FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to the start of the 2017 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 – 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
<td>117</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 2017

New staff IN:

- Shannon Curtis - 1A
- Amy Nagorcka - 2N
- Jen Neale - 2J
- Jacqui Currie - 3J
- Cherise Davis - 6D
- Gemma Christensen - Music

Shannon Curtis  Amy Nagorcka  Jen Neale
Welcome!

First and foremost can we say a huge WELCOME to all our families, both those who are returning and those who are starting fresh with us this year. We can’t wait to see what 2017 brings and what successes our wonderful students will achieve.

Meet the teacher night

Meet the teacher night will be on 6th February (Monday). This is a chance for you to come into the school and listen to a presentation from your teacher on things such as, curriculum, extra curricula activities, camps and behaviour expectations. More information will be sent out shortly.

Communication

We are huge believers in communication here at Ormeau, and we encourage parents to speak to their children’s teacher on a regular basis, and not just wait for parent/teacher interviews. This communication may be a simple email every few weeks, or a meeting. Some possible topics of conversation with your child’s teacher may be:

- how well my child is doing with their school work
- improving my child’s reading
- identifying my child’s strengths
- improving subjects that my child is not strong in
- how my child gets on with other children
- concerns about things going on in your family

Qparents

Qparents invitations have been sent.

We are continuing our Qparents push! 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 the link below for more information.

https://qparents.qld.edu.au/%23/login

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

Attendance

Student attendance continues to be a push at Ormeau State School. It is extremely important that your child attends school as often as possible to give them the very best chance of success at school. Please read the below information regarding attendance:

Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

- they learn better
- they make friends
- they are happier
- they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school. Principals decide if the reason given for your child’s absence is acceptable.
Avoid keeping your child away from school for:

- birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check-ups or care such as haircuts. Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

**Education Queensland’s target is 93% attendance for State Schools.**

Your Deputies,

**Brendan Creighton & Jane Tuckett.**

### 1A, 1B, 1C, 1P, 1Q AND 1S

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a wonderful start to the year for the Year One students. They have all settled into their new classrooms with ease and have been busy getting to know their new classmates. This term the Year One students are learning about recount writing and will be consolidating and extending on their knowledge of letters and sounds, sight words and number. They will be exploring the passing of time and will identify significant events throughout their life. They are also learning about personal hygiene practices.

For homework this term, students will be practicing their sight words and reading. We are focusing on reading strategies and comprehension a lot this year and would appreciate your assistance in encouraging the students to read as often as possible. Homework folders will be handed in weekly, so sight words can be tested. Your classroom teacher will inform of which day it is to be returned each week.

Please note that if students arrive at school before 8.30am, they are to go to the tuckshop undercover area to be supervised. After 8.30am students should leave their items in their school bag and play in the supervised playground. After the first bell, students can line up sitting down outside their classroom and wait for their teacher. Students should line up holding their drink bottle, mental munchies and any equipment that may need for the day.

Mental munchies are continuing this year. During class time, the students are given some time to eat a healthy snack. This may include fresh fruit or vegetables. Please cut fruit and send it in a plastic container, as this makes it easier and less messy for students to eat. This year, we are continuing to wear our house shirt every Friday. These are available from the uniform shop. If students are unsure of their house, their teacher will be able to remind them. Lastly please ensure your child has a labelled hat and all of the resources they require for the year. Some had difficulty finding particular stationary items or books so please ensure all items are provided as soon as possible.

We look forward to a great year of learning and fun.

Kind Regards,

**Natalie Casala, Fiona Quinn, Suzzi Bray, Nikki Swain, Shannon Curtis and Katie Phillips**

### 3C, 3J, 3L, 3M AND 3T

We would like to welcome to Year 3 returning families and extend a warm welcome to families who are new to Ormeau State School this year.

Term 1 is always busy as students settle into a new year with a new teacher and surroundings. The transition has been smooth for most and it is wonderful to see so many happy faces each morning.

Some general reminders:

**Drink bottles** – please ensure your child has their labelled drink bottle each day, especially as the weather is quite warm.

**Hats** – Ormeau State School is committed to promoting sun safety and a school hat is required in order to play.

**Mental Munchies** – please provide your child a piece of fruit or vegetables to eat during class around 10am. This not only promotes healthy eating habits, but ensures that students have some sustenance in between breakfast and morning tea.

