Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2016 and for your child, the start of Year One or Two.

This is the first note for 2016 in what will be another busy school year. I would like to begin by saying how much I am looking forward to working with your child this year and commend the children on such a settled and conscientious start to the year.

We have been busy establishing routines and developing a set of agreed learning habits that will enable each child in the class to work and learn in a safe and supportive environment.

Home Reading
I will begin sending readers home this week. The program will see most children change readers each day, bringing readers home that they have already practised in class. Many children are reading independently and I will be encouraging them to select books from the library to read. These, too, may be entered into the home reading booklets. I would appreciate it if every child could have a home reading folder. This could be a large pencil case or document folder and can act as a library bag as well.

Home Learning
I will also begin sending home learning activities home this week. Home learning will consist mainly of spelling activities and maths revision and children will be encouraged to complete the set tasks each week and then select a couple of the free choice activities. Home learning will be sent home each Monday and should be returned each Friday.

Library
The children will attend library lessons each Wednesday and should bring library bags for borrowing on this day.

Book Packs
Thankyou to all those who have purchased the book packs. Most equipment has been allocated to your child and as part of the increased level of responsibility being placed upon the children, I have asked them to keep their equipment together as a learning kit and to make sure they pack their equipment away for the following day’s use.
Parent Information Session
Parent information evenings have been arranged for Tuesday 16th February. These sessions are an opportunity for you to meet with me and learn about class expectations, routines and some of the learning units we will be engaged in this term. The program for the sessions is as follows.

3.30pm - 4.00pm - Tanya Thompson, Police Liaison Officer will conduct a meeting for all interested parents on keeping students safe online.
4.00-4.30pm - Afternoon tea in the school hall for all parents/carers and teachers.
4.30pm-5.00pm - Meet the teacher session one. (in my classroom)
5.00pm - 5.30pm - Meet the teacher session two. (A repeat of session one)

Crunch and Sip Break:
We have an eating break each morning. This is an important part of our routines considering that the children work each morning for two hours without interruption. I would ask that children have an easy to eat fruit/vegetable option for this break. Things such as cut up apple, banana, grapes, carrot or cut up melon are great options as we only dedicate a short period of time to this break.

Equipment:
Most necessary equipment for your child has been included in the book pack, however, it would be appreciated if you could supply the following items.

- A box of tissues
- A large pencil case or folder for home reading/library
- An art shirt

I look forward to a busy year, one filled with learning opportunities and challenges. As always I extend the offer to contact me at any time to organise a meeting should you have any questions or concerns you wish to discuss.

Regards,

Des Knight.
Classroom teacher