Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Wow! We have finally made it. With only 7 days of the school year left for 2016, I want to say a major thank-you to everyone for your contributions this year. A school like ours runs only due to the hard work of staff, students and the wider community. We have built many links this year and that will extend into 2017.

Staff on Leave

Firstly, I would like to say thank-you to Jill Bredhauer for your many years of service to the Department and of course, to Drayton SS. Jill will be on leave during 2017 as she transitions into retirement. I would like to acknowledge her and pay tribute to such a caring professional who only strives for the best for all students.

Second, I can confirm that Adele McKenzie will be with us for the first 2 weeks of school next year, as she too will be taking long service leave after that for the rest of next year. Adele is a ray of sunshine with not only her positivity, but her creative approaches to music and the arts. Thank-you for everything you have done for the Drayton SS community, including choirs, concerts and countless rehearsals.

Finally, Chantelle Manteufel will be on leave next year as she looks to welcome the newest addition to their family later this year.

Chantelle’s last Physical Education lesson was last week. All the best with your new arrival and we wish you every health and happiness in what is such a joyous occasion.

Welcome to New Staff

Throughout 2017, there have been some changes to our teaching staff. Of course, class structures are never concrete until after Day 8. However, I can confirm that we will be welcoming the following teaching staff to our school for 2017:

- Emma Williams – Lower School
- Kathleene Long – Lower School
- Megan Krahenbring – Middle School
- Katy Goodall – Music Specialist
- Claire Garrells – Physical Education Specialist
- Chantelle Bauer – Special Education Specialist

Thank-you also to all our contract and relief staff who have worked with us through this year. Your work is crucial and I thank you.

Village on the Downs Performance

Yesterday, I had the privilege of watching our Choirs perform at the Village on the Downs. I am so proud of each and every participant who gave their 100% for village residents through a variety of choral numbers. From golden oldies to Christmas favourites (and everything in between), there was a tune (or musical solo) for everyone. A big congratulations to Adele McKenzie and Beaty Giaimo for your coordination and conducting, along with supervising teachers Deb Powell and Bev Vaschina. To our students – you did yourselves and your school proud.

Booklists

Booklist orders online through Browns have been should by now have been placed. You can pick up your order from the tuckshop at school on Tuesday 6th December between 8:00am and 9:30am from the tuckshop. You can also choose to collect your books from Browns anytime up to the beginning of school next year (Monday 23rd January, 2017).

As always, you are welcome to purchase your booklist requirements through other retailers. Please purchase items of similar quality, as we have found that poor quality stationery causes frustrations for children and teachers.

Prep Welcome Sessions

Thank-you to all our new preps and their families for working with us on the Prep Welcome Mornings over the past month. We look forward to seeing you and beginning your learning journey at Drayton SS together next year.

Report Cards

Student report cards will be sent home with students next Tuesday 6th December so please keep an eye out for these in your children’s bags and make sure you receive your copies. For those families who need a second copy of the report, the process will be as follows:

Both report copies will be sent home with the child;

It is the responsibility of the custodial parent for Wednesday December 10th to forward the second report to the second parent; and

If the second report is to be posted, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must be handed in to the office by the afternoon of Tuesday 6th December.
A note informing families of preliminary class placements for students in 2017 will be included with the report card. The Senior Leadership Team and teaching staff have spent many hours over the last few weeks determining the best options for students in 2017 and we look forward to working with classes and families again in 2017.

**Last Week of School Processes**

There will be many celebrations and events during the last week at school. Dates are listed on our website and down the left hand side of our newsletter. I have included a summary of the final week for your reference below also. I would like to thank our partner Woolworths Drayton for their support of our School Concert. We appreciate you getting on board and helping out.

**School Song Release**

I am looking forward to members of the Choir and Student Council unveiling our new school song, Honour and Success. Singer/songwriter Josh Arnold will be on hand to unveil the song written in collaboration with Adele McKenzie and Katy Goodall in our first live performance at the Awards Morning, followed by its debut at the Concert on Wednesday evening!