There will be a great deal of talk in the media about the upcoming NAPLAN testing which will take place in Term 2. As this will be the first time our students will participate we will be making sure the whole process is as stress free as possible. It is important to remember that these tests are just a small snapshot of how your child is performing. If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact your child’s teacher.

Meet the Teacher night is on Monday of Week 3. This is an opportunity to learn about the procedures we follow and what your child will be learning this year. If you are unable to attend, a brochure with some key information will be sent home.

We are looking forward to a productive year of learning and watching the academic growth in the students as the year progresses.

Kind regards,

**Casey Cameron, Jacqui Currie, Vanessa Laing, Louise McMillian and Grayham Tyler.**

### 5H, 5M, 5S, 5T AND 5W

Dear parents of Year 5 students,

It is a pleasure to welcome our old year 4 students up to year 5. They are settling quickly into good routines and it is wonderful to see so many of them raise the benchmark by demonstrating enthusiasm to meet high expectations for their senior years.

This year, Ormeau staff, across the whole school, are keen to implement the Words Their Way spelling program. This program should positively impact your child’s academic learning. Changes may be seen in spelling homework in various ways such as, students will not necessarily get a new set of words each week. Instead, as they master a level they will move up to the next level. Please work with us by encouraging your
child to strive to achieve their best in this program along with, of course, all other Key Learning Areas.

A focus on explicit teaching of reading will also take place this year with teacher aides being allocated time to support reading in the classroom, almost every day.

We will be studying the genre of fantasy in English and our assessment pieces will be based on the novel Deltora Quest, by Emily Rodda.

In Mathematics during weeks 1 - 5 we will focus on number and place value, fractions and decimals and length and perimeter in Measurement.

In Semester 1, Geography, the students will explore how people and places affect one another. In Semester 1 History, students identify the establishment and need of secondary colonies after 1800.

This year, German lessons will commence with Frau Hay, once per week and specialist Science lessons will continue as last year.

Please make sure your child has a school hat that is clearly labelled with their name. Also, all lunch boxes and drink bottles need to be labelled because we can quickly return lost equipment without wasting time or disturbing classes.

All students must remember to take all of their needed belongings, including their hat, to eating time as they are not permitted to return upstairs or loiter on the upstairs balcony during lunch breaks.

We look forward to a fantastic year with your children and hope to see you all at, ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening on Monday, 6th February at 6:30pm.

Yours in learning,

Year 5 Teachers
Michael Howlett, Ed Williams, Cynthia Thorpe, Jamie Miller and Elizabeth Sas

EARLY YEARS SUPPORT NEWS

Early Years Support Role 2017

Welcome back to all of our existing families and a warm welcome to our new families at Ormeau State School. This is my second year in this role, having previously spent the majority of my career teaching Prep. While I wear a number of different hats so to speak, I mostly work in the Prep Year and Year One.

Some of my key jobs is to develop and run effective programs to support our youngest learners in the school, some of these including Fine and Gross Motor, Phonological Awareness and oral language. I work closely with the staff to ensure that we are catering for all student needs to help them develop fundamental early development skills. I also mentor and coach teachers to support them with strategies, resources and ideas for implementing the curriculum.

I look forward to seeing many of you around campus.

Melita Thomas

GERMAN NEWS

Frohes Neues! – A happy New Year – Welcome, and welcome back.

Well done to the students of Year 5 and 6 for a great start to their year of German studies.

DATE CLAIMER: This year’s Karneval excursion will be offered on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26th, held as usual at the German Cub Brisbane. Information and excursion notes will be available shortly for a day of fun and frivolity.

Frau Hay

iCentre NEWS

Welcome back for another exciting year of learning here at Ormeau State School. Here are a few important details to begin the year from the iCentre –

- **Borrowing** begins in week 2. All classes will have a borrowing time each week and students from Prep – Year 4 are encouraged to use Library Bags to transport their books between school and home. Ormeau State School Library bags are available from the Office for $10 and are sturdy enough to last your child through their primary years.

- **When books are not returned** on time your child/ren will not be able to borrow and you will receive an email from the iCentre outlining the replacement cost of the books. We really appreciate open avenues of communication between school and home so please email or ring us with regard to lost/overdue Library books. The sooner we sort out the issue the faster your child/ren can resuming borrowing with their class each week which is better for everyone.

