Welcome to week two!

We are now in week two and the students have all settled well into class. Based on today’s enrolments, we have 19 students this year. We were expecting a few more enrolments (as indicated last year) but at this stage that has not occurred.

Unfortunately, we didn’t receive very many responses to our acquaintance night this Thursday, so we have made the decision to cancel this event. We rely on all families responding to information given by the due date. It is near impossible to cater accurately for large numbers of people if more than half of the families do not respond. We simply do not have the time to ‘chase’ families for information. This year, we will not be chasing excursion notes, medical forms, attendance slips etc, the students will simply miss out on attending. All we ask is that you reply to requests on or before the due date.

As was indicated earlier, Maths groups will start next week (week 3) where the students will be split into three groups and will work with either Ros, Karen or myself. At this stage there will be several maths lessons a week where the students will be split into the three groups.

Next Thursday (17/2) Mrs T will be running the first canteen. Food orders need to be received by this Friday (11/2) and can be paid for when ordering or on the day. Late orders will not be accepted so I encourage you to fill in the order form and return it to school on or before this Friday. The canteen is only in a trial stage, if it is successful, Mrs T is happy to maintain and possibly extend it to other days, but if it is not taken up by the school community, it will cease operation.

I have recently been involved in discussions with the Open Access College to negotiate a suitable time for the students to have their Indonesian lessons. Each class will have two lessons a week, one via phone link up for half an hour and the other via the internet (also for half an hour). At this stage, the Upper Primary class will have a lesson on Monday at 12.10pm – 12.40pm and the Junior Primary class will have their lesson on Thursday 12.10pm until 12.40pm. I am unsure at the moment when the lessons will occur, but it will be in the very near future.

I have also managed to change our formal swimming ‘lessons’ to term 1 (rather than term 4). Despite the slightly ‘confused’ attempt of a summer that we are experiencing, generally speaking the weather is warmer earlier in the year than later. Therefore all students will participate in swimming lessons on Monday 28/2, Tuesday 1/3 and one other day yet to be confirmed (either that same week or the week
following). This works in well, as the students will have had two days of swimming lessons and will then participate in the 2011 Blanchetown, Cadell and Morgan Splash Carnival at Waikerie.

Have a great week.

Jason

**Acquaintance Night – Thursday 10/2 - CANCELLED**

Due to a lack of response, we have made the decision to cancel this year’s acquaintance night. I apologise to the few families that did respond.

**Volunteers Required**

We are seeking volunteers to assist with reading this year. To ensure our morning reading programme is successful, we need reading helpers. If you are able to make the commitment of listening to reading on a specific morning a week, we would love to hear from you.

**Blanchetown, Cadell and Morgan Splash Carnival**

Advance notice that we are holding the combined small schools splash carnival at Waikerie again this year on Wednesday 2/3. The day will more than likely commence at 9.30am and will conclude around 2.30pm. More information about times etc will be sent home shortly, but students will need to make their own transport arrangements to and from Waikerie on this day.

**Mid Murray Sports Day at Blanchetown**

This year we are hosting the Mid Murray Sports Day on Friday 8th April. To ensure that this event is successful, we need help and lots of it. Being a small school we rely on our parent and community helpers to assist. Once the steering committee have determined what action needs to be taken, we intend to allocate all families a task or job on or for this day to assist. This may take the form of helping set up for the event, marking lines, selling drinks, assisting with catering etc. We intend to have a roster in place so that no one will be ‘stuck’ on a stall etc. Many hands really do make light work and we appreciate your support in this matter.

**Eggs for Sale**

A reminder that we still sell eggs from the school chooks. All money raised goes back into the school, so by buying the eggs, you are supporting the school! Cartons of eggs are available for $3 a dozen.

**Play Centre**

The Blanchetown Playcentre meets once a week on a Wednesday morning from 9am – 12pm during school terms.

Children only need to bring a hat, a drink and a snack. Cost is $1 for one child or $2 per family per week and a one off yearly fee for insurance.

Come along and enjoy a catch up with other mums. Hope to see you there! All welcome.

Ina Reynolds

**Community Notices**

**Learn to Rock n Roll**

All welcome!!

A meeting of expression of interest of Children and Adults who would like to learn to ROCK N ROLL. On Wednesday 16th Feb 2011 at 4pm.

Venue Ramco Institute.

Please phone Beryl 85413868 or Anton 85414407 for enquiries and more information.
Lunch Order
Thursday 17/2/11

Name: ____________________

I would like to order the following:          PRICE

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TOTAL                                           ..................................

Choices for 17/2:  Roast Chicken Wrap OR something from the weekly menu