**A Reminder: Students Enrolling or Departing for 2017**

If you have any children who will be leaving Drayton SS next year, or who are enrolling at Drayton SS for next, could you please let the office know ASAP. This will greatly assist our planning and preparation for classes. We are really excited at the prospect of adding a 14th class to our school for 2017. However, we do work on student enrolment numbers. Hence, if your children won’t be here, or if you know of children who will be here next year, please contact the Office on (07) 4637 7444. Thanks in advance! We are excitedly looking forward to next year.

**2017 Key Dates**

At this stage, the Office will be open from Monday 16th January onwards. Classrooms staff will be back for Student Free Days later in that week, followed by the annual Cluster Conference on the Friday 20th January.

As per previous years, all classrooms will be open on Thursday 19th January from 1:00pm – 3:00pm for you to drop your books off and to meet your child’s new teacher. The first school day for 2017 is Monday 23rd January, 2017.

**On That Note …**

If I don’t get the opportunity to community further during 2016, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our entire community a Merry Christmas. Thank you for your support and encouragement of Drayton SS. I trust you will have a relaxing break and will enjoy the festivities that this very special time of year brings.

Please ensure you do take some time out to rest and recharge the batteries. However, I am also aware that this time of year can also be a lonely one for so many in our community. Let’s be the shoulder that a friend or family member can lean on if necessary. Let’s bind together to focus on the real meaning of this season.

All the best for a safe, relaxing and Merry Christmas, followed by a Happy and prosperous New Year.

Regards,

Aleksandr

Aleksandr Taylor-Gough.

PRINCIPAL

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**DRAYTON DRAGON AWARDS**

Our ‘Drayton Dragon Awards’ program exists in every classroom & aims to build the capabilities of every student with positive messages & lessons in each class about our school rules:

Be SAFE - Give your best EFFORT - Show RESPECT - Take PRIDE - Be RESPONSIBLE

This past fortnight has once again seen many of our students earning certificates for their efforts. They are as follows:

**Week Ending 17th November 2016:** N. Petzler, H. Brady, D. Cooper, L. Wood, A. Sharp, M. Bissett, C. Andrews, S. Francisco.


**Congratulations to our award winners!!!!**
The Latest Party Game – Big Foot Races

Made From Recyclable Products!!!

This week 3/4V have completed their BIG FEET! With joyful abandon, we carried our cardboard feet with stylish straps out to the race venue. On the count of 3, the race was on!! There were big feet flying high amongst looks of fierce determination in the race that was on for one and for all!!!!

3/4V had created their own ‘extremely fun’ birthday party game, made from an old box and unwanted linen. Clever 3/4V!!!

Uniform Shop

With only one week remaining for the year, we again remind parents to check lost property/classrooms for any items that their child may have lost throughout the term. When school resumes next year, please take the time to make sure that all clothing items are clearly labelled so that we can always return these items to you.

For those who have children going into year 6, if you haven’t already done so, you are able to come and purchase the senior polo shirts, available in a range of sizes. As always, if anyone has any good quality second hand clothes that they would like us to sell on your behalf, please come and see us at the uniform shop!

Opening hours for the week before school starts are as follows:

**Tuesday 17th January:** 9am-11am
**Thursday 19th January:** 12:30pm-3:30pm
**Friday 20th January:** 1-3pm

We will be open on the Monday that school returns (23rd) from 8:30-9:30am if there is anything missing.

Thanks to Julie Sneddon, Phillipa McKenzie and Deanna Canning for all of your ongoing assistance with the uniform shop this year, and to all the Drayton families have a safe and happy Christmas break!

Thanks,
Alisha O’Neill
Covener

Need a really affordable computer?

We have some old, second-hand computers that we would like to make available to families who don’t have one. These are computers from the school that have been replaced with upgraded ones, and we will be selling them for around $30.00 each.

Please lodge your expression of interest with the school office staff before the end of term if you would like to purchase one.

