Welcome back to the start of the 2016 school year. We have had an outstanding start with enrolment numbers exceeding predictions. New enrolments have been constant. Students have settled in well with big smiles and routines being well established. The teachers are well prepared and teacher aides and administration staff have made our starting arrangements both smooth and efficient … and parents, well done, also. The children are well presented in school uniform and it is pleasing to see many of you ensuring the partnership between teachers, parents and students is a strong one. Please remember … your presence is always welcome at Ormeau State School.

School Enrolment – 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREP</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Numbers</strong></td>
<td><strong>811</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classes are final now and late changes will not be permitted.

I’m ever mindful that our school is a primary school. It’s the first venture into the big world away from parental, loving care and our teachers are very aware of this. I ask our teachers to pause for a moment and endeavour to see the school, the classroom and the teacher as a child sees them. I assure you that there’s no place in a primary school for a teacher who doesn’t love ALL kids, particularly those who are battling a bit. So, please, if you need help, approach the teacher, after school for a ‘cards on the table’ session. Your input is invaluable.

Would you allow me on a personal note to congratulate the parent body on another front? I’ve seen good parent communities over other areas in our state but none surpass Ormeau. Be proud! Visitors constantly make comment to me praising the school in its landscaped setting and the charming, immaculately dressed and well behaved children… even the hats!

Mr Creighton, Mrs Tuckett and the ladies in the front office join me in saying …

Welcome to you all.

Staff Changes for 2016

New staff IN:

Leigh McKinnon 5M
Jodie De Labertauche 5D
Glenda Reckin Business Services Manager
Katie Brown Behaviour Advisory Teacher
Welcome Back!

A huge welcome back to all of our Ormeau families! The first week has definitely been one of the smoothest we have had, and our school continues to thrive. The students have all settled well into their classes and they are already diving into the Australian Curriculum. We are excited about the upcoming year and can’t wait to see what our students achieve.

Uniform

Our students look fantastic. We have had a flurry of new families begin at Ormeau and we have had a number of comments about how good our uniform looks and how dedicated our parents are to keeping their standards high. We should all be proud.

There are, however, a few things we need to point out to keep our standards high:

1. Shoes are to be black or white – NO COLOURED SOLES OR SHOELACES;
2. Socks are to be white;
3. All clothing must be purchased from the school. NO BIG W ITEMS OF CLOTHING. These are not supported by our P&C;

Qparents

Qparents is an Education Queensland initiative. It will give you access to your child’s student information online so you can stay connected to your school anywhere, anytime. You can access:

- Report cards and assessment
- Attendance records
- Invoice and payment details
- Online payments and much more!

Visit https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/login for more information.

If you need the school to resend you an invitation, please contact our wonderful office staff.

Transdev School Bus Services


A few reminders to keep us all safe:

School playground equipment is not to be used by toddlers at any stage, whether it before or after school. If toddlers are playing on this equipment, you will be asked to remove them.

If your child arrives to school before 8:30am they are to sit with all students in the tuckshop area under the supervision of our staff. Any students wandering the school before 8:30am will be sent straight to the tuckshop area.

Your Deputies,

Brendan Creighton & Jane Tuckett

Welcome to Prep!

We have been so impressed with how well all of our new little Preppies have settled into the routine of school. The students have already been working hard on their numbers and letters and it is great to see them so enthusiastic about classroom activities.

As the students continue to settle into school, please take note of the following points:

Mental Munchies- Mental munchies should be a piece of fruit or a vegetable only. We ask that where possible, mental munchies are cut up and packed in a container or bag that is easy for your child to open. Please remind
your child to place their mental munchies in their tray each morning, not to leave it in their school bag.

**Library Borrowing** - Please make sure that your child has a library bag for their borrowed items. Children are allowed to borrow 1 book each week, so please help them remember to return their book to their classroom on the appropriate day so that they can bring home another exciting story to share with you. Please see your child’s teacher if you are unsure of their day for borrowing.

**Parent-Teacher communication** - We welcome you to communicate any concerns that you may be having about your child to us. However, please be aware that mornings and afternoons can be very hectic for teachers, so we would appreciate it if you could make an appointment to speak with us. This allows us to have more time to focus on your concerns without the interruption of other students and parents. If you need to make an appointment, please email your child’s teacher.

