Wednesday, 28th January, 2015

**Welcome to 2015 at Maroondan State School !!!**

Dear Parents,

To parents old and new, welcome to 2015 at Maroondan! I trust everyone had an enjoyable summer break. I thought it might be good idea to send home a note at the very beginning of term to let you know about one or two changes that are occurring this year as well as reminding you about some of our existing policies and procedures at the school.

**2015 Enrolments, Teaching Staff and Classrooms**

I confess that I have been a little anxious over the last few days as to whether or not we will remain as a two teacher school into 2015. Our current enrolment is 26 students and, following a phone call to the Education Department this evening, I am assured that this is just enough for us to keep two full-time teachers. Should all of our 26 be attending school by next Thursday, the eighth day of the term when the Department collects its data, Mr Byrnes will be staying with us. Provided that this is the case then we will continue as we have started:

Mr Shane Byrnes is teaching the Year 3 to 6 students in the C Block classroom. The decision was made to move the Year 3s up to Mr Byrnes along with the Year 4s as these two cohorts are often grouped for C2C (Curriculum into the Classroom) work in the key National Curriculum areas.

I am teaching the Prep to Year 2 students in the B Block classroom. On my administration day (currently Friday), the class will be taught by Mr Martin who is also the school’s specialist PE teacher. Mr Martin will visit each Tuesday afternoon for PE lessons.

Our Specialist Music teacher is Mr Chris Arnold who will visit Maroondan each Wednesday afternoon for music lessons.

Ms Julie Varley continues at Maroondan as our LOTE teacher and she will visit on Monday mornings and Friday mornings for Japanese lessons with Year 5 and 6 students.

Mrs Sue Jackson remains as our Special Needs teacher and she will be visiting the school on Monday mornings.

Ms Jane Gray remains as our learning support teacher (visit times yet to be arranged).

We continue to be supported in each of our classrooms by our excellent teacher aide team - Mrs Jacque Eden, Ms Shiree Stuart, Ms Trish Barns and Mrs Gaye.Branson. Mrs Sarah Bechly is also working with us early in the term. Teacher aide hours will be finalised once our eighth day enrolment figure has been confirmed.

**Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (RBPS)**

All parents should be in possession of a copy of the school’s RBPS. If you haven’t got one or have misplaced it then please ask for a replacement. Parents new to the school will have received this as part of the enrolment package. The responsible behaviour plan focuses upon our four school rules which are;

- Maximise Respect
- Maximise Effort
- Maximise Safety
- Maximise Self-Responsibility

As part of the plan, students receive ‘Max Bands’ when they are identified exhibiting positive behaviours. As they collect more bands they receive a series of rewards. Consequences are issued to those who display repeated negative behaviours. The RBPS is based upon ‘School Wide Positive Behaviour’ practices – it applies to all students across the whole school and will be administered by all school staff. Support is sought from all parents in our implementation of the plan.

“Achieve Our Best”
Uniform Policy
All of our students were looking great on the first day! Please note that the policy requires skirts/shorts to be either black or navy blue. Also note that an official broad brimmed hat with the school logo is required (these are available from the school office for $18). Jeans and brightly coloured jackets are not part of school uniform and the school will continue to discourage the wearing of such. Parents are asked to support the school in our implementation of our uniform policy.

House Competition
All Maroondan students are assigned to a house (see below) and each week the house that collects the most Max Bands will be recognised at parade. The house system is used to promote friendly competition at school sporting events. The school house names are in memory of the Martin Marauder Bomber that crashed near to the school site in November, 1943.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOMBERS HOUSE</th>
<th>MARAUDERS HOUSE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bobbi Bradfield</td>
<td>Nate Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain Butcher</td>
<td>Lara Gruening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Mueller</td>
<td>Thomas Lester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Jones</td>
<td>Kyle Farris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey Burger</td>
<td>Tory Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kai Gregory</td>
<td>Kye Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Mueller</td>
<td>Mathew Marshall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ricky Butcher</td>
<td>Brock Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirifi Hunter</td>
<td>Thomas Hartley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kye Butcher</td>
<td>Chelsea Lester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Williams</td>
<td>Paige Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam Jones</td>
<td>Tahlia Farris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenny Hunter</td>
<td>Tegan Wright</td>
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School Handbook
An updated copy of the school’s handbook is available at the office should parents request a copy. The handbook provides detail concerning many of the school’s policies and procedures.

Homework and Morning Reading
Homework will commence next week (Year 1 to Year 6). All students will be expected to complete a few minutes reading each evening as part of homework activities. We will also endeavour to ensure that each student completes a few minutes of reading with an adult when they arrive at school each morning. Parents and volunteers are invited to help out in these sessions, listening to students read in the B Block classroom prior to school (8.30am-9.00am). Please let me know if you are able to help out.

Tuck Shop
Hopefully, tuckshop will recommence next week, first break on Wednesday. Order forms will be issued on a Monday for return, with payment, the following day. There is a collection box in my classroom. Help is required if our tuckshop is to continue throughout the year. If any parents can spare about half an hour (9.00-9.30) and/or about an hour (10.30-11.30) on a Wednesday morning please let me know.

Library Borrowing and Library Bags
Borrowing will commence next Wednesday. Students are permitted to borrow two books each week. To reduce risk of damage or loss, students will not be allowed to borrow if they do not have a suitable cloth library bag labelled with their name. Special Maroondan State School library bags are available for purchase for $10. Should you wish to buy one of these then please return the attached order form with payment. Thanks to some hard work in the holidays by one of our parents, Mrs Sally Dalton (who has now left to move to Brisbane), the mural on our library wall is now complete and is looking just great. Feel free to pop in to the library any time to take a look.

“Achieve Our Best”
Newsletters And Website
Newsletters will be issued fortnightly on Wednesdays, commencing in two weeks time. Don’t forget that if you misplace your newsletter, they are posted along with other information about the school on our website at www.maroondass.eq.edu.au

Parades
School parades will be held at 2.45pm each Monday in the undercover area. Parents are welcome to attend these events at which we will share student achievements and successes.

School Text Books
Apologies to those who have experienced difficulties getting hold of Maths text books locally. Please let me know if you can’t get a copy.

The completed library wall and reading area

Regards,

Robert Lawton,
Principal

LIBRARY BOOK BAG ORDER FORM

Student name: ____________________

I enclose $10 for the purchase of a school library book bag

Signed: ____________________ (parent/guardian)

“Achieve Our Best”