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Respect Honesty Pride Success

Welcome to the 2017 school year which has started smoothly at Roxburgh Homestead! I wish to welcome back those who were at RHPS last year and a special welcome to the new families who have just joined us. I wish to thank everyone for making me feel so comfortable upon my arrival and I know we will work well together to provide a stimulating learning environment for our students.

All classes are settled, providing a calm and orderly environment, allowing for rigorous learning to take place. I have been visiting as many classrooms as I can every day to enable me to be visible and present in the students' lives. I thoroughly enjoy spending time in the classrooms, talking to students about their learning and to teachers about their practice.

We saw 104 prep students start their formal years of schooling with us last week and quickly settle into the supportive environment which we provide. They are being exposed to the routine of the day and encouraged to participate in all the activities offered.

RHPS has a very good reputation as being a supportive and enriching learning environment and we aim to continue to provide the best for our students and community. This year we have a new structure in place which will further support the implementation of the existing Strategic Plan.

The school will consist of Sub Schools, (Learning Communities), where a leader has been allocated to work alongside teachers, students and parents. The structure is as follows:

Sandra James (Assistant Principal) - Sub School leader (Learning Community) Prep-2

Alex Mowat (Lead Teacher) - Sub School Leader (Learning Community) Gr 3/4

Pat Lynch (Assistant Principal) - Sub School leader (Learning Community) Gr 5/6

This structure allows Sandra, Pat and Alex to be closely aligned with specific areas, planning, leading and working alongside the teachers in their Sub Schools. This also provides an opportunity for them to know the students to a greater degree and the parents. Of course, the classroom teacher, then the Team Leader, are always the first ports of call for any concerns or information parents wish to pass onto the school.

I will be working alongside the Specialist Teaching Team which will enable me to be closely aligned with their planning and teaching and provides me with the opportunity to become better acquainted with this area of our learning communities.

I will provide further information about the above structure, in the coming newsletters and will keep you informed regarding the teaching and learning of our school. There is an excitement at RHPS, which is credit to Barb, staff, students and parents. I thank Barb for her effective leadership over the years and I look forward to leading RHPS further into the future.

Again, thank you to all for your warm welcome and I look forward to meeting as many of the community as I can and hearing about what makes RHPS such a great school.

Yours in learning,

Julie Lowerson

Principal

KidsMatter

Welcome back to 2017.

What an exciting time it is to be a member of the Roxburgh Homestead Primary School community this year. We have had many new staff and students join our community in 2017 and I'm sure each of them will bring something special to our school community. I'm sure you will make them all feel welcome.

As part of our KidsMatter focus in 2017, staff at school will be addressing the Social and Emotional Learning of our students. Teachers will be exploring this in class, during specialist sessions and we are looking forward to seeing the growth of our student's resilience, emotional understanding and collaboration skills throughout the year.

Child Safety Standards

As part of the Child Safety Standards introduced at our school last year, the staff developed the statement- *The Roxburgh Homestead PS community are committed to the safety and empowerment of all students.*

This statement will underpin our decision making when developing, improving and reflecting on the way we do things at school to ensure that all of our students are learning in a safe environment. Through our newsletter, website and notes home I will be sharing with you some of the strategies and changes in process that we will be using, so that you can help to support us to make our school a safer place.


I look forward to working with you all in 2017

Pat Lynch

Assistant Principal

dates to Remember

FEBRUARY 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat / Sun
13th	14th	15th <u>No School Preps</u> Prep Screenings	16th	17th	18th/19th
20th PHOTO DAY!! 	21st	22nd <u>No School Preps</u> Prep Screenings	23rd	24th	25th

Art News

Dear Parents,

I am looking forward to teaching your children in art and craft again this year.

Art is very enjoyable but can get messy. Please ensure your child has a smock.

If you have newspapers, magazines, plastic containers, small boxes or anything else you think might be useful, please send them to the art room.

Thanks Geoff



Speech Pathology News

What is a Speech Pathologist?

Speech Pathologists study, diagnose and treat communication disorders, including difficulties with speech, language, social communication, fluency and voice. People who experience difficulties swallowing food and drink can also be helped by a Speech Pathologist (SPA, 2016).

Please read below to find a snap shot of what will be happening this year:

Adrianna G
Speech Pathologist

Oral Language Classes:

At Roxburgh Homestead Primary School we are dedicated to promoting oral (spoken) language in the classroom. The teachers have been trained to use Colourful Semantics, a colour coded grammar system, to enhance students' vocabulary, sentence structure and grammar.

Speech pathology guides for parents:

Watch this space in the newsletter for monthly tips and strategies to promote your child's:

- Language growth
- Speech development
- Vocabulary
- Understanding
- Ability to follow instructions
- Reading



No Pens Day:

Each term there will be a whole day focused on oral language. This is our "No Pens Day".

On this day students will participate in a range of engaging activities to develop their oral language skills. This means NO pens will be used throughout the day.

Language Groups:

Small group language withdrawal sessions will occur twice a week. These sessions will target a range of language skills such as vocabulary, grammar and following instructions.

Phonological Awareness Groups:

Small group phonological (sound) awareness withdrawal sessions will also occur twice a week. These groups will be focused recognising and manipulating sounds in words. These are foundation skills required for reading and writing.

Speech Sound Therapy:

By using a range of techniques, these sessions will target articulation, the production of speech sounds.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017.

Welcome back to our families returning and also to the new families that have joined us in 2017. As in previous years we would like to go over a few little items to make your time with us a little easier.

Enrolments.

As per our Policy and Procedures we must have a new enrolment form each year when attending care; this enables us to keep up to date with any medical problems, changes of contact details and many other things that can be overlooked throughout the course of the year.

Prep Children.

Prep children will be escorted to their classrooms in the mornings for term one or for a longer period at the request of families; they will be collected by a staff member from their classrooms for the first term or at the discretion of the classroom teacher or families after that.

Outdoor play.

We will endeavour to try and take the children outside each day for some fresh air and sunshine; the children are expected to have a suitable sun-smart hat during term one or at the discretion of the co-ordinator after that. Children that do not have sun-smart hats must play under the shaded areas while outside; they are not permitted to play ball games without a hat.

Star of the Month.

Each month our staff discuss who deserves the Star of the Month; we try to share this amongst the children attending and who do that extra little bit to help us in any way. This month we have decided to award it to Jordyn Albrecht from grade 3. Jordyn is very helpful in the mornings when it is time to pack up; she is the one that Danielle and Beulah know will always give them a hand putting things away and also help them with the younger children.

Well done Jordyn!



Program Plan.

We plan for the program each week. A copy of the plan is displayed on the wall above the sign in bench. We document what activities we will be doing for the week and also what we offer for afternoon tea. Please have a look and any feedback or suggestions are always appreciated. Children's allergies are taken into consideration when organising snacks offered to our children.

Vacation Care.

As you are probably aware, we had to cancel our January Vacation Care this year due to lack of enrolments. The program is not viable if we do not receive at least 20 enrolments for any given Vacation Care period. Danielle will be organising a short survey to look at future programming for the year. We will keep you informed of any results well in advance of the April Vacation Care program.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

CSEF

If you hold a Health Care Card, please collect a CSEF Application form from the office to complete and return with a copy of your card.



If you have trouble understanding this notice, please contact the school office'

**Bu notu anlamak için yardıma ihtiyacınız olursa,
lütfen genel ofise gelin.**

ولتقديم اي نوع من المساعدة يرجى الاتصال بالادارة العامة للمدرسة