We trust that you and your child are enjoying this exciting time and look forward to an exciting year of discovery and learning.

**Prep Teachers**

_Fiona Galletly, Jonathon Frazer, Vanessa Laing, Kate Mirandilla, Rhiannon Saunders and Kristy Scott_

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2B, 2F, 2L, 2M, 2P

**Dear Parents and Guardians,**

Welcome to the first instalment from Year 2. Students have settled and adjusted well to Year 2 life. Term One will be very busy for all involved. This term students will be busy writing their imaginative character retell from the book Lacey Goosey during English. Students have also started Geography this term. Throughout the Geography unit, students will explore and make connections with factors that may influence their place and space. Students will be learning to read maps and create their own map whilst understanding and identifying the key features of places.

Swimming lessons commence on Tuesday February 23rd and Wednesday 24th February (Week 5) at Gulliver’s Swim School;-Upper Coomera. The swimming program runs for three weeks, and two day each week.

A reminder that students do not come to school in their swimmers. School uniform is to be worn to school. Payments are to be made at the office and permission notes handed to the class teacher.

**Mental Munchies**

With the morning session two hours, Year 2 classes will have Mental Munchies at approximately 10am. The Mental Munchies program is designed to help children with their concentration by eating a healthy snack and through this we are promoting healthy eating habits. The children are asked to bring either fruit, dried fruit or vegetables cut up in a small container (if possible).

Finally, just some housekeeping regarding homework and weekly behaviour cards. Please check that your child is showing their weekly behaviour card to you as this is an indication relating to the behaviour that has been displayed by your child for that particular week. Also please check that your child is completing their homework each night ready to hand in each Friday.

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact your child’s classroom teacher.

Kind Regards,

**Christine Burch, Jan Laws, Jacci Phillips, Deanna Forrester and Jamie Miller**

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4C, 4G, 4H, 4P, 4T

**Welcome back to the new school year. We are very happy with how the first couple of weeks have gone. It is great to see most of the students have their equipment ready for learning. Please ensure your child brings in their school hat and water bottle every day. This term, in English, we are reading The Twits by Roald Dahl and exploring narratives. In Maths we are investigating the properties of odd and even numbers, looking at fractions to tenths and different ways of representing five digit numbers. Swimming will start in week five so please make sure you have handed in your permission forms and money before then.**

_Natalie Casala, Michael Howlett, Michele Pikunic, Cynthia Thorpe and Shandell Gammon_

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6C, 6S, 6T, 6W

**Welcome to Year 6 for 2016. What a busy, yet exciting start to the year it has been already.**

**Meet the Teacher Night**

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the Meet the Teacher Evening this week. We appreciate the support you have shown and look forward to building further relationships throughout the year. Below are some of the topics which were discussed.

**Camp**

Our Year 6 Leadership Camp will be held at Camp Moogerah this week. The focus is on ‘leadership’ and includes team and rapport building. Activities include Challenge and Initiative tasks, Crate stacking, Archery, Canoeing and Tubing on Lake Moogerah.

**Leadership Program**

The Leadership process has been successfully implemented at Ormeau State School for many years. The process is based on awarding numerical values for contributions to Ormeau State School. Numerical values are awarded to: camp participation, if attending, (if not attending, Ms Andrew provides a numerical value based on school activities over the duration of the camp), behaviour, manners, dress/uniform, academic application (NOT ability), the leadership speech, a staff vote, a student vote and an interview with administration. House Captains are not subject to a staff vote, but rather, are awarded values based...
on their participation in, and commitment to, a range of school activities. The top five boy and girl candidates will be determined in week five. Only those in the top 5 are placed on the ballots and interviewed.

Reading and Writing

Reading and writing in 2016 continues to be a major focus for Ormeau State School. Each class will be involved in sustained reading every day to help improve our reading standards across all year levels. Reading consists of reading stamina, explicit teaching of comprehension skills and individual activities EVERY day. Here is an article on why reading to older children is as important as reading to younger children. It’s a lovely peaceful way to put the busyness of the day behind you!

http://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/read-aloud-to-children/

Homework

Homework may vary slightly from class to class this year; however each class WILL be completing NIGHTLY homework, usually based on spelling, maths and reading. Occasionally, we may ask students to also complete a task that they failed to complete during class time. As reading improvement continues to be a major focus this year, we ask you to monitor that your child is reading nightly, and to sign their diary to show us that this is indeed happening. We appreciate your support in seeing that homework is completed.

