K Waffle
Parent Information Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to K Waffle! It’s a great pleasure to have your child in our class. Working together we will ensure your child has a rewarding and enjoyable year. This letter provides some information which might help.

General Information:

Other teachers who help us:
- Release teacher (RFF) - Mrs Lan Brown
- Librarian - Ms Bev Kessey
- Stage supervisor - Mrs Cassandra Williams

Our special times:
- Library - Monday 10:25-11:00 (please bring in a library bag)
- Computers - Starting Term 2
- Scripture - Monday 11:45-12:15
- Science and Technology (RFF) - Thursday 11:35-1:05
- Assembly - Thursday at 2pm every even week from week 4
- Kindergarten Sport - Friday 11:35-12:20

Homework:
- Homework booklet: Each week students are encouraged to complete a section of work from their homework booklet. Work within this booklet corresponds to what the students are learning in the classroom and therefore is revision. The completed homework for each week must be submitted on Fridays.
- Sight words: Each week students will be given approximately three sight words to learn. Please take the time to assist your child in reading them and help them to learn to write these words also. Students will be tested on how well they know these words weekly.
- Home reading: Students will bring home two books a week to read at home. It is important for your child to read these books aloud to an adult nightly. I encourage you to ask questions about the book once you have read it together. Your child must return their books to school to be changed on the same day they give their news presentation to the class.

Please note that consistent failure to submit homework impacts upon the eligibility to receive awards throughout the year.

Labelling personal items:
Please ensure that all of your child’s items, including clothing, hat and lunchbox are clearly labelled with their first, last name and class.

Using the school driveway:
Parents are not permitted to use the school driveway when dropping off or picking up a student. Parents and students must enter and exit the school via the front school gates. Students should never walk up or down the school driveway.
Fruit Break:
Students are invited to eat one piece of fruit in the classroom each day as a part of the school's participation in the 'Crunch and Sip' program. Students in K Waffle will consume their fruit at 10:00am. Please ensure you pack fruit that your child can consume within 10 minutes.

Nut Allergies
We ask that all parents continue to support our school as a nut free school as we have a number of children who have a severe allergy to nuts which could be life threatening. This includes all nuts, peanut butter and nutella.

Parent Helpers
If you would like to be a parent helper in the classroom to assist in listening to children read as well as changing home reading books please feel free to come and see me.

Sport
Kindergarten sport day is Friday. Sport will start next in Week 3. Children need to be wearing their sport uniform and sport shoes. You can purchase the sports uniform from the uniform shop. The uniform shop is open Tuesday 2:15 to 3:15pm and Thursday 8:30 to 9:30am.

Being absent from school
If your child is absent from school, please provide a written explanation outlining why they were away from school on the day returning to school. This is very important to ensure records are kept up to date.

Being punctual
Please ensure your child arrives to school prior to the 8:55am class bell. If your child is late to school, they must be signed into the front office by a parent or caregiver before attending class. If your child is consistently late to school it impacts upon their eligibility to receive awards throughout the year. If your child arrives before the 8:30am bell, please ensure they wait quietly on the silver seats in Area E before entering the playground once the bell rings.

Scripture
If you have not returned the scripture note and would like your child to attend please fill out the form and put into the silver box by Friday the 13th of February. Any notes handed in after Friday will not be accepted.

Academic Information

Kindergarten Programs:
Throughout the year, students will participate in various programs across the school to assist them in their learning. In Kindergarten, students will participate in the Language, Literacy and Learning (L3) program and the Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) program. Language, Learning and Literacy (L3) has been designed to complement the daily Literacy program for students who do not bring a rich Literacy background to their first year of school. Students receive explicit instruction in reading and writing strategies in small groups of three to four selected students. This occurs in the daily Literacy session.
Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) is a mathematics program that allows students to participate in 10 minute drill activities designed to improve their numeracy skills. The program motivates and encourages children to engage in Mathematics. We begin all lessons with a short and explicit game that aims to develop a specific skill. Students focus on identifying numbers, counting, skip counting forwards and backwards and addition and subtraction mental strategies.

**Human Society and it’s Environment:**

**Term 1: School Days.** This unit provides opportunities for students to explore the school, its surroundings and its people. The unit focuses on classroom routines and responsibilities and provides some opportunities to find out about other schools in other places and times.

**Term 2: This is me.** This unit provides opportunities to explore students’ lives and special characteristics. The unit focuses on students’ backgrounds, past experiences and memories, and on important people in their lives. It provides them with opportunities to compare themselves with others in their class and with people from different places and times.

