Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all students, parents, staff and community members for 2016. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break with friends and family.

A special welcome also to our newest students, Sienna and Rosie, who both started Kindergarten this week. We hope you have a fantastic year in Kindergarten!

2016 looks to be another very positive year for Capertee Public School. Our staff are looking forward to continuing and enhancing our many excellent programs as well as developing new initiatives for our students and community. Our students continue to learn in an extremely well resourced school and strongly benefit from our high level, purposeful and personal learning programs.

2016 Staffing

This year we have some changes to staffing, with Ms Wallace now acting as School Administration Manager (SAM) both at Capertee and Glen Alice Schools. Ms Wallace will be at Capertee on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

We also welcome Mrs Katie Barnes to our staff. Mrs Barnes will act as a Student Learning Support Officer on Mondays and Tuesdays. Mrs Dray will also act in this role on Thursdays and Fridays.

Mrs Woods and I will continue to share the classroom teaching, with Mrs Woods team teaching with me on Mondays and Tuesdays, and teaching the class on Thursdays while I complete school administration in the office.

We also welcome back Mrs Smith from Mitchell Conservatorium, who will continue to teach her amazing music lessons each Monday.

We also welcome our new Bathurst Network Director; Mrs Toni Macdonald to her role. Mrs Macdonald is replacing Mr Peter Harvey, who retired at the start of this week, and brings a wealth of experience to her role of school director.

School Office Hours

With the changes to our staffing, the school office will be open during the day on Tuesdays-Fridays to assist parents and community members with any enquiries.
School Communication
I would like to remind parents and carers that if at any time you have any concerns or questions regarding your child’s progress, or wish to speak with me, please do not hesitate to contact the school and make a time to discuss them. Our staff greatly value our strong partnership with parents and community members and are always happy to discuss student progress, concerns or any issues that may arise. Making an appointment allows time to prepare any necessary information that may help with your enquiry.

Our School Facebook page will continue to be used to highlight the positive successes and achievements of our school and students. This can be a great way for community, family members and extended family to keep updated on our school and, as such, we encourage current members to refer new people to like our school page.

Our school newsletter will also continue to be distributed each fortnight in paper form to current families, and also via the school website and Facebook pages.

Changes around the school
There have been several minor changes made around the school during the holidays, most noticeably the new stairs at the front of the main building. The new toilet block has been completed, and modifications have been made to our doors and front gate.

Mr Hassall has also begun installing new gardens around the new toilet block, as well as some fantastic painting under the covered area, which includes a racetrack for cars, hopscotch, new handball court and an amazing snail! Thank you Mr Hassall for all of your fantastic work!

General Permission Notes
Being the start of a new year these notes will be sent home this week. These permissions are important information needed for our routines in the school. Please take the time to read each part carefully and return to school asap.

Western Gateway (WGEC)
As many people are aware, our school is part of the Western Gateway Educational Community of schools in the Lithgow and surrounding areas. This partnership of schools allows our staff and students to benefit hugely from being part of this learning community. Our staff have access to quality professional learning and our schools often share expertise and resources among each other. This year our newsletters will continue to feature regular updates of current events and initiatives in the WGEC group.

Term 1 Calendar
We are currently finalising important dates for the Term and will provide parents with a Term 1 overview as soon as possible. Please be aware that we will participate in a combined schools swimming carnival within the first few weeks. Again, we will provide this information and permission note as soon as a date is established.

Duncan Peard
Principal