can be recorded correctly.

Same day notification

Our school will contact parents as soon as practicable on the same day if a student is not at school and we don't know why. If you are advised by the school that your child is away without a reason, please phone the absence line or text us as soon as possible to let us know where your child is. We will follow up with parents if no response is received.

Yours sincerely **Trevor Carr**

From the Deputy Principal

We have had a fantastic start to the year! I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all staff, students and parents for the warm welcome I have received. I feel very privileged to now also be a part of the Greenslopes SS community. I'm looking forward to a great school year ahead!

Our school is compatible with the **QSchools** app for Queensland State Schools. The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about our school. The app integrates with our school website and allows users to see when news, events, tuckshop, uniform shop and newsletters items are updated.

The school community can also receive push notifications and emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app.

The **QSchools** app will be particularly useful to parents who have students in different school, as the app manages updates from multiple schools in a single view. Find out more about **QSchools** at https://det.gld.gov.au/about-us/det-apps/gschools and download the app today.

Download or update the QSchools app QSchools app patible with the following devices: Android 🕳 Apple 🛤 Windows 8 Search for your school The QSchools app allows you to search by: School name search - Map search - Schools near your current location 'Favourite' your school to receive updates By favouriting your school, you will: - Have access to school information, newsletters reports and more - Automatically receive important updates and

Schools

Yours sincerely Nicola Leslie

Classroom news

JP1 (Prep)

Welcome back to what is surely going to be another amazing year at Greenslopes State School. JP1 students have been having fun making new friends and learning all of the different transitions that we do each day.

In English we have been exploring 'The Magic Hat' by Mem Fox and the children have been creating some very inventive scenarios surrounding this text. We have also been learning the days of the week in maths.

Mr McGregor

JP2 (Prep)

Welcome to Prep in JP2!

It has been lovely meeting all of our new families and seeing some familiar faces back in Prep as well.

In English we have started reading the story 'I went Walking' and the students practised reading and copying the sight words I, went and see.

In maths we are practising saying the days of the week in order starting from Sunday.

Thank you for a great first week. There will be more information to follow in our class newsletter and at the parent information night next Wednesday (8 February).

Miss Pratile

JP3 (Prep/1)

JP3 students have had a wonderful start to the year! Thank you for helping your child to feel comfortable and settled in their new environment. The regular structure of the week will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with Mrs Ferguson and Thursday and Friday with Mrs Tworek. While Mrs Tworek is on long service leave for the first three weeks of this term Mrs Ferguson will be filling in on Thursday and Mrs Nomikos will be working on the Friday of weeks 2 and 3.

<u>English</u> – we are currently reading 'Too Loud Lily' and looking at expressing a range of emotions. Students will be presenting a book talk about a character from a book and relating it to their personal experience. Preps will be orally telling their book talk and Year 1's will have a written copy of theirs.

<u>Maths</u> - last week we were looking at days of the week and months of the year. Ask your child to sing you the 'Days of the Week' song! This week we are studying number patterns and counting a collection.

The focus for Preps will be numbers 1-10 and the Year 1's is teen numbers.

Please ensure that every item is named, especially hats and water bottles. Year 1 students are commencing swimming this week so it is really important that every item of clothing is labelled. A pair of shorts can easily go astray!

Please provide us with your email address if you haven't already. We are hoping to have an email system up and running as soon as possible. It has been lovely getting to know you all. Please come and say hello when you get the chance.

Mrs Ferguson & Mrs Tworek

JP4 (Year 1)

Thanks so much to all those parents who have already come to meet us and even offered help!

Reading folders will be sent home this week with a note in them explaining that we would like you to listen to your child read for 15 minutes daily, if possible, and to write the title of the book on the reading log if not already filled in. Thanks for your assistance with this.

Swimming is on Wednesday for JP4. Please remember to send labelled swim gear each week.

We will be sending home a more detailed class newsletter this week with further information on the content of the curriculum this year. We hope to see you at the Parent Information Night on Wednesday 8 February. We are holding two sessions, the first at 5.15pm and then repeated at 5.45pm.

Mrs Romyn & Mrs Murnane

tromy1 @eq.edu.au & amurn4 @eq.edu.au

JP5 (Year 1)

We have had a successful start to the year in JP5. The students have all settled in well and new friendships are starting to form.

The students are excited about swimming lessons every Wednesday. Please remember to send your child's swimming gear and if any parents are available to assist please let me know, as any help is much appreciated.

We have been enjoying using the outdoor learning space for our science lessons and hope to use this space more as the weather cools down.

Mrs Watson

JP6 (Year 2)

Welcome to JP6! The students settled in well on their first week in Year Two. Last week they have enjoyed getting to know their old and new classmates. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm and excitement on each of their faces.

