Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Year 2. 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 2 teachers are:

- 2B Miss Barnett
- 2G Mrs Gregory
- 2P Miss Partijo
- 2W Mrs West
- 2E Mr Boustani
- 2K Miss Koop
- 2S Miss Nguyen

Our specialist teachers working with Year 2 are:

- EAL/D Miss Hussein and Miss Mantzios
- RFF Mrs Ally, Mrs Cetindag, Mrs Kim, Miss Mantzios and Ms Matijevic
- LaST Ms Singleton
- Library Mrs Oommen

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 Year 2. 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 and viewing skills, strategies and comprehension through modelled, guided and independent experiences. They will be exposed to a range of texts, including printed, visual and digital texts.

**Writing and Representing**: Students develop handwriting, spelling, grammar and punctuation through modelled, guided and independent writing experiences. Throughout the year, students will write imaginative, informative and persuasive texts. Our focus is on good quality writing.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Strands**: Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. The process strand, Working Mathematically is embedded into the three strands. Students are taught to apply problem-solving skills. They 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 unit ‘Push and Pull’ this term. Students will explore pushes and pulls through a series of collaborative inquiry-based learning activities. They will make observations and gather evidence about how these forces act in air, in water and on the ground.

**CREATIVE ARTS (CA)**

**Strands**: Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance. Year 2 teach Creative Arts programs in their class groups. On Thursday afternoons, Year 2 students will participate in whole grade singing. During this time, the students will learn about musical concepts such as beat and pitch.

**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 2 will have sport.** This term Year 2 students will be learning about healthy living and fundamental movement skills during RFF.
LIBRARY
This year all Year 2 classes will participate in a **fortnightly one hour** lesson which will include time for borrowing and returning books. Your child will bring home a note with the day and week they visit the library as well as other library related information. Please ensure students bring a bag for borrowing (preferably a waterproof bag) with their name clearly marked on the bag and any books that need to be returned, so they are ready for borrowing each fortnight.

Lessons over the term will focus on:
- Revising library rules and procedures;
- Revisiting how to use the Web Library Enquiry facility, Worldbook Online and Student Internet Portal features;
- Participating in the 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC);
- Brief Cybersafety and Digital Citizenship introduction including recap of responsible internet usage.

A note will be sent home with further information regarding your child’s library day and further information regarding library, Premier's Reading Challenge and Worldbook Online.

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. 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>2 x glue sticks</th>
<th>1 x ruler</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 boxes of tissues</td>
<td>1 x packet of coloured pencils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x A4 homework book 128 pages (covered)</td>
<td>1 x pencil sharpener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x home reading plastic zipped folder</td>
<td>1 x eraser (rubber)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x library bag (preferably waterproof)</td>
<td>1 x pair of scissors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x black whiteboard markers</td>
<td>These items should be placed inside a labelled pencil case.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 x HB lead pencils</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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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 Miss Koop (Relieving Assistant Principal - Year 2) 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  
February 2015

Mrs Bridekirk  
Deputy Principal

Miss Koop  
Relieving Assistant Principal