Dear Parents, Staff & Students

On behalf of all the staff we welcome everyone back to Kismet in 2014. We extend a particularly warm welcome to all those new families joining our learning community for the first time – we look forward to working in partnership with you so that your child may reach their full potential. Over the next few weeks all classes will be participating in our ‘Start Up Program’. During this time teachers will be setting up school expectations which will assist us all to have an enjoyable and productive year – both academically and socially.

Please note that our first school assembly for 2014 will be held at 2:30pm on Friday 14th of February.

Regards
Glenn & Diane

Hours of Supervision in Grounds:
Please remember students should arrive at school from 8:40am and leave grounds after school by 3:30pm. Grounds are supervised from 8:40 – 8:55am and from 3:15 – 3:30pm. If you need to access the school earlier in the morning and/or later in the afternoon than these times we do have an excellent Out of School Hours Care facility which is managed by Extend. For further information and bookings please call 1300366437.

Community Welcome BBQ & Class Information Evenings

Tuesday 12th February Prep – 2

Wednesday 13th February Years 3-6

Please note these dates which are a great opportunity to get to know your child’s teacher and learn about classroom expectations and programs.
Invitations will be sent home tomorrow detailing times and locations.

Meeting With Class Teachers

NB. As teachers often have team planning and meeting commitments before and after school we ask that parents, wherever possible, make an appointment to meet with teachers so that issues can be appropriately addressed.

ANAPHYLAXIS

As you would be aware there are a number of students within our community who suffer from allergies related to nut, egg and dairy products. Some of these allergies can be triggered simply by coming into contact with food packaging or incidental contact with a child who is eating a particular food.

While we follow the recommended practice of not banning particular products we strive to minimise the risks associated with these allergies by: Banning the sharing of food amongst students—Encouraging the correct disposal of food wrappers.

For special events such as birthdays only commercially manufactured / packaged foods clearly labelled with ingredients can be brought from home so that staff are able to identify contents and distribute appropriately.

We also ask families that wherever possible to avoid including trigger foods containing nut products in their children’s snacks and lunches.

We appreciate the community’s support of these practices and ask parents to reinforce the importance of these guidelines with their children. We thank you for your support.

A copy of the school’s Anaphylaxis Policy and Anaphylaxis Prevention Strategies document are available at the office. If you require any further information please contact myself, Diane or your child’s teacher.

If your child suffers from any allergic reactions / anaphylaxis please ensure that we are aware of their condition and that you have supplied the school with the appropriate information and medication required to care for your child. Please contact Vanessa immediately on 9744 4566 if you would like to discuss your child’s care.

Kismet News

Empowerment & Excellence in Education for all

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Friday 7th February: Grade 4 –6 House Swimming
Tuesday 11th February: Prep-2 Community Welcome
Wednesday 12th February: Grade 3-6 Community Welcome
Friday 14th February: 2:30pm Assembly

Monday 10th March: Labour Day (No school on this day)
Tuesday 11th March: Curriculum Day (No school on this day)
Monday 17th March: School Photos

Friday 4th April: Last Day of Term 1

30th January, 2014

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**Minimum Absence = Maximum Learning Opportunity**

Some absences are impossible to avoid. Genuine illness, bereavement, etc are examples of the ac-ceptable reasons for a child being absent. However, every time a child is late for school or absent from school the child’s learning progress is disrupted.

Most teaching is sequential—what is taught and learned today is foundation which enables the chil-dren to understand and master what is taught tomorrow. It is usually harder for a child to catch up on work missed, than to master it when it is being taught in class.

To avoid disadvantaging your student parents should minimise absences by:

- Arranging doctor and dentist appointments out of school hours
- Develop in your child the habit of being on time to school each day by making sure they get there on time - no excuses
- Ensuring that personal shopping trips for your child occur out of school hours
- Not allowing children to remain at home for minor / frivolous reasons
- Arrange for birthday celebrations, etc, to occur out of school hours

*Please remember to provide a written explanation of any absences to your child's teacher when they return to school. Student attendance is carefully monitored and parents are contacted when frequent absences occur.*

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**UNIFORM/DRESSECODE POLICY**

Kismet Park observes a dress code that all students are expected to follow. Promoting a sense of belonging to and consequent pride in our school. If a child is unable to wear the school uniform on any particular day, the parent should advise the class teacher in writing, indicating the likely duration that the student will not be in complete uniform.

**PURPOSE:** To promote a sense of belonging to and consequent pride in our school.

**OBJECTIVES:** To eliminate the competitive aspect of wearing fashionable clothing, often resulting in peer pressure difficulties.

- The only jewellery items permitted are watches and sleeper and stud earrings. No other facial jewellery is permitted.
- No make-up is permitted, however children will be encouraged to wear clear sunscreen in Terms 1 and 4.
- Dying of hair in non natural colors (eg Blues, greens , reds) or extreme haircuts are not permit-ted.
- Children are encouraged to have long hair tied back.

**HATS:** All children are required to wear a hat while outside during recess and lunch between Septem-ber and April.

All children must wear a hat while participating in PE and Sport during Term 1 and Term 4.

Children who do not bring their own suitable hat will not be able to play outdoors on that day. A suita-ble school hat to wear during outside activities is particularly important.

**BREACHES OF POLICY:** When a note is not presented explaining why a child is not wearing the pre-scribed uniform the following procedure will occur, the class teacher will record the incident and re-minds the child, if within a 4 week period the teacher will make contact with the parent. If the inci-dent occurs a third time within the 4 week period the Principal will make contact with the parent and the child will require to attend a detention to discuss the Dress Code and Student Code of Conduct .

**FOOTWEAR:** Closed shoes or runners only. Thongs or opened toe sandals must not be worn.

On days when sport or PE are anticipated, runners must be worn or brought to school.

For the Full Policy please contact the office.