Swimming begins this week on Thursday at 9:00 am. It would be wonderful if students could wear their swimmers underneath their school uniforms ready for their lesson first thing in the morning. Mrs Pitcher would also like parent helpers for swimming lessons. Please come and see me if you would like to volunteer your time to help JP6.

Homework began on Tuesday this week and it is due back on Monday every week. Please work with your child to complete their homework and spelling. Students will also be taking a reader home every day. Please listen to your child read daily and sign their reading log. Also, please remember that library borrowing is on Friday. A term letter will be sent out this week with more information.

Mrs Rozis

JP7 (Year 2)

Wow!!! What a start to 2017!

Thank you to all the parents for helping their child become settled into our routine so quickly. The students are all busy learning the ways of Year 2 and showing just how well they can listen and focus on their tasks. Just a reminder that the following days are the ones to remember for JP7:

- Tuesday: Library borrowing (students need their library bag)
- Thursday: Swimming (students need their swimming kit)

Mrs Denyer

JP8 (Year 3)

All of us in JP8 have been very busy settling into the new school year. Firstly, thank you for your warm welcome to the Greenslopes School community. As you are all aware Mrs Mead teaches Monday to Thursday and Mrs Pierce (Librarian) will work each Friday. We look forward to us all having a productive year.

A parent information night will be held next Wednesday (8 February) where we will cover topics that you may wish to find more information about. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our specialist lessons have been finalised and they are:

Library: Monday (computer) and Friday (borrowing) LOTE (Spanish): Tuesday

Music and PE: Thursday

Swimming starts tomorrow so students must remember their named togs, towel, rashy/ swim shirt and cap.

Each night the students will bring their school diaries home which may have some information so if you could check them daily that would helpful.

Mrs Mead and Mrs Pierce are available to meet with parents so if you have something to discuss you may like to send a note requesting a time that would be suitable and we will contact you to confirm. As you could imagine mornings are very busy and afternoons are better, however we are sure we can all be flexible and arrange a mutually compatible time.

Both Year 3 teachers have been working on the homework and have decided it will be sent home every Thursday afternoon in students' blue homework folder and they must hand it back the following Thursday.

Just a reminder about 'take home readers'. The children are in charge of changing their own readers. At the back of their homework book is a log so if an adult could sign the sheet when the child has finished the reader, they can then choose a new book. We are all really excited about the year ahead and look forward to working together for a fabulous 2017.

Mrs Mead & Mrs Pierce

JP9 (Year 3)

To all the new and current families, students and staff of Greenslopes State School, I wish a cheery 'welcome back' to school for 2017!

I feel extremely blessed to have the opportunity to work in such a caring and supportive community such as Greenslopes. Thank you to all the parents I have met, the staff, and of course the children for the warm welcomes! I would like to say 'good luck' to both of the year three classes; I hope you all have a wonderful year full of learning, growth and development.

Reminders to JP9 parents /caregivers:

Library: Borrowing time is on a Monday. This year children are able to borrow up to three books.

Swimming: Commences tomorrow (Thursday 2 February). Please ensure your child brings along their swimming gear and that all items are labelled.

Homework: Homework will be handed out every Thursday and collected the following Thursday. Home readers can be swapped when completed, please sign off on their books.

I look forward to working alongside everyone this year. If you wish to contact me I will be available after school from 3:00–3:30pm, except for Wednesday afternoon.

Miss McInnerney

MP1 (Year 4)

Welcome to MP1! The class has had a fantastic

start to the first term of the year.

The students have been busy conducting science investigations around erosion and the rock cycle. They have worked brilliantly in teams and collaboratively gathered data, made observations and used their knowledge of the rock cycle to classify types of rocks.

We have also been reading the novel 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl and the students have been writing some paragraphs using descriptive noun groups and verb groups. If your child has a copy of 'The Twits' at home they are more than welcome to bring their own book to use in class time.

During maths sessions the students have been comparing and computing four-digit numbers applying addition and subtraction.

Homework went home last week. Please let me know if you have any queries.

Mrs Young

jyoung60@eq.edu.au

MP2 (Year 4)

I'd like to officially welcome everybody to MP2 and congratulate the students on a tremendous start to the school year. It was great to see some familiar faces and families last week and also greet some new faces as well. A special welcome to Maggie and her family who are new to Greenslopes this year.

Here in MP2 we are settling into our classroom routines and expectations for Year 4. This week we are setting our SMART learning goals for Term 1.

In English we have started reading 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl. We are examining noun groups, verb groups and direct speech used by the author to build character.

In mathematics we have been exploring place value as we work with numbers beyond 10 000.

In science this week we will be putting on our geologist hats and becoming rock hounds as we learn about the ever changing earth beneath our feet, and begin to classify rocks based on their characteristics.

Swimming will commence this Friday in HPE with Mrs Pitcher.

