Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2 which is the longest term in 2016 at 11 weeks. I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing Easter break. As usual, we have a jam-packed term with lots of work and extra activities to get through. We have Interschool sport beginning this Friday and the ANZAC Day march next Monday. More information on both activities below.

Please remember that teachers are always happy to have parent-teacher meetings to discuss your child’s progress. Just contact your child’s teacher via email or in person to arrange a mutually agreeable time, alternatively, my door is always open.

Kyle Low

5.1 Anzac Day March

This year, ANZAC Day is on Monday 25th April. In the past we have had a large number of our students participate in the march and we hope for the same this year.

Please note the following details for this event; 10am - Students (in school uniform with hat) gather at the corner of Folkestone and Maryland Streets. 10.30am - Parade commences. 11am - Parents collect students at end of the parade on the corner of the Civic Centre (cnr Lock and Marsh Streets).

Students who are going to participate in this activity may wish to take home their school hats this Friday. Parents may also wish to take their children to see the wreath laying at the Remembrance Wall in Weeroona Park at 11.30am. We welcome as many students and parents as possible.

5.2 Dress for Weather

As the inevitable cooler weather approaches, we advise all parents to ensure their children pack a NAMED jumper each day.

In our experience, many children are packed off to school from a warm house and car and then find it cold at school.

5.3 NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May, students will undertake the 2016 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum.

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type...
test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. All students in these year levels are encouraged to participate in the tests.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers.

At school, we analyse the results to look at how students are progressing, as well as identify areas where individuals or cohorts may need support. We also use the information to inform school improvement agendas. More information is available by contacting the school.

5.4 Assessment Planners

This term’s assessment planner will be issued this Friday. Parents are asked to sign this document so it can be shown to teachers and then returned home. This page also has dates of other Greenlands events listed.

5.5 P&C Meeting Date Change—Next Wednesday

All parents are reminded that this term’s P&C meeting will be held next Wednesday the 27th April at 6.30pm. With the trail ride planning underway, we would appreciate if you could advise any area that you would be able to assist. We look forward to seeing many people attend. Make sure you bring a torch so you can safely walk back to the car without tripping.

5.6 Life Education Van

Next week, on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday the 27th April, Greenlands will welcome back Harold for the Life Education visits. This terrific teaching resource provides a drug prevention and health education program for primary school children. It provides a range of learning experiences for every year level that integrates with the current health syllabus offered by Greenlands.

The cost of the visit to the Life Education Mobile Classroom is usually $7 per student, but this year the visit will not cost anything. This is due to our sponsors: GB Fruit Freighters, Stanthorpe Rotary and school Rural and Remote Education Access Program funds.

5.7 New School Hats

The new school hats have arrived and are currently for sale from the uniform shop for $15. The hats are a functional, easy to wear and sun safe bucket hat with the school logo embroidered on the front.

A big thank you to Beth and the team from Stanthorpe Embroidery for producing the hats.

5.8 Cross Country Nominations due

The Granite Belt Cross Country date has moved to the 05th May and is being held at Severnlea for students aged 9-12yrs. 9 years old students is participation only and not trials for Granite Belt.

If your child wishes to nominate for this event, they will need to bring a note from you stating that they have done sufficient training for this event. This note needs to be handed in by Friday 29th May. Permission slips and information will then be provided to those students.

5.9 Interschool Sports

This term’s Interschool sports is Netball and Soccer. Greenlands has two teams competing in each sport. Mrs Helton and Mrs Johanson are coaching the netball teams and Mr Low and Mrs Butler are coaching the soccer teams.

Both sports have been discussed with eligible students (Yr.4-7) with games beginning this Friday. Volunteer transport will be required so please advise the appropriate coach on when you are available and how many students you can take.

5.10 From the Chaplain

By now you will have heard the news that I have submitted my resignation to Scripture Union and will no longer be working in the capacity as Chaplain. There have already been moves to find someone to take my place, so I am confident you will not be long without the services of a Chaplain.

It’s time for me to retire from permanent regular work. I am not getting younger and neither is Barbara.

You might recall in the last newsletter, I posed 3 questions: Where is the city of Netanya? How did it get its name? What does it have to do with the sinking of the Titanic? If you didn’t get time to do the research the following story will provide the answers.

Just over a hundred years ago two brothers and their wives were on holiday in Europe. They came from the US. They were businessmen. They owned Macy’s Department store in New York along with a few other businesses. They were very wealthy. Their names were Nathan and Isidore Strauss and while they were in Europe they decided to go to Palestine where quite a number of Jewish people had settled, having bought land from the Arabs. It was a time when Jews were subjected to persecution and many decided to return to their ancient homeland to escape persecution, particularly in Russia and other European countries.

They got involved in community development projects in Palestine because they saw that people were living in poverty. They contributed a lot of money to build schools and hospitals and other sorts of infrastructure.

Isidore and his wife Ida decided they had seen enough and they booked their passage back to America on a ship leaving Southampton, in England, on her maiden voyage. They wanted Nathan and Lina to go with them, but Nathan still had things to do and Isidore couldn’t get him to leave right away. It was agreed that they were to catch up with them later, in England and join them on their voyage back to America. The trouble was that Nathan was so caught up in the work in Palestine that he and Lina left it to the last minute to head off for England and the ship home. They arrived at Southampton on the 10th April 1912 but the ship had already sailed they were several hours too late.

On the 15th of April, 2012, the ship struck an iceberg. Isidore and Ida were last seen standing on the deck next to lifeboat number 8. They had just put their lady servant on to the lifeboat and Isidore told his wife, Ida to get into the lifeboat. She refused in favour of other women and children and because she and Isidore had been always together and she didn’t want to leave him now. They went down with the ship.

Nathan and Lina were heartbroken when they heard the news. Nathan saw the hand of God in his having missed the ship and returned to Palestine and his charitable work among the pioneers of the state of Israel. His work was so appreciated by the Jewish settlers that they named a city after him. If you look on a map of Israel, it is on the coast about 30km north of Tel Aviv. It is called Netanya. Netan is the Hebrew version of Nathan.

God bless you all,

John Tapscott

I would like to thank John for all the hard work and dedication that he has shown to Greenlands during his time here. The students always loved Wednesdays when Mr Tapscott visited as he was a caring and friendly ear who assisted wherever he could. We wish you all the best for the future! The position of Chaplain is currently being advertised and hopefully the process won’t take too long. I will advise as soon as the position is filled with the best candidate.