Welcome back to the 2017 school year. We trust everyone had a relaxing, safe and enjoyable break. The year has started smoothly and all students appear settled and happy to be reacquainted with previous friends and relishing the opportunity to make new friends. The newsletter will continue to be a fortnightly publication with updates and information about student learning, various school matters, dates and events. We certainly thank parents/carers for the manner in which you have supported our professional judgement in establishing classes based on what we see as being in the best interest of each student.

We ask that you check student diaries or communication books for any reminders or notes regarding class or school matters. We are very excited about the year ahead and look forward to working with you and making 2017 a productive and memorable year.

Welcome to all our new students and families.

We welcome the following students and families to the Fulham Gardens Primary School community. A special welcome to Layth, Anakhveer, Andria, Johnathon, Ilahi India, Shagun, Isla, Shayna, Madhav, Mitchell, Lily, Liam, Eva, Jett, Amir, Deetya, Ayam, Nyke, Tyhlar, Kayla, Jayron, Jeslyn and Brice.

STEAM SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ARTS MATHS

Many of you would have heard about the new government initiative referred to as STEM( Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. An addition to this is the Arts. This will be a core focus for us in 2017 with the major aim to develop students’ creative, critical thinking with an integrated approach to learning. As the year progresses we will provide updates on developments.
FRONT OFFICE OPERATIONS

Janyce, Sally and Emillia and will be the front line people in the office and more than happy to assist with any enquiries.

BREAKFAST CLUB

THE BREAKFAST CLUB WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE EACH MORNING FROM 8:00 AM. The breakfast club relies on the generous support of volunteers. Volunteering for one morning a week will help greatly. Please contact the school if you are willing to assist.

PINS. PLAYGROUPS IN SCHOOLS.

WE ARE STARTING A NEW PLAYGROUP DAY. THIS WILL BE OUR FOUR YEAR OLD PROGRAM ON FRIDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:00am through to 11:30 am AND PROMISES TO PROVIDE EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES AND TRANSITION INTO THE SCHOOL.

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

Sally Henderson will again be part of our team and provide support and wellbeing opportunities and experiences for our staff, students and broader community.

CANTEEN

Once again we welcome back Julie and Marissa who will be continuing their great work in the school canteen.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Keeping you informed of student progress and achievement is an ongoing shared responsibility. If at any stage you have questions or concerns regarding your child’s learning please make an appointment to discuss this with your child’s teacher.

TERM 1 All staff will be sending out an introductory newsletter outlining key classroom procedures and curriculum information. During weeks 6, 7, and 8 Staff will invite you to participate in 3 way interviews during which your child and their teacher will;
1..share student goals.
2..gather information about students from parents and record parent expectations.
3..discuss student learning styles. Learning styles are determined as part of the social skills program.
4.outline the learning program.

TERM 2 Mid year written report.

TERM 3 Optional interviews on request during weeks 4 and 5.

TERM 4 Summary report.

FREE VISION SCREENINGS AT FULHAM GARDENS

The Essilor Vision Foundation is committed to eliminating poor vision and its lifelong consequences, and to providing people the opportunity to live a better life through better sight. On February the 20th all our students will be invited to undergo a free vision assessment. Based on the results of the screening, students may also be offered free prescription spectacles. As a school we are excited about this partnership and opportunity and look forward to working closely with the Essilor Vision Foundation.

SHOWCASE ASSEMBLIES

These are a great opportunity for students to share their learning. Parents and carers are most welcome to come along. Assemblies commence at 9:00 am in the Performing Arts Centre AND THE DATES ARE LISTED ON THE FRONT PAGE.

ARRIVAL TIME AT SCHOOL.

Attitudes are developed very early. We ask that all students arrive at school on time and before the bell sounds. Arriving late it is very disruptive and develops a poor attitude to schooling.

IT’S A BOY

Congratulations to Sera and Joe on the birth of Alessandro. We are sure there will be many busy days and busy nights ahead. We wish them all the best.
SUN SMART REMINDER
SLIP! SLOP! SLAP!
Reminder, all students are required to wear hats when outdoors and where possible should apply sunscreen before arriving at school. On days when the estimated maximum is 36 degrees or higher students will stay indoors during the lunch break. Temperature alone is not a risk factor. The UV readings will give a strong indication of the potential for sun burn. We also encourage students to bring a water bottle for drinking.

