Welcome back to the school in 2015. It promises to be as exciting and educationally rewarding as last year and we are all looking forward to what the school year brings.

Firstly I would like to welcome Jane Dean into the school. This is the only change of staff for 2015 and most community members met Jane last year when she was relieving here for two weeks. It is great to have a teacher transfer in to Croydon that is experienced and is choosing to be here. Jane has been teaching in Caboolture for the past 15 years and has had a great deal of experience in teaching from the early years up to the senior years. Come up to the school and introduce yourselves to Jane and make her feel welcome.

Also welcome to Liz Carlson who will be working in the junior class for much of this year as she finishes her teacher training. I’m sure she will be a great asset to the school.

Welcome also to the new students that have enrolled, Eugen Logan, Ethan Stoddart, Lynnette Barlow, Reece Dempsey and William Morris.

I once again would like to emphasise the importance of students being at school everyday. Students have one chance in life and it starts with the standard of education they have when leaving Croydon State School.

Last year the graduating students all had the ability and the educational standards to go on to university because they had supportive families who ensured they came to school. Make sure your children get the same opportunity.

There are a number of sporting activities happening this term with Croydon hosting the swimming and touch football championships in the second last week of this term.

The touch football involves the students from years three to six, while the swimming involves all students from prep to year six that are able to swim 25 metres.

The dance eisteddfod will also be held at this time and will involve all the students in the school from prep to year six.

Swimming lessons will begin on Wednesday February 11th. All students are required to bring their swimming gear to school each Tuesday after this until the end of term.

Mr O’Neill will also hold club swimming sessions on Friday afternoons in association with the after school care activities.

A meet the teacher afternoon will be held on Wednesday February 11 from 5.00 - 6.00 p.m. This will give parents an opportunity to meet the teachers and to get a better understanding of the curriculum being taught in the classroom.

The first P & C Meeting will be held next Wednesday February 4th at 5.00 p.m. in the library. This meeting will mainly discuss the arrangements for the touch football. It is not an A.G.M.

As a part of the healthy lifestyles program we are trying to involve students more in organised team sports. To this end the under 12 students will be involved in touch football games over three Saturdays in Normanton on March 7th, 14th and 21st.

We can use the new school bus to transport the students to Normanton for the touch football. It will mainly involve students from years 4 - 6.

Croydon State School was also successful in obtaining a grant of $20,000 from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to assist with the purchase of a bus.

The first week of school has seen very strong attendance across the school. This needs to be maintained for the duration of the year. There are only 150 school days in a year. This equates to about 5 months each year where your kids are at school.

You have 7 months to do family and cultural activities each year. Let us have our 5 months so we can give your child every opportunity to get to university or into an apprenticeship. Your children need your support now for their future.

The first two hours of the day is a critical time for student learning. If they are constantly late they will not achieve as highly as they are capable.

Congratulations to Ashley Hughes who has been accepted to study engineering at the University of Queensland. A fantastic achievement by a Croydonite.
Our school expectations - Absentees

All children should attend school every school day

When students are absent

Ring the school on 47456197 before 9.00 a.m. with a reasonable explanation or provide a signed note.

If the student absence is to be for some time collect some work from school.

Students are required to be at school by 8.20 am to ensure they go into class in adequate time.

When students are late i.e. after 8.30 a.m. they need a note explaining their absence.

School Response to absences

2 days absence without explanation – class teacher will ring home to enquire

4 days absence without suitable explanation – Principal will ring home to enquire

If there is no response to the phone call then an Absence Letter will be mailed home, reminding parents/carers of their obligations to ensure their child attends school on every school day and the requirement for providing satisfactory explanations for all absences.

Absences greater than 10 days

If you are expecting that your child will be absent for greater than 10 days you need to apply for an exemption from compulsory schooling. This form can be accessed at school.