**Term 3: Meeting needs.** This unit allows students to explore farm animals and the equipment found on farms. Students will examine how farms meet the needs of people and the wider community.

**Term 4: Places we know.** This unit provides opportunities for students to explore the immediate environment, which will include the school or classroom. They focus on the differences between familiar features and places, and between the activities that occur there. They make decisions about the care of these features and places.

**Science and Technology:**

Science and Technology will be taught as a stand alone subject during release from face to face (RFF) by Mrs Lan Brown.

**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education:**

**Term 1: Drug education.** This unit provides opportunities for students to explore safety measures when using medication.

**Term 2: Personal Health Choices.** In this unit, students discover how to make decisions about nutrition, how to access health services and ways to take preventative measures to stay healthy.

**Term 3: Child protection.** This unit allows students to identify safe and unsafe situations, healthy relationships and strategies to deal with bullying and abuse.

**Term 4: Active lifestyles.** This unit provides students with the knowledge of ways to be active and the components of a healthy lifestyle.

**Creative & Practical Arts:**

Children work and experiment in a variety of media to make artworks reflecting their investigations of the world as subject matter. An opportunity will be provided for children to perform in a number of areas including music, drama and dance. This
may include Steel Band, choir and dance group as well as at whole school assemblies. Students may experience the entertainment provided by visiting musicians throughout the year.

**Computers:**

Students participate in weekly computer lessons starting Term 2 in the computer lab. Kindergarten students will focus on the basic skills of using a computer and will explore using Microsoft Office programs.

**News**

K Waffle will begin news on Monday in Week 6. Telling news is an opportunity for students to share different things about themselves, practise speaking in front of an audience, posing and answering questions and to develop listening skills.

Your child will need to prepare news on the following day. (Please note that the day checked below is also the day your child must return their home reading folder).

- [ ] Monday
- [ ] Tuesday
- [ ] Wednesday
- [ ] Thursday

If your child wants to bring in an item to show the class on their news day, please ensure the item is clearly labelled with your child’s name and can fit inside their school bag. It is important that the item relates to the news topic.

Below is a list of news topics that Waffle will follow this term and some ideas of what your child could share. Please assist your child in preparing and practising what they will share with the class. Please assist your child in preparing and practising what they will share with the class. Students could begin their presentation by saying: “Good morning K Waffle. Today I will be talking about …..” To conclude their news presentation they could say: “Are there any questions K Waffle? Thank you for listening to my news.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Some ideas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Me</td>
<td>Bring one photo or drawing of yourself to share.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>My favourite toy</td>
<td>Bring one of your favourite toys. Remember it must fit safely inside your bag.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>My favourite food</td>
<td>Bring in a picture or drawing of your favourite food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>My favourite colour</td>
<td>Bring in an item that is your favourite colour to show the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>My favourite animal</td>
<td>Bring in a photo or picture of your favourite animal and tell the class why it is your favourite.</td>
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Helping at home:

- Anything that you can do which helps to maintain good relationships between home and school will help your child.
- Make it obvious that you consider education important.
- Be positive about school. Please contact me about any concerns you might have.
- Listen to your child read every night as part of homework.
- Read to your child each night.
- Help and encourage them with their work (but don’t do it for them).
- Take every opportunity to join in school activities.
- Make sure they arrive at school on time and are proud of the way they feel and look.
- Proudly display their work and any merit stickers, cards etc that may be earned.

School supplies:
If you have not already done so, please purchase the following school supplies for your child to use in the classroom:

- 3 large glue sticks (not liquid)
- 2 boxes of tissues
- Anti-bacterial hand sanitiser
- 2 packets of baby wipes
- 1 roll of paper towel
- Paint shirt or paint smock
- A labelled library bag

These supplies should be sent to school with your child. Please ensure you pay for the Kindergarten scrapbook no later than Friday 13th February as we will be using them from the following Monday.

Communication:

I believe a good communication system is important to ensure the highest quality of learning is achieved for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me in person either before or after school, by phone on 9605 1024 or email at cassandra.dowdell2@det.nsw.edu.au

Meet the teacher afternoon:

Meet the teacher afternoon is **Monday 16th February (Week 3) at 3:15pm**. During this time I will further discuss the information in this letter as well as additional information and answer any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing you all in K Waffle’s classroom for a special meeting and time to meet and greet with each other.

Kind regards,

Cassandra Williams
Relieving Assistant Principal / K Waffle Classroom Teacher