Welcome back to Milgate Primary School for 2017. We have had a very smooth start to the year with all students excited to return to school and see their friends. They are also excited to start a new year of learning. It was great to see so many parents on Wednesday morning gathering together and chatting as their children started the new school year. There are a number of new students and staff that we welcome to the school to become part of our learning community.

The Foundation students came to meet their teachers with their parents on Wednesday and they all began school together on Thursday. There was a lot of excitement, chatter and enthusiastic anticipation as they started their schooling.

During the holidays, the new portables were completed and Year 4 and 5 classes are located in there this year. These are excellent large rooms for flexible learning. In the next few weeks the new furniture will be arriving for them and the Apple TVs / interactive whiteboards will be installed. Over the holidays the small Mod 2 classroom at the back of the school where 2SL was located last year, was demolished and removed.

Getting to Know You Interviews | Tue 21 & Wed 22 Feb
Each year we hold these information sharing sessions between parents and teachers. To provide the best possible learning environment for your child relevant background information such as family circumstances, medical or health information is useful for teachers to know. These will be available before the end of today if you would like to arrange a time via your homepage in Compass – the link will be on the top-right of your screen in your News Feed.

Yours sincerely,
Debbie Mierisch | Principal
Karlie Gooding | Assistant Principal

2017 TERM DATES
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>30 January</td>
<td>31 March</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>30 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>22 September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>9 October</td>
<td>22 December</td>
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OFFICE NEWS

CSEF Applications
Eligible parents / carers may claim the CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund) amount of $125 per year if they meet the following criteria:

- Have a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school
  - on the first day of Term one
  - on the first day of Term two
- Have a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or be a temporary foster parent

Forms must be submitted by Tue 28 Feb 2017.
Forms are available at the office and parents must produce their relevant card with the application.

Accident Insurance and Personal Property
Parents or guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs.

Parents or guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

The Department of Education does not hold insurance for personal property brought to school and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

LEGO COMPETITION | BRICK FACTORY
Our Library Technician, Karen Jensen, will be competing in Brick Factor on Saturday 11th February at 11.15am, Chadstone Shopping Centre.

It will be held in front of Target, and it is a public event – anyone can go along and watch and cheer! There will be three rounds, culminating with the final knockout round on Sunday.

People are welcome to see Karen and ask questions in the library about the event!

Here is the Facebook link for the event: https://www.facebook.com/events/241114406316313/

YEAR 3 LIBRARIES | BOOKS WANTED
In Year 3 we have established 2 large libraries for the students to use and are desperately looking for more books to place in them.

If you have any picture story, fiction or non-fiction books that you are going to donate to the Op Shop or just get rid of, we would love for you to consider donating them to Year 3 instead. We are happy to take children’s books at various reading levels that are hopefully in fairly good repair. Children’s magazines like Helix etc. would also be gratefully received.

We dearly hope that you have some books that your children may have outgrown and would like to donate. If you do, please send them to Miss Dub’s room, 3TW which is closest to the car park in the Correa Building, for processing and adding to our class libraries.

Special thanks in anticipation,
The Year 3 team.

MILGATE COMMUNITY BASKETBALL
CONGRATULATIONS to our grand finalists, the Under 11 Boys Monsters for winter season 2016, who won in a nail-biting game over arch rivals, the OLOP Crocs. What a great effort boys! And congratulations also to coach Glen Murphy who did a fantastic job! Will be great to see you all out on the court again this year.

A very warm welcome to all players and parents for the 2017 season. We have had an overwhelming response to the school basketball program and are happy to advise that we have 7 teams playing in the upcoming summer season (Terms 1 & 2).

At this stage, all teams are now full and we are only taking enquiries for ‘waiting list’ applicants. Further details for the winter season (Terms 3 & 4) will be posted in due course.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the parents who have volunteered to coach and team manage this season. Your support is invaluable and the program simply could not run without you.

Best of luck to all our teams this week and for the season ahead. We can’t wait to see you all sporting the new Milgate uniforms. Have fun!

Janine Moll & Kym Hartley | Milgate Basketball Coordinators
email: milgatebasketball@gmail.com
IMPORTANT: STUDENT SAFETY

We ask all our families to please be considerate of others and abide by the road rules.

Staff Carpark
To ensure the safety of all our students there is no parent access to the staff carpark for parents at any time. Please do not use the driveway as you will block the flow of traffic. Parents and students are not to walk through the carpark entrance or the middle of the carpark as cars may be going in or out. Please follow the paving/lines only.

Accessing School Grounds | Landscape Drive
When entering or leaving the school from Landscape Drive, all parents and students are requested to use either the steps/paving between staff carpark and Administration building or the yellow marked lines across staff carpark.

Street Parking
Car parking is available in both Landscape Drive and Serpell Road. To ensure you are not fined by local Council or Police please ensure you abide by all parking signs and ensure you are parked legally.
- 3 minute parking | Landscape Dve - this is for quick drop-off and pick-ups ONLY. Do not park your car, do not leave your car, do not stay longer than the specified time.
- U-Turns are not permitted along Serpell Rd or in Landscape Dve.
- Double parking is illegal.
- Children exiting vehicles must be done on the kerb side of the road.
- Do not park in or across a resident's driveway.

Disabled Parking
There are 2 disabled car parks in Serpell Road and 1 disabled car park along Landscape Drive that can be used by permitted parents or grandparents. The disabled car park in the staff carpark is for the parents of students with a disability only.

Welcome Morning Tea | Tue 14 Feb - 9am
The Milgate Parents & Friends Committee are holding a Welcome Morning Tea in the Staff Room. Come along for a cuppa and learn a bit more about what we do. We need more parents to help with our up-coming events this year, including the Mother’s and Father’s Day Stalls, Disco, Community Picnic, Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, etc. If you can spare some time to help, we’d love to meet you. Please RSVP to milgate.pf@gmail.com if you can attend. Young children are welcome.

ALLERGIES | Nuts & Nut Products
A most important issue for us each year is that we have a growing number of students who suffer from a variety of severe allergies.

At Milgate we have a number of procedures and practices to ensure that appropriate precautions are in place. We ask that you be very conscious of the danger that nuts and nut products (e.g. peanut butter, Nutella / chocolate spread, muesli bars, etc) pose for these children.

We ask you to support the health of these children by not sending nuts or products containing nuts to school in your children’s lunches.

If you are sending food for sharing, perhaps for a birthday, we ask that you inform your child’s teacher prior to the day, so parents of these children are given the opportunity to provide a special treat for them on the day.

Thank you for your assistance.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
Located outside the Art room. Recent articles include:
- Parent Seminar | Working with Challenging Behaviours
- FREE Seminar | Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Parent Seminar | Early Intervention
- Kew Traffic School | Wednesdays – Play and Ride
- Sporting Activities | Various