Behaviour

At Ormeau State School, behaviour standards and expectations are closely tied to our Values program. Our classroom rules are reflective of the values of Opportunity, Responsibility, Manners, Excellence, Acceptance and Unity. Classroom behaviour management plans are in place and across the Year 6 cohort, are similar. A detention plan of 10-20 minutes at 2nd break is in place for small indiscretions. Continued time in Year 6 detention will result in planning rooms being issued. Positive reinforcement is used in all classrooms to encourage desirable behaviour. Behaviour cards will continue to be issued by the classroom teacher on a weekly basis and are required to be viewed and signed by parents.

The orders for Senior Shirts are in motion. If you wish to purchase a shirt for your child please fill in the order form which was sent home and return to your child’s classroom teacher. It is anticipated that the children will receive their shirts at the beginning of Term 2.

Please remember that all Year 6 teachers are interested in you and your child, and are happy to see you if any concerns/issues should arise. Please be mindful, however, that if you should require a lengthy period of time to discuss your child’s schooling that an appointment time be made so that we are able to provide you with an interruption free period.

The Year 6 team would like to wish you and your children a wonderful and fulfilling 2016.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Coplick (6C), Nikki Swain (6S), Grayham Tyler (6T) and Peter Wright (6W)

ADMINISTRATION REMINDERS

This is a reminder to all parents that the 2016 school bus timetables have undergone some significant changes. If your child/children catch the bus to and/or from school, it is important that you visit the Transdev Queensland website (www.transdevqld.com.au) or the TransLink website (www.translink.com.au) to see if you are impacted by the changes.

Bus passes for eligible students are also currently being processed and they will be available for collection from the school during the first week back. There will be a fare amnesty until the passes have been delivered and distributed. If you have not yet submitted your pass application or renewal, please do so by downloading the relevant forms from the www.transdevqld.com.au website.

Absent Students

If your child is unable to attend school due to sickness or other family reasons it is not necessary for you to call the school each time. We get many phone calls each morning from parents informing us their child is away for the day. For this reason we ask if you could send in a note with your child on their return to inform the teacher of the reason for the absence. For your convenience you can also email the absence through (admin@ormeauass.eq.edu.au). If your child is to be away more than three days then we do appreciate a phone call to ensure the safety of your child.

Mobile Phones at School

It is understood that some students have a mobile phone for safety purposes whilst travelling to and from school, however, it is this school’s policy that phones are to be switched off and signed in at the office for safe keeping during the school day. Students are to be reminded that it is at their own risk if they choose to bring a mobile device to school, but cannot under any circumstance be permitted to keep the phone with them throughout the day.

Have you moved?

If you have moved, changed jobs, changed your telephone number (including mobile) or if your emergency contacts have had any changes to your contact details we need to know. Please email admin@ormeauass.eq.edu.au send a note to the office with your child or phone the office on 55 466 500 to let us know of any changes.

Payment Information

Student I.D Numbers

A friendly reminder to Parents/Caregivers to use your student’s I.D. number as a reference, when making payments via internet banking. The correct I.D number is 10 digits with a letter on the end (eg. 123456789X). This is particularly important when making payments via internet banking so that the school’s Finance Department can apply the payment.

If you are unsure of your child’s student I.D number, please do not hesitate to contact our Administration Department on 55 466 500.
Paying via Internet Banking: Direct Payment into School Bank Account

- School’s Bank Account Name: Ormeau State School General A/C
- BSB Number: 064-401 (CBA Branch Beenleigh)
- Account Number: 00090359
- Reference/Details: Please record the student’s I.D. number in the reference/details section so that your payment can be recorded correctly.

Paying by phone: Payment by Credit Card ONLY

Call the school on 55 466 500 Monday to Friday between 8am - 4.00pm. VISA or Mastercard accepted.

Paying in Person: Payment by Credit Card, Debit Card, Cash or Cheque can be made at the school Payment Window Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8am – 9:30am

Centrepay - the easy way to pay your bills

Ormeau State School is now able to accept Centrepay payments directly with your approval. There is a form you can collect from the administration office that you take to Centrelink nominating an amount to come directly to the school each week/fortnight. You as the parent or carer can choose where these payments come from eg: (Family tax benefit, Newstart Allowance, Pension or Parental paid leave). This payment will go as a credit onto your child’s payment screen and can be used for any activities throughout the years of your child whilst attending Ormeau State School. This is a no hassle and convenient way for payments to be received from Centrelink on your behalf.