- **Our Term 1 Book Fair** will be in Week 7, March 6 – 10. There will be many great books to put away for Easter gifts. I will need Parent Helpers at the Book Fair to serve customers so let me know if you can help before or after school that week. Contact me on llang9@eq.edu.au with the day/s and time/s you would like to work. You will get a free book for your efforts – to the value of $15.

- **Issue 1 Book Club** brochures have already been sent home. These are full of great value books and the ordering process is easy. Please know that at Ormeau we run a cashless Book Club so no money will be taken for books. All ordering needs to be done online with your credit card. For more information to make this process easier please refer to the following pdf from Scholastic Book Fairs …

Reading Regards

Linda Langes and Maree Bawden
**MUSIC NEWS**

A warm welcome to the 2017 school year from the Music Department team! Our team this year consists of Mr Adam Thomson (multi instrumental), Mr Allan Hall (Strings) and myself, Mrs Gemma Christensen (Classroom music). I am very excited to have joined Ormeau State School this year after having taught previously at Park Lake State School and Upper Coomera State College.

We have a wonderful year ahead of us with many opportunities for students to be involved in our music department. Both Strings and Multi instrumental will begin early this term so please watch out for further information that will be sent home during the first 2 weeks of school.

Ormeau State School will once again offer 2 choirs. Senior choir (for students in 3-6) will be practising on Wednesdays at 1.10pm sharp and Junior Choir (years 1 and 2) will rehearse on Fridays at 1.10pm. Please click on the appropriate link below, print and return the following relevant enrolment slip if your child would like to join this year.

If at any stage you have any questions regarding the music programs here at Ormeau SS please email me at gcchi31@eq.edu.au

Gemma Christensen

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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS**

A busy term of representative sport to start the New Year. Beenleigh Zone and Pacific District team trials will be held in the following sports: swimming (week 2), rugby league and hockey (week 3), netball (week 4), soccer (week 6), Australian football and girls’ touch (week 7), basketball (week 8), softball and boys’ touch (week 9). These trials are for students born in 2005 – 2007 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.

Trials to select a team to represent our school at the Beenleigh Zone Cross Country will be held towards the end of this term. If you wish to try out for this team then you may wish to get back into training over the next few weeks.

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.

**2016 Swimming Carnivals**

Congratulations to all students who participated in our inter house swimming carnivals at the end of last year. And thanks to the parents who came along to support the students. Results were as follows:


**Year Level Champions**

- **Year 4:** Hayden H and Eden F
- **Year 5:** Travis S and Jessica N
- **Year 6:** Jet T and Toni G

**Champion House**

**GREVILLEA**

Kind regards

**Peter Tyne**

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**SCIENCE NEWS**

The Science staff would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning student scientists, who are already enthusiastically engaged in their science units. This year Mrs Janelle Cokley will be teaching all Prep and Year 1 classes; Miss Alex Griffani will be teaching classes in Grades 2, 3 and 4, as well as 5H; and Mrs Leanne Hines-Smith will be teaching the remaining Year 5 classes and Year 6. Students in Prep, Years 1,3,4,5 and 6 will be exploring Biology units this term; whilst Year 2 will be mixing up a storm in their Chemistry unit.

We always appreciate the support and charitable contributions from our school community. We are currently in need of donations of transparent CD cases please, along with any clean takeout containers for our experiments. Also as part of our Biology program, the science department is looking at revitalising the outdoor garden beds, so any donations of plants, seeds or garden equipment would be greatly appreciated.

Linking home and school is always our goal and we would value any input from parents involved in science fields in your own work life. Please let us know if you have skills and knowledge in Biology that you would be willing to share at some point in the term, either via a personal class visit, or through resourcing classes.

Looking forward to a bright science year ahead,

Regards,

**Alex Griffani, Leanne Hines – Smith, Janelle Cokley.**

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**SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWS**

Welcome back to the start of 2017. We also welcome new families to our SEP, and hope your experiences with us are both positive, and rewarding.

We hope all your children are settling in well to their new classes and would like to take the opportunity to introduce our Special Education Program (SEP) team to begin the year. Peter Giles is acting in the position of Head of Special Education Services (HOSES) role. Peter Giles, Rebecca Johnston, Leigh McKinnon and Christine 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, Nicole Smith, and Kim Love 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, gardening, and Art. We also have cooking on a rotating basis.