Garden Express Spring Bulbs Fundraiser Term 1 Next Year

We have all noticed the beautiful gardens in the school this year. Have you been inspired by the recent Carnival of Flowers to bring a bit of that spring colour to your own gardens next year? We will have the opportunity to do so whilst raising funds for the school in Term 1 next year with the Garden Express Spring Bulbs Fundraiser. Look out for the catalogue that will be sent home in Term 1. The flowers will be very cheap (bulb packs start from as low as $6 each) and 50% of the profits go to our school itself. The school will also receive 260 free bulbs to plant around the school grounds. Maybe we will also be the next school entrant winner of the Carnival of Flowers??

The Latest Party Game – Big Foot Races

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3/4V had created their own ‘extremely fun’ birthday party game, made from an old box and unwanted linen. Clever 3/4V!!!
Family Christmas Concert Evening and Programme

On the evening of Wednesday, 7th December, we will be holding our end of year presentation. This will be a fairly informal night in comparison with previous School Concerts, beginning with a Barbeque which will be fired up at 5PM ready to start serving at 5.15PM.

This year, our Stage will be set up on the oval so that parents may sit on blankets on the hill to watch the program. An area will be marked off for picnic chairs, and other chairs will be placed at the top of the rise for any grandparents or those who are unable to sit on the ground.

Please ensure that no seats are placed in the area for picnic blankets as we would like all visitors to be able to see their children perform. (In the event of inclement weather we will have to relocate in the School Hall.)

We encourage all families to bring a picnic blanket so you can sit and relax with The proposed starting time for the Band is 6:00pm, but this may depend on how the BBQ is moving along. However, food will be available after the concert begins. (Band members will need to have their instruments ready to play and tune up with Mr Gray at 5.45pm. He will advise the members where to be at that time.)

There are two school bands so the Beginners will join in part way through the item and they will play until 6.20PM. After the Band, most items will be 6 minutes each, and, as most classes have combined, this will cut down the length of the show this year.

Please find the order of our program below:

1. Band (Commencing at 6:00pm)
2. Year 5/60
3. Junior Choir
4. Years 1H & Prep/ 1C
5. Prep G & Prep S
6. Years 3BG & 3/4V
7. Years 2C & 2G
8. Year 6 S
9. Year 4P
10. Years 4/5GK & 5RK
11. Senior Choir (will sing the new Drayton SS Song with Student Council members)

ALL CLASSES WILL BE CALLED TO LINE UP 2 ITEMS BEFORE THEIRS. YOU CAN HELP BY USING THE ORDER ABOVE AS A GUIDE & ENCOURAGING YOUR CHILD TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE ON TIME.
News from Chappy Kate

Celebrating Life Together

Two weeks to go til the holidays and it is fun to see all the classes practicing their Christmas concert routines. Celebrating together helps us feel connected in community and it is a great experience for our students to participate together to celebrate the end of the school year.

We are inviting all our wonderful volunteers to join us for a THANK YOU MORNING TEA 11am-12.30pm next Wednesday 7th December. We appreciate your contribution to our school community.

Local Chaplaincy Committee Meeting

Our Local Chaplaincy Committee AGM was held 4pm Monday 21st November, at Bunker’s Hill State School. Thank you to Angela Small for continuing as our Chaplaincy treasurer. Jim Tiernan, Principal at Bunker’s Hill is continuing as our Chairman and two new Prep parents from Bunker’s Hill have taken on sharing the role of secretary. Jennine Laird, Wendy Liriges and Alice Gegg have kindly agreed to join as a Drayton representatives and we would still like to find some parent representatives.

Meetings usually occur once a term and will start in February 2017. If you would be interested in helping out on the Chaplaincy Committee, please contact Chappy Kate or Mr Taylor-Gough.

Positive Parenting Seminars

We have completed the Parenting Seminars for this year. 5 Drayton parents attended in the morning sessions and we had 7 parents from the community attend the evening sessions.

The Triple P website offers free access to the program online to all Queensland parents and carers. Other websites providing information and strategies include the Raising Children Network as well as the Parentline and Kids Helpline websites. Everyone needs help sometimes and all of these services are provided free and confidentially.