Parents can also nominate a target amount so that once the target is reached Centrelink will cease payments automatically or you can choose for payments to come consistently to cover all costs throughout the year.

If you need to know anything further please don’t hesitate to contact the administration team.

Lost Property

Lost Property is located outside of the administration building, could you please remind your child/children to check for any lost items. We have a large number of school jumpers which have not been named. Please ensure all drink bottles, lunch boxes, hats and jumpers are clearly labelled with your child’s name and class.

Kind regards

Administration Team

GERMAN NEWS

Kinderkarneval is here!! Germany is in the midst of parades with floats and costumed characters as the celebrate this winter festival.

The Brisbane German Club celebrated last weekend … and the hall now waits our students for Kinderkarneval. This excursion is offered each year and we are celebrating our 21st festival this year!!

Students have received an excursion note. It takes place on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28. The students travel by bus to the German club for a day of fun, fancy dress, team activities, singing and dancing. And of course FOOD!

We join with students from other schools for this interactive cultural celebration.

Forms and money are to be returned to the office. Although the excursion is offered to all students in years 5 and 6, there are only 55 places on the bus. First in ….

I look forward to another exciting and productive year of language learning at Ormeau!

Ormeau Alaaah!

Frau Hay

HEAD OF CURRICULUM NEWS

Welcome back to another school year, I can’t believe it is Week 3 already.

Reading continues to be a prime focus as it spans across all curriculum areas. Daily reading, multiple times, for learning and for pleasure is imperative to achieving great academic results.

The other realm of literacy, which seems to be taking a back seat is oral language. The popularity of mobile devices such as tablets and phones, mean that often spoken language is neglected.

Oral language includes:

- The ability to listen actively and respond appropriately
- Making connections between context and prior knowledge to talk about the world
- Building language responses

Adult talk is CRUCIAL. Appropriate and correct speech patterns, including grammar, are learnt through modelling the same to children.

Frequent discussions about experiences help build vocabulary and comprehension.

Many children hear but are not active listeners, so structured explicit lessons are needed to build this skill.

Things to do at home:

- Discuss happenings with your child.
- Use rich vocabulary during conversations and discussions.
• Ask open-ended questions that require some explanation, or ask for clarification of ideas.

• Let your child do more talking than you.

• Use correct grammar and correct your child if mistakes are made. If your child makes an error, for example, “I brung the toy to school”, correct them by saying the correct form, “I brought the toy to school” and have the child repeat it. Your child needs to say it to start to ingrain the grammatical pattern in their own minds.

• Read! Read! Read! to your child and have them read to you. Discuss what is read.

• Simplify instructions into manageable steps for young children, then build to more the more complex.

If you have any curriculum queries, please contact me at jmcco40@eq.edu.au.

Happy talking!

Julie McCombe

i Centre NEWS

SCHOLASTIC Book Club LOOP for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment Platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, LOOP makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

log in to www.scholastic.com/auloop or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

• Enter a quick order just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
• Select your school and your child’s class
• Enter your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
• Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogues
• You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
• All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will be delivered to your child’s classroom if you order by the close date.

For a quick how-to video, log in to www.scholasticcom/auloop and click on HELP in the top menu.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

A busy term of representative sport to start the New Year. Pacific Rim District team trials will be held in the following sports: rugby league (week 3), swimming (week 4), netball (week 4), soccer (week 6), hockey (week 7), Australian football (week 7), touch (week 7 & 8) and basketball (week 8). These trials are for students born in 2004 or 2005 who are experienced in their chosen sport and can perform at a representative standard. Our school coaches will recommend students to attend but if you haven’t played in one of our school teams and you think you are up to the standard required see Mr Tyne and let him know. Please note, however, that our school can send only a small number of students to these trials.

Inter school sport gala days for Years 5 and 6 will also commence this term (week 7). Students interested in competing in a school team should listen out for trial information over the next few weeks.

Our school cross country will also be held later this term. Time to get back into training!