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 Leigh McKinnon 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.

Last year, we trialled an SEP mailing list which allowed us to disseminate information to parents. We have received much positive support, and will continue to use the mailing list again this year. If you have not already completed a mailing list permission, please ask and will provide you with the appropriate form.

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

Kind Regards,

Peter Giles, Rebecca Johnston, Leigh McKinnon, Christine Johnston and our lovely teacher aides.

P AND C NEWS

Welcome back to all Ormeau State School families and a special warm welcome to all our new families starting with us in 2017.

2017 is going to be a great year for Ormeau State School P and C. If you would like to jump on board with us and help our school please let us know. We have lots of fun and exciting new fundraisers and community events planned for the year. We have provided some basics in this newsletter update, but more is always available on our Ormeau State School P&C Facebook page. Take the time to join us to see what your school is up to, and get the communication flowing!

Our Uniform shop hours are:

- Monday 8.15 to 9.15am
- Wednesday 2pm to 3pm

Outside these hours you can order via flexischools.com.au and have your order delivered to your child the following day (as long as it is before cut off time of 4pm EST).

Hats are available over the Tuckshop counter every morning to purchase.

The Tuckerbox is so excited to be back and has a fantastic menu to get the year rolling. The ladies at the Tuckerbox do such an amazing job each and every day. If you would like to volunteer and have a good laugh, please head on up and see the ladies. Even if it’s just the smallest job, it all helps. Don’t be shy! The first time will always seem daunting, but I assure you that you WILL want to go back again… plus it is air conditioned!

Remember, flexi-schools is also our preferred ordering system for tuckshop. It’s fast, efficient and helps our Tuckerbox team greatly!

Next P&C Meeting

Monday 13th February 7pm
School Admin building (staff room)

Everyone is welcome
Please join our Facebook page to be updated on what we are up to each day!

‘Ormeau State School P&C’

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

School Banking Information Session.
Ormeau State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2017 are:

- Cyber Handball
- Colour Change Markers
- 3D Chalk Set
- Tablet Case
- Smiley Emoji Keyring
- Volt Handball
- Pencil + Tech Case
- Epic Earphones

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

School banking day is Monday.
We will be holding a School Banking Information Session at our school:

Time: From 8.15 am
Date: 9th Feb 2017
Location: Near bridge - Prep Area

Please join us and find out more about the School Banking program and how your child can get involved.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child you can visit the link below and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account. A School Banking representative will be available at the Information Session to show you how you can do this. In order to verify yourself and your child, you will need your driver’s licence and your child’s birth certificate, but if you don’t have these with you on the day, you can complete verification online at home.


Thanks

Banking parent volunteers

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Aussie Damper

3 cups self-raising flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons butter
1/2 cup milk
1/2 cup water
Golden syrup to serve

Method:

Pre heat oven to 200'
Sift flour, add salt and rub in butter to resemble bread crumbs.
Make a well, gradually and milk and water then knead together.
Form into a loaf shape on a floured tray. Milk wash the top and using a knife score the top.
Bake for 25minutes.

Damper is a traditional Australian soda bread, historically prepared by swagmen, drovers, stockmen and other travellers. It consists of a wheat flour based bread, traditionally baked in the coals of a campfire or in a in a camp oven.

Damper is an iconic Australian dish.
Stepping Stones Triple P is a specially tailored program for parents of children with a disability and autism aged 2 to 12 years. It is part of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, one of the world’s most effective parenting programs.

Stepping Stones gives parents the skills to raise happy, confident children and build stronger family relationships. It also helps parents manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with disabilities.

The following FREE Stepping Stones Triple P programs have been scheduled through the Robina Disability Service Centre:

**Group Stepping Stones (Intensive 2 Days)**
Day: Sat 6 May and Sat 20 May, 10am – 4:30 pm

**Seminars (each seminar focuses on a particular topic)**
Seminar 1 - Mon 30 Jan, 10 – 12:30
Seminar 2 - Tues 28 March, 10am – 12:30
Seminar 3 - Date to be Advised

More workshops to come in 2017; please contact Kim Atkinson or Rowena Woolley on Ph: 5656 5800 or go to the following link.