From the Principal - Mrs Maraga

Welcome to an exciting year at Regentville Public School

It is a privilege to have welcomed our staff, students and their families back to an exciting year of learning at Regentville PS. This year we welcome Mr Jones and Mrs Tinker to our staff, both teachers are wonderful educators who bring their knowledge, enthusiasm and skills to our school. I have been very impressed by the commitment and dedication shown by the teachers and the friendliness and enthusiasm of the children at our school. The children have been very busily working in their classrooms with lots of reading, writing, maths and science activities already evident.

Increasing enrolments may lead to a new class being formed.

As I indicated, in the letter sent home on the first day of school, the children have been placed in classes based on the student numbers that we had confirmed at the end of last year. The school has had a number of new enrolments this year of students who have moved into the area over the holidays. We are expecting a few more students to return from extended holidays and if that does occur then our numbers will reach the requirement for the appointment of an additional teacher to the school. This will necessitate a restructure of some classes with smaller class sizes being the bonus! It is anticipated that the students in Years 3 and 4 would be involved in the restructure, with each class benefitting from smaller numbers. It is hoped that we will reach the required number of students attending our school in 2015 soon so that the restructure can happen in a timely manner. Parents and caregivers of any students who will be affected will be notified prior to the children being moved. If we do not reach the required numbers the classes will remain as they currently are.

Kindergarten commence their first year of school

On Friday we greeted one hundred and eight Kindergarten students as they began their very first day of school. The children have had a very settled start to their schooling and their learning journey here at Regentville PS. This is such an exciting time for the children as they make new friendships, learn new routines and many new skills.

This year the children attended school prior to their first full day to complete the Best Start Assessment. Thank you to our parents for their support of this new initiative in the way we conduct our Best Start Assessment.

Parent Information Session, Sausage Sizzle and P&C on Tuesday 10 February

During our parent feedback sessions last year there were suggestions that new families to our school would like the opportunity to hear in detail how some things work here at Regentville PS. Topics that were highlighted included the Awards system, Assemblies and Regentville Rocks. To assist in sharing information, as well as welcoming new families and meeting up with our long term supporters to our school Mr Bamford and I will be conducting an Information Session for Parents. This session will start at 5.30pm outside the Library with a P&C supplied sausage sizzle, followed at 6pm with an Information Session in the Library where questions will be answered. The first P&C meeting of the year will follow at 7pm and all are welcome to attend.

If you would like to attend the Information Session we would appreciate an RSVP by going to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and using the event code 82VGQ. You will be asked for your name, email address for confirmation email and the number of adults attending. If you require further information please call me at school.

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held in Week 5.

Each year we schedule parent teacher meetings early in the school year to allow parents and teachers to meet and discuss the children and their learning goals for the year ahead. This year the meetings will be held throughout Week 5. Further details, including how to make an online booking with your child’s class teacher, will be sent home in the upcoming weeks.
Star Performers

Congratulations to all of the Kindergarten students and their parents for a smooth start to 2015.

**Payment Due**
- Swimming Carnival $5 or $10 due by 12 February

**Dates for the Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Feb</td>
<td>Portrait Photographs for all new students. For school use.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>Parent Information Session and BBQ (see item)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm. All welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>Physical and Nutrition survey for selected classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Feb</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Meetings this week (see item)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Feb</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival (Yrs 3 - 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Mar</td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Mar</td>
<td>Last Day Awards Trading</td>
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<td>26 Mar</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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**Allergic Reactions**
There are an increasing number of students who have allergic reactions, some potentially life threatening, to peanuts. It would be appreciated if peanuts, and products containing them, be excluded from student’s lunches and kept as treats for home.

**Late Arrival/Early Leaving**
A reminder that if your child arrives after the morning bell at 9am or has to leave prior to the 3pm bell they will need to report to the office to receive a late note/early leaver note. This procedure is a legal requirement that is necessary to keep our class rolls accurate.

