Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Welcome to Term Three everyone! I hope all of our families were able to enjoy a “little down time” over the winter break and had the opportunity to catch up with family and friends. It was delightful to see the children return to school looking rested and happy. The sheer excitement of sharing holiday stories is wonderful to be a part of — it certainly is a real highlight for me! Term Three at Preston South PS is shaping up to be a very busy term with lots of exciting and challenging learning to take place in all levels across the school as well as in the Specialists’ programs. Of course, all staff will always look at innovative ways to deliver curriculum outcomes to students which will enhance their learning opportunities. All Preston South PS staff, attend professional learning sessions, whether they are “in-house” opportunities, or are taken by presenters who are experts in their field.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

I received very positive reports from staff about our Parent Teacher Student Interviews, which were conducted last term. These interviews are a terrific opportunity for families to work with our teachers and students in reviewing the academic progress of the past six months and looking towards creating goals for the next six months. We firmly believe that home-school partnerships are paramount in predicting strong educational outcomes for our students.

WHAT’S HAPPENED AROUND OUR SCHOOL DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

As usual, the school holidays are an opportune time to complete various tasks throughout the school as tradespeople can work uninterrupted. These holidays we:

- Had new carpet laid in 1/2G, 3/4S and 5/6K
- New mulch distributed in the garden beds.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2016

I would like to remind families with children who will be beginning school in 2017 that we are taking enrolments now and that there are a very small number of positions available as places are filling fast. Hence I strongly encourage you to ensure you return your child’s enrolment form to the office as soon as possible. We also ask that members of our school community assist us by informing any of their neighbours of the enrolment procedures and direct them to the office to collect an enrolment form or our school website – www.prestonsouth.vic.edu.au. Please call the school on 9484 1544 to book a tour.
THE 8:50AM BELL

A reminder that the first bell for the day will ring at 8:50am. The children are then required to go straight to their line up areas, where they will be greeted by their teachers. This time enables students to have sufficient time to change their home readers, put their bags away, organise notices, etc and then be ready to commence learning as soon as possible by 9:00am. Parents please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:50am every day.

We also remind families that children will need to arrive at school no earlier than 8:40 a.m. each day. Any family that requires supervision before 8:40 a.m. each day is welcome to make a booking with our Before School Care Program. Our teachers commence formal morning yard duty at 8:40 a.m. each day.

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN’S DAY

NAIDOC week celebrations are held across Australia each year to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Our school will celebrate National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day on the 4th August. Students will be participating in a variety of activities that involve learning aboriginal dance, art and language. The celebrations will commence with a Welcome to Country followed by a Smoking Ceremony. Parents are invited to be part of the opening ceremony which will commence at 9.00 a.m.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Our annual Parent Opinion Survey will be undertaken in the week commencing July 25, 2016. As is the case in all Victorian Government Schools, parents are selected randomly and asked to provide feedback in a number of areas relating to their child’s school. At Preston South Primary School, we always value parental feedback – both positive and constructive criticism. Our desire is to work alongside parents for the best outcomes of the children in our care.

CAMP PAYMENTS

A reminder to all those students in grade 3–6 who are going to Doxa Camp to finalise their payments by Friday 29th of July. All yellow forms are due by the July 22.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Pasta day will be held on Wednesday, August 3. PFA will provide 3 different pasta choices with gluten free pasta also being available. Order forms will be sent home with your child today. Please complete order and return order form and money in an envelope with your child’s name on it to either the classroom teacher or the office by August 1 at the latest.

Next PFA meeting will be on July 28 at 8.50am. Everyone is welcome.

UNIFORM SHOP

The school uniform shop will now be operating on Fridays between 3.00pm and 3.45pm in the hall.