SKOOLBAG PHONE APP
Reminder, we have launched a Fulham Gardens Primary School phone app called SKOOLBAG. This is available through the Google play store for Android, Apple and Windows platforms at no cost to parents. It is a FREE download app. It will provide updates, alerts and school information direct to your phone. The instruction sheet is available at the front office.

ADDITONAL NEW STAFF
We welcome Rob Loro as our new groundsperson. Rob was appointed at the end of the school holidays and is very keen to bring the school grounds up to a higher standard.

Shu Hua Kuo has worked at the Fulham Park Kindergarten and joins us to oversee the 4 year old playgroup program we are hosting on Friday mornings. Shu Hua is very excited to be joining us and we look forward an exciting program.

LEARNING SUPPORT CENTRE
Glenda is back and oversees our support programs for student learning. She will also be hosting the 1st coffee morning on Friday 3rd of Feb

OUR SUPPORT STAFF
These wonderful people will be providing additional support for identified student learning needs.

MATERIALS AND SERVICES

Invoices for the 2017 materials and services chargers will be sent out soon. We ask that prompt payment be made as this affects our cash flow and ability to resource the essential materials and services we make available to your child. If you prefer an instalment payment option please make an appointment to see Janyce Coleman our Finance Officer. For people wishing to apply for school card, you may collect the forms from the front office and return this with your health care card or pension card. Many thanks for your support.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS
* JAPANESE * MUSIC * PE * VISUAL ARTS
During 2017 the specialist learning areas will be presented by 4 staff. In the upcoming newsletters each will provide an overview of what the key learning will cover. I have popped in to see how each has settled and the energy, passion and enthusiasm they have for teaching and student learning is very evident. A GREAT START.

Bridget McArthur. Japanese
On Tuesday and Wednesday of each week, students will be involved in specialist teaching programs. These programs include Japanese, Music, PE and Visual Arts. This is a great opportunity for all students to be involved with different adults and to benefit from their skills and knowledge in other curriculum areas.

Anjali Music
Mark DelBono PE.
Mafalda Maieli Visual Arts
SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

The culture of the school is important in ensuring all students understand key factors, behaviours and expectations in providing a positive, safe and supportive learning environment. The program is designed to develop consistent understanding and procedures linked to our student management policy, countering harassment and countering bullying strategies. Staff use common language and themes to introduce and reinforce key concepts and ideas. Following is an outline of just some of the main themes we will be covering in our “Fantastic Fulham,” program.

• getting to know you and team building.
• student leadership.
• class & school routines and rules.
• audience skills.
• a focus on the school’s key values.
• defining success, quality and POWERFUL LEARNING.
• class rules / behaviour agreements
• anti-harassment / bullying program/ cyber bullying/ problem solving strategies
• restorative justice

We are confident this program will have positive outcomes for our students and reinforce expectations in relation to attitudes, behaviours and the manner in which students and adults interact.

Every student has the right to learn and every teacher has the right to teach in a safe and supportive environment.

STOP. THINK. DO.

STOP | Reminds you to stop before you rush into anything
Ask yourself these questions
What is the problem?
How do I feel?
How do others feel?
What do I want to happen?

THINK | Reminds you to think of as many solutions to the problem as possible.
Ask yourself this question.
What can I do?
I can
Tell an adult  Ask nicely
Bargain  Share
Fight  Walk away

DO | Reminds you to finally choose a solution, the one with the best results or most acceptable consequences.
Put the solution into action.
If it doesn’t work go back to STOP and start again.

INTRODUCING OUR CLASSES

Did you know that each letter in the special name for each class describes student attitudes, work habits and mindsets???

Dragons
Mark Del Bono
Year F to 1

Astronauts
Emma Cassidy
Year 1 and 2

Pandas
Jack Moses
Year 3 and 4

Unicorns
Dawn Dyer
Year 6 and 7

Raptors
Steve Beaufoy
Year 4 and 5

Jedi
Glenda Hancox
Whole school

Dolphins
Katherine Mcleod
Year F to 3