Kind regards

Peter Tyne

SCIENCE NEWS

As 2016 kicks off, the Science staff would like to welcome back all our budding student scientists, and look forward to working with them throughout the year. This year Mrs Janelle Cokley will be continuing to teach Prep, Year 1 and classes 2P and 2L; Miss Alex Griffani will be teaching classes 2F, 2B, 2M and 5M, as well as Grade 3 and Grade 4; and Mrs Leanne Hines-Smith will be teaching classes 5S, 5B, and 5D and Year 6.

As part of our Biology program, Science is looking at revitalising the outdoor garden beds. Any donations of plants, seeds or garden equipment would be greatly appreciated.

On a personal note, I am very happy to be joining the science team, and I’ve already witnessed an enthusiasm for science amongst students that I will continue cultivating throughout the year. As I have a science background (my first degree was a B.Science (Microbiology & Psychology) from the University of Sydney), it’s very gratifying to be able to use this directly in the classroom.

Looking forward to a stunning science year,

Regards,

Alex Griffani, Leanne Hines – Smith, Janelle Cokley

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWS

We hope all your children are settling in well to their new classes. We would like to take the opportunity to introduce our Special Education Program (SEP) team to begin the year. Sarah Alcock is in the Head of Special Education Services role for another few weeks before going on maternity leave. Sarah Lopes and Peter Giles will be sharing this role after this time. Sarah Lopes, Peter Giles, Mark Sycz and Rebecca Johnston make up the SEP teachers, each working with specific year levels. They have an important role in the support team, as your child’s SEP case manager. Feel free to call to speak with them or come into our building (block 10, near the PCYC building).

Our valuable teacher aides consist of Jodi Post, Danie Murray, Jo Weston, Bernadette Walpole, Janine Rochford, Maxine Mostyn, and Nicole Smith with some or all of their hours in Special Education.

We are continuing with our successful lunch time support this year. Our year 1 – 3 students are invited to attend the activities
room, consisting of various activities and supervised by a SEP teacher. This play area is also available to any student in years 1 – 3 and provides an inside play environment with increased supervision to facilitate play skills and support social problem solving when needed. The year 4 – 6 students involved with the SEP are invited to our lunch clubs and can bring a friend, if they would like. The lunch clubs program consists of iPads each Monday and Thursday, gardening each Tuesday and Friday, and Art each Wednesday. We also have cooking on a rotating basis on Thursdays. One group will be invited to cook with Mrs Murray each Thursday, out of those students who brought their permission forms back for cooking.

Another program that has continued this year is our Intended Curriculum groups. This program includes students in year 3 – 6, who are working on an Individual Curriculum Plan for English and / or Mathematics. Students are grouped with either Rebecca Johnston or Sarah Lopes in a small group format for their English curriculum (10 – 11am daily) and / or their Mathematics curriculum (12 – 1pm daily). We have been running this structured program for a number of years now and have seen great improvement in students’ academic achievement and social and emotional well-being. It allows an opportunity to explicitly teach students at the level they are working at with high expectations to continue to move them forward in those core subject areas. Students respond well to the small group format and generally look forward to these times throughout the day.

Our year 6 teachers and support staff are looking forward to the year 6 camp this week and all the activities that await them. Year 6 is going to camp Moogerah this year, and there will be a variety of new challenges such as canoeing, tubing, and indoor rock climbing. The students have also said they are very excited about the archery and spending time with their friends and hopefully making some new ones. This is a great experience for all of the students, with them being encouraged to show leadership and problem solving skills throughout the camp.

Please see Sarah Alcock or your child’s SEP case manager if you have any questions around your child’s support.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Alcock, Sarah Lopes, Peter Giles, Mark Sycz and Rebecca Johnston

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ormeau Bulldogs AFL

Play AFL with the Ormeau Bulldogs Australian Football Club

Sign on Days - Sunday 14th & Saturday 27th Feb 2016, 10am – 2pm

At Ormeau Sports Park, Upper Ormeau Rd, Kingsholme

Coomera Crushers Rugby Union

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY IN RUGBY UNION WITH THE COOMERA CRUSHERS RUGBY UNION CLUB

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.COOMERACRUSHERS.COM.AU

Email: rugby@coomerarugby.com.au or Call: 0412 585 900 for more information

COMMUNITY NEWS