Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Year 1. We are looking forward to a wonderful year working with you and your child as well as forming and maintaining home-school partnerships. We send a warm welcome to all our new students and families to Westmead Public School.

Our Year 1 teachers are:

- **1B** Mrs Bimwal
- **1K** Mrs Kadian
- **1H** Mrs Han
- **1S** Mr Scally
- **1C** Miss Cocking
- **1M** Miss Jallis
- **1J** Miss Beattie
- **1W** Miss Williams
- **1D** Miss Dooley
- **1N** Miss Nipperess

Our specialist teachers working with Stage 1 are:

- **EAL/D** ........................................ Mrs Mangelsdorf
- **Reading Recovery and RFF** ..... Miss Matijevic and Miss Purkis
- **RFF** ............................................ Mrs Cetindag, Ms Mantzios, Mrs Alley and Mrs Kim
- **LaST** ......................................... Ms Singleton
- **Library** ....................................... Mrs Xuereb, Mrs Oommen and Mrs Kobeleff

Throughout the year our teachers meet regularly to collaboratively discuss and plan teaching and learning experiences for our students. The following overview provides a general outline of the teaching and learning programs in Stage 1. Similar content is taught across each grade and students are working towards achieving Stage 1 outcomes by the end of Year 2. Learning experiences may be presented differently and at different times throughout the year. They are planned to cater for student needs as a whole class, group or individually.

**ENGLISH**

**Speaking and Listening:** Speaking and listening enables our students to clarify their ideas, explore issues, solve problems and develop understandings in all Key Learning Areas.

**Reading and Viewing:** Our students develop reading skills, strategies and comprehension through modelled, guided and independent reading experiences.

**Writing and Representing:** Students develop handwriting, spelling, grammar and punctuation through modelled, guided and independent writing experiences. A range of text types will be taught throughout the year. Our focus is on good quality writing.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Strands:** Number, Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement and Space and Geometry. The process strand, Working Mathematically is embedded into the five strands. Students are encouraged to use concrete materials and investigate and explain the methods they use to obtain answers. Learning experiences may be whole class, small group or individual.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT (HSIE)**

Classes will be covering the following units this term:

- **Science:** Our Living World
- **HSIE:** Wet and Dry Environments

**CREATIVE ARTS (CA)**

**Strands:** Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance. Years 1 Creative Arts groups will be on Fridays.

**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PD/H/PE)**

The Bounce Back Resilience program incorporates school and class rules, appropriate ways to play and learn together, core values and bullying. Students will also participate in a variety of sport and healthy lifestyle lessons. **On Thursdays Year 1 will have sport.** This term Stage 1 students will be learning about Healthy Living and fundamental movement skills during RFF.
LIBRARY
This term all Stage 1 classes will be participating in a weekly half hour lesson, which will include time for borrowing and returning books. Your child will receive a bookmark with the day they will visit the library.

Library lessons for Year 1 will now be conducted in our new ‘Junior’ Library located near the bottom basketball court. This is an exciting new learning space that is specifically designed to cater for our Kindergarten and Year 1 Students.

Fortnightly lessons over the term will focus on:
• Revisiting library rules and procedures and how to care for library books;
• Participating in the 2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC);
• Revisiting how to use the Web Library Enquiry facility, World Book Online and Student Internet Portal features;
• Cybersafety and Digital Citizenship including recap of responsible Internet usage.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Homework is given on Mondays and collected on Fridays. Our homework provides a range of activities which encourages your child to be more active and to participate in household tasks. There is also a section that addresses academic work which is based on work being studied in class and this should be completed with minimal supervision and help. If your child is having difficulty please encourage him/her to see the class teacher.

Classroom Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 x glue Stick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x box of tissues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x A4 homework book 128 pages (covered)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x home reading plastic zipped folder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x Library bag</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 x Whiteboard marker</td>
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*** plus 1 pair of button earphones to be used with the iPads ***

Stage 1 assembly is on Wednesdays from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. An invitation will be sent to you when your child's class is leading the assembly.

Birthdays are a special time. Your child may like to bring mini donuts, cupcakes or fruit to share with the class. Please do not send large cakes, balloons or party poppers as these are inappropriate at school. Balloons may cause choking or severe allergic reactions in some students. Party bags may include pencils, sharpeners, small novelty toys and a small amount of individually wrapped lollies.

Nuts - Please avoid sending nut products to school with your child for recess or lunch. These include peanut butter, Nutella and nut mixes, as several students in the school have allergies to nut products.

Parent Helpers - If you are available to help us in our school, please see your child’s teacher. We welcome any help with special events such as excursions and sporting carnivals.

Should you have any questions or queries please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher so the matter can be discussed at an appropriate time. If you have any further queries, please make an appointment to see Mrs Bimwal (Assistant Principal – Year 1) or Mrs Bridekirk (Deputy Principal). Please be reassured teachers will contact you if there are any concerns or questions about your child. For this reason and in case of an emergency, we ask that you ensure your contact information is up to date at the office.

Working in Cooperation,

Adrian Mort  
Principal

Mrs Bridekirk  
Deputy Principal

Mrs Bimwal  
Assistant Principal Year 1

February 2014