CHAPPY TRAIN

Thanks to all the students and families contributing to the Chappy Train. We will announce the winning classes next week.

If you have any concerns, please talk to your classroom teacher or you can contact Chappy Kate on 0412 198 067. Otherwise you can leave a message with the office or email me and I will get back to you as soon as possible. We are here to support you!

Chappy Kate can be found at Bunker’s Hill State School Monday and Thursday and at Drayton State School on Tuesday and Friday

Drayton 07 4637 7444 | Bunker’s Hill 07 4698 5319 email kateh@chappy.org.au

“SU Qld ... bringing hope to a young generation”
SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN – COMING SOON

Get ready for a ‘Sensational Summer’ of fun! Summer Holiday Club Program is coming and it is going to be one of the greatest holidays yet.

Here are just some of the feature theme days coming up:

**At the movies**
SING (PG) The movie event of the Summer is here. We’re off to meet Dapper Koala Buster Moon and see the world’s greatest singing competition!

**Science Spectacular**
Interactive Science Session - Bubble, Bubble, POP! Mini Scientists get ready, it’s time to experiment! With a take-home Science notebook.

**Flying Hole in One**
Frisbee Golf Course - Will you be first to score a flying hole in one? A colourful and wildly fun indoor obstacle course awaits and we’re ready to score! Plus, you’ll get your own take-home Frisbee!

**Inside Out**
Nesting Dolls - Design and take-home your masterpieces. Will it be a footy team? A music band? The choice is yours!

**Program Details**
Our closest Holiday Club locations are Middle Ridge and Toowoomba East. However Middle Ridge will be closed for the first week due to building maintenance. To book visit [www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclubs](http://www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclubs)

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.
From The Team at Camp Australia Drayton.

**Service Fees and Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Opening hours</th>
<th>Full Fee</th>
<th>Out Of Pocket</th>
<th>Casual Booking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care</td>
<td>6:30am – 8:55am</td>
<td>$14.85</td>
<td>$3.19 to $7.43</td>
<td>Add $5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td>3:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>$20.36</td>
<td>$5.09 to $10.18</td>
<td>Add $5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEER THANK YOU MORNING TEA

We have a wonderful group of parents and community members who volunteer here at Drayton State School in reading groups and classrooms, in the Tuckshop as well as our RI teachers and other community volunteers.

We are inviting all our wonderful volunteers to join the Drayton staff for a THANK YOU MORNING TEA 11am-12.30pm next Wednesday 7th December.

We appreciate your contribution to our school community.

We hope you can come and join us for morning tea next Wednesday 7th December in the Bendigo Staffroom.

If you can join us, please RSVP by Tuesday 6th December:

Name:............................................................................................................................................

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Name:............................................................................................................................................
**Table of events during the last week of School:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Times / Family Attendance (Finish time may be approximate)</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Please bring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td><strong>Awards Ceremony and 2017 Student Leaders 2017 Announcement, followed by Special Morning Tea for Visitors</strong></td>
<td>9:00am – 10:30am</td>
<td>DSS Hall</td>
<td>Cameras &amp; support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Year 6 Graduation</strong></td>
<td>5:30pm – 7:30pm</td>
<td>DSS Hall</td>
<td>Plate to share for supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7 State High School Orientation Day</td>
<td>8:30am—3:00pm</td>
<td>State High School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transition Afternoon / Taster of 2017 Teacher or Year Level</td>
<td>2:00pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td>Classrooms</td>
<td>N/A – Regular class activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Christmas Concert</strong></td>
<td>6:00pm – 7:30pm (BBQ from 5:00pm)</td>
<td>Oval</td>
<td>Costumes, camera, picnic blanket/chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Prep – Year 5 Class Celebration Day</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Various at school</td>
<td>As per class letters/notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Movie World Excursion</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Movie World</td>
<td>As per letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Final Day</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Classrooms</td>
<td>Summer Fun Gold Coin Free Dress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** indicates an event where Parents/Caregivers and Families are welcome to attend.