Mr Papamanolis ypapa2 @eq.edu.au

MP3, MP4 and MP5 (Year 5/6)

Welcome back. What a great start to the term. All three classes are quickly settling into the new

routines for our Year 5 and 6 program for 2017. All classes have established routines and productive work has already commenced. We started our rotations from day one with most students familiar with their own timetable.

In Science, Technology and HASS, students are divided into two year-level groups (separate to their home class) and will be taught by a teacher specialising in one of those areas. Mr Castle will be teaching science, Mr McCallum will be teaching HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) and Miss Rankin will be teaching design and digital technologies.

You should have received camp notes by this time. Please return the forms to the class teacher by Friday February 3 so that we can make our final preparations for camp (which is less than two weeks away).

Please feel free to contact us on the email addresses below, remembering that we will operate on a 48-72 hour turn around on most correspondence. We look forward to meeting parents at the parent inform night next Wednesday.

Mr Castle, Mr McCallum and Miss Rankin kcast6@eq.edu.au, nmcca76@eq.edu.au and evran0@eq.edu.au

Specialists news

HPE

Welcome back all families to 2017. There's another great year of sporting events planned for the year. The Cross country carnival, Athletics Carnival, Sports Day/U8s Day and Swimming Carnival are always highlights of the year — information about these events will be sent home at the appropriate times.

Swimming starts for all Year 1- 6 classes this week in PE. Please remember to bring: swimmers, cap, sun shirt, towel, goggles, bag with all swimming gear labelled. Swimming is a fun, exciting activity for students in PE classes but students do need to remember the safety and responsibility rules that come with swimming. These will be reviewed again in class.

The following students will be participating in the Mt Gravatt District Swimming Carnival next week: Jacinta, Makenzie, Sam, Angus, Lachie, Mati-Ella and Amy. Good luck students!

Mrs Pitcher

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (STRINGS)

Hi. I am Jan Stuart-Street and I am pleased to be teaching strings at Greenslopes this year. Lessons have now started at the school and are held on a Monday. String Ensemble will start next Monday (February 6) at 7:40am and is open to Years 4, 5 and 6 string players. If your child has been omitted from the timetable please contact the office or email me on jstua58@eq.edu.au. I am looking forward to a great year in the string program!

Mrs Stuart-Street jstua58@eq.edu.au

LIBRARY TEAM

Welcome back. The library is open and ready for business. We have new computers to start the year and many new books that will soon be on the shelves ready to borrow.

By the end of this week all classes will have had a borrowing session. For some of our Preps this is a new and exciting experience. Borrowing can also be done before and after school as often as required. Students also have the opportunity to use the library at both break times.

The quantity of books a student can borrow are: Preps and Year 1's can borrow one book for one week Year 2's can borrow two books for two weeks Year 3's and 4's can borrow three books Year 5's and 6's can borrow four books.

Mrs Pierce and Mrs Wong

MUSIC NOTES

We are looking forward to another year of making wonderful music at Greenslopes SS. Last year finished on such a "high note" with all the wonderful performances at Decemberfest. All of our classes, choirs and bands entertained us, and even the staff got in on the fun. Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us for a fun morning.

Also in the final week, some members of our Senior Choir visited the Greenslopes Private Hospital where we sang for patients in the Florence Syer Unit, then in the foyer of the hospital. Patients and staff enjoyed the singing and our students loved chatting to the elderly patients. It was an uplifting experience and we hope to visit again.

This year there will be four performing groups and all students are welcome to join. Please encourage your children to participate. You might also like to watch inspiring composer Eric Whitacre talk about the benefits of being in a choir: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LMiDP9WEkk

- Senior Choir: 1:45pm Tuesdays (mixed Year 4, 5 & 6)
- Piccoli Voices: 2:30pm Tuesdays (Year 1, 2 & 3)
- Boys Voices: 2:30pm Thursdays (Year 4, 5 & 6)
- Percussion Ensemble: 8:00am Tuesday (Year 4, 5 & 6)

VISUAL ARTS

Last week's public holiday has meant that I have only taught half of my classes so far this term. I am excited to meet our new prep students this Thursday and introduce them to Visual Arts which is filled with colour, shapes and pattern. The enthusiasm of 4 and 5 year olds is always contagious.

The classes I have taught so far have had much to say about the new art room layout and have worked well with the new lesson time frame. I have loved hearing about the art projects and art gallery visits students have experienced during the Christmas break. It sounds like many students have been inspired in their own work as a result to their exposure to the arts. I am looking forward to a fantastic first term in the art room.

Ms Sheedy

P&C news

P&C NEWS

The P&C will have their first meeting of 2017 on Wednesday 8 February at 6.30pm in the library. We look forward to seeing new and returning faces ready to support our great school in 2017.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 March – more information will be in the next newsletter.