**Swimming Carnival**
The school Swimming Carnival is on Tuesday 17 February at Ripples Swimming Centre, St Marys. Please ensure that your child’s green permission note and money is returned to the office by 12 February 2015. Their pink (girls) or blue (boys) entry form is to be returned to the library by the same date. **We do not accept entries on the day.**

You will note that there is the option to request an outside lane on the entry form. We will try and accommodate your request, but cannot guarantee it. Please tick the outside lane box only if you absolutely have to. The pool is well supervised and we do have a life guard.

Thank you.

Mrs Healey

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**Star Performers**

- Congratulations to all of the Kindergarten students and their parents for a smooth start to 2015.
Parent Information session and BBQ
On Tuesday 10 February, we will be conducting an information session for new and existing parents about general school operations. The session will be led by Mrs Maraga and Mr Bamford. The P&C will be putting on a sausage sizzle from 5.30pm outside the library before the session starts around 6pm in the Library. There will be an opportunity for parents to ask questions in person or by writing them down on paper provided on the night. Topics will include:

- Teaching and learning;
- School operational matters;
- Office procedures;
- Programs and activities available to students, and
- Calendar events.

We will be using our School Interview online resource as a means of registering numbers for the session so that we can cater appropriately. The instructions for this are included below.

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
2. Use the Event Code 82VGQ
3. Enter your details - name, email address, numbers attending.
4. Click FINISH and an email will be automatically sent to you.

If you require further information about this session please feel free to contact the office on 47331615.

School Leaders 2015
The captains for 2015 are:- Angela S and Max O.

The school leaders are:- Tianna E, Zahlie V, Matthew K and Luke V.

School Selected to be Player Mascots at the A-League.
Walking onto a field at a packed stadium while holding the hand of an A-League Football player will be a reality for twenty-two of our students on Sunday, 8 February at Sportsbet Stadium, Penrith. The school is honoured to be invited to perform this memorable task when the Western Sydney Wanderers play Wellington Phoenix. Selected from Stage 1 and Year 3, the children will be accompanied by five of our teachers as they meet the A-League players, accompany them into the Players’ Tunnel and walk with the players onto the field. There will be many photo opportunities and the children most certainly will have their own special memories of the day. The school joins together to wish the children a fantastic time and thank WSW for this special opportunity.
ANZAC DAY 2015

As most of your children will be able to tell you, this year commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli Campaign and the birth of the term ANZAC. To mark this significant event we would like to prepare something special and personal for our ANZAC service.

We are planning to create a slide show which we will show during the service which will include photos of those service men and women who are relatives of the Regentville Public School Community. If you would like to contribute to this please email a photo of your serving relative stating their name and rank and where they served. Also a small snapshot of your child/children to show the connection.

These photos need to be emailed to me at kim.scott16@det.nsw.edu.au

I would like to start receiving these as soon as possible as I am expecting a good response and would like to start putting this together sooner rather than later.

Thank you.
Kim Scott

This will be the only paper copy of the newsletter sent home this year unless we receive the slip below.
All future newsletters will be emailed to addresses on our school files. Please contact the school if you have recently changed your email address.

Digital Newsletter

The newsletter is available on the school website and it is also emailed to parents to reduce the cost of producing paper copies. There are also a small number of copies available in the front office display.

If you are not able to access the internet at home to view the online version or receive the email version of the school newsletter, please return the attached slip to Mr Bamford so that a paper copy can be arranged.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please feel free to contact Mrs Maraga or Mr Bamford.

I am unable to access the internet to view the school newsletter online.

Please send me a paper copy with my child ______________________ of class ________________

Parent Name: ________________________________
Procedures for Mobile Phones at school

- Students should only bring mobile phones to school if parents deem it necessary to make contact before and after school.
- Mobile phone contact is not needed during school hours because any emergency contact can be made through the office.
- Phones should be brought to Mr Bamford’s office as soon as the student arrives at school.
- Phones can be picked up from the office at 3pm.

We cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage to phones that are left in student’s bags.

Road Safety Around the School

A number of parents have contacted the school to report incidents regarding the dropping off and picking up of students around our school.

There are several key points that need to be highlighted:

- The ‘Kiss-and-Drop’ zones are not parking areas. They are designed for parents to stay in the car with the engine running, to drop off/pick up, then leave. Under normal circumstances this process should take no longer than 20 seconds. Council Rangers and Highway Patrol cars randomly patrol these areas;
- Students have been asked not to walk out into the bus bay area at the back to get into waiting cars;
- The car park areas are not to be used to pick up students or as pedestrian access. **CAR PARKS ARE FOR STAFF PARKING ONLY.**
- There are pedestrian crossings at the front and rear of the school that should be used at all times. Adults need to model safe practices to all students;
- Parking on or near the pedestrian crossing is illegal and extremely dangerous.

We are aware that parking spaces are limited, however, it is everyone’s responsibility to ensure that our students are not put in danger.

Some parents ask their children to wait 5 to 10 minutes before coming and picking them up. If you are able to wait a few minutes, the congestion eases to make picking up quick and easy.

We look forward to your support with these issues to help make our school area safe for the students.

Library News

Borrowing of books will commence next week, so could you ensure that your child has a library bag. Students are allowed to borrow 2 books at a time.

A yellow note with information about the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge will be sent home. I would encourage all students to participate in the Challenge.

Happy reading.

Mrs Healey
Blue Awards and Silver/Gold Trading System

Blue Awards are one of the many ways that teachers can acknowledge student achievements in the classroom. These awards are presented at Friday assemblies to students and records are kept of all students who receive an award.

Once a student has collected 4 Blue Awards they can bring them to school and give them to Mrs Garland (Kindergarten to Year 2 students) or Mrs Macleod-Jones (Year 3 to Year 6 students) to be traded in for a Silver Award. This can be done anytime up to the Friday two weeks before the Gold and Silver Assembly for each term. No awards can be accepted after this date as time is needed for printing of awards and sending home invitations to parents.

A Silver Award will be awarded to a student who has earned and submitted 4 Blue Awards and has also satisfied the criteria on the award,

“Very Good Behaviour, Consistent Effort, Positive Attitude, School Citizenship”

It is important to note that Silver Awards may be withheld from a student if they do not satisfy the criteria stated on the award. This is an important part of the process that protects the integrity of the award. Silver and Gold Awards are presented each term in the second last week at a special assembly and parents receive an invitation to attend the assembly to see their child receive their award.

A Gold Award will be awarded to a student who has earned and submitted 3 Silver Awards and has also satisfied the criteria on the award,

“Excellent Behaviour, Consistently High Effort, Enthusiastic Attitude, Outstanding Citizenship”

In addition to receiving Blue Awards from their class teacher, students can collect 4 smaller awards from Library lessons, and RFF lessons (Music and PD/Health/PE) that can be traded for a Blue Award. NB. Computer classes have been replaced by PD/Health/PE classes this year. Therefore a mixture of Computer awards and PD/Health/PE awards can be traded for a Blue Award.

While this process may seem complicated the purpose is to acknowledge individual students on a regular basis and encourage the qualities outlined on the Silver and Gold Awards in all students.

If you require clarification about any part of this process, please contact Mr Bamford at school.

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\begin{align*}
4 \times \text{Small Library Awards} &= \text{Blue Award} \\
4 \times \text{Small PD/Health/PE and Computer Awards} &= \text{Blue Award} \\
4 \times \text{Small Music Awards} &= \text{Blue Award} \\
4 \times \text{Blue Awards} &= \text{Silver Award*} \\
3 \times \text{Silver Awards} &= \text{Gold Award*} \\
2 \times \text{Gold Awards} &= \text{Honour Board*}
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* NB. These awards may be withheld if the stated criteria are not met.