Please keep Friday 3 March free for our 2017 Welcome BBQ, we hope many of you will come along and enjoy a fun evening!

Mrs Anning (P&C President)

OSCA

It's a new year which is an exciting time for us at OSCA as a vast number of new prep children join our service. The transition into schooling life can be a difficult one, not only for the children, but for the parents as well. To help them settle in at OSCA, we introduce every new prep child to the other OSCA children, and pair them up with an older child to be their buddy. We are very pleased with the progress the prep children have already made in settling in at OSCA. Although we plan specific activities for the preps each day, they are slowly becoming more involved in the wider activities that OSCA provides with the other children.

If you wish to keep up to date with what your child is involved in at OSCA, parents are reminded that they can visit www.qkenhanced.com.au where we write our evaluations of the day. Or see our daily journal located in the parent's corner.

Mrs Andric & Mrs Filipovic

Mrs Wallace

TUCKSHOP

Welcome back for the 2017 year! Tuckshop will be Thursday's only again this year. Welcome to our new Preps and new students. Can everyone please create a new Flexischools account? Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and follow the prompts to set up your child's account as soon as possible. This would be greatly appreciated, as we do not take orders over the counter. Please be mindful, unless you are topping up your account by credit card which the funds automatically go into your flexischools account, it may take a few days by bank transfer to move over. If you require any help, please contact me via email, or at the tuckshop.

A reminder too, if you have placed an order for your child and they are absent on a Thursday, you can log into your account anytime before 8am, cancel their order and your funds will automatically go back into your account. Also, if you haven't done so already, can you please log into your child's profile, and make sure you have changed their details to their new classroom name and updated their year level.

As always, I would love to meet any new parents to help volunteer in the tuckshop on a Thursday. Any help, no matter how long for, is always greatly appreciated. It's a fun way to meet other parents and your kids love seeing you at school helping! You can put your name and time you can help on the door to tuckshop or via Flexischools. I'll have weeks put up in advance, so you can always allocate a time when you know you may have some time free.

Over the holidays I have been speaking to suppliers to bring in some new 'Smart Choices' compliant foods. This may take a few weeks to become available so always keep an eye out on Flexischools for any menu changes.

Mrs Hansen

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open on Mondays, 8:45-9:15am, and Fridays, 2:45-3:15pm. We thank you in advance for your patience if we are a couple of minutes late arriving. Please note, the shop is currently out of size 8 polo shirts and stock is low on a couple of other sizes. We are also out of smaller sizes in the broad-brimmed hat but expect to have these back in stock next week.

Ms Lin & Ms MacDonnell

FUNDRAISING

Our first Fundraising event for the year will be a BBQ outside IGA Greenslopes on Saturday 18 February from 4:00-7:00pm. A sign-up sheet for volunteers to help out will go up on the P&C board shortly. This is a great opportunity for us to promote the myIGA card program to the wider Greenslopes community and have them sign up and allocate their

points to the school. Come along and have a sausage and support the school.

Our major event this term is the Welcome BBQ on Friday 3 March from 4:00-6:00pm. We have a range of free activities for the whole family. It is a relaxed evening giving new families a chance to meet others and for our returning families to catch up with each other. It is an event not to be missed so mark your calendars now. Food and drinks are available and all sales raise money for our school. We cater for Halal, Gluten Free and Vegetarian diets so no one needs to miss out. We look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, a big thank you to all the families who took part in our Parent Direct and Chalk Catalogue fundraiser at the end of last year. We made it to the 40 orders mark and received a \$500 bonus. The school has \$1,046.61 to spend on educational resources for our kids. We will run the event again in Term 4 so remember you will be able to do your Christmas shopping for the kids while benefiting the school.

Mrs King & Mrs Harland

Date claimers

F 1	
February	
Date	Event
1	Swimming commences (Year 1-6)
2	Forte Music after school lessons commence
6	Chess Mates after school lessons commence
7 & 8	Peer Mediation Training (Year 6)
8	Parent Information Sessions (5.15pm & 5.45pm)
	P&C Meeting (6.30pm)
9	UN Global Citizens Leadership Day (student leaders)
	District Swimming
14-17	Year 5/6 camp
17	No Assembly
18	P&C - IGA BBQ (4.00-7.00pm)
23	Religious Instruction commences (2.30-3.00pm)
24	Student Leaders induction special assembly (9.00am)
	Interschool sport season 1 starts (soccer and netball)
28	Prep Vision Screening
March	
Date	Event
3	Active School Travel launch special assembly
	Welcome BBQ (4.00-6.00pm)
7	Gymnastics program for Preps (4 weeks)
8	Walking Wheeling Wednesday launch
	International Women's Day
	P&C Annual General Meeting
17	National Day of Action against violence and bullying
20-31	Parent/Teacher interviews by appointment

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