Welcome back. It’s going to be a very exciting year and we have a lot planned that the children will love. I hope you all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed your family time. Welcome to our new families and new Prep students. This year our school focus is reading. Everything we do will revolve around improving every child’s reading – either their fluency or their comprehension. This week the newsletter has come out today and next week it will be Thursday as the 3rd of February is a public holiday for the Stanthorpe show. There won’t be a newsletter this Friday however usually newsletter are sent home every Friday.

**Resources**
Everyone took up our Student Resource Scheme so that means your child will not need to bring anything to school. All stationery and books are provided. Thank you for your acceptance of this new scheme. It really makes it so much easier for yourselves as you don’t have to go out in the pre-school rush but also for us as we know everyone has everything they need. Thank you.

**Parade**
Parade will be every Monday afternoon at 2.40pm. We will be issuing certificates for Student of the week and children will be chosen to present their best work. Children receiving awards and presenting on Parade will be named in Friday’s newsletter. All parents are welcome to attend Parade. It is held in the 3-6 classroom.

**Bell times**
The bell will ring at 8.50am for class to begin. Children are encouraged to arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.45am to get settled and to get themselves ready for learning. All children are expected to be at school before the 8.50am bell. We will be starting our Spelling Mastery at 9am sharp.

**Fruit snack**
We will be having our first break of the day at 11am. This will be a 45 minute break for children to eat their lunch. Children will need to bring a Fruit snack to eat in class time. The snack must be a healthy snack that is grown in the ground or on a tree J No packet food is allowed. Please make sure it is easy to eat, not messy and does not require a spoon or fork.
compulsory and support at home to complete the tasks is expected. If you require assistance then please let me know.

Classroom support
Parents, carers and grandparents are encouraged to help in the classroom. Please let me know if you are able to do this.

Water bottles
Children will need to bring a drink bottle every day containing water for the classroom. Other drinks like juice or poppers may be consumed at break times but not during class times.

Hat
Children must have a hat in order to play in the playground. Education Queensland policy is ‘no hat no play’.

P&C
Our first P&C meeting will be Wednesday 1st February at 2.30pm in the music room. All parents are welcome. Please come along and support the P&C. All money raised goes to the children. Last year the P&C purchased 10 computers. Come up and have a look at our computer lab next to the 3-6 classroom. The P&C AGM will be on the 8th March at 2.30pm in the music room. We would love more parents to nominate for a position. Rochelle will support you in all P&C roles so you don’t need to know how to do anything.

Sport
This term sport will be softball and will begin in week 3 for the 3-6 class only.

Grant
Ms Callard has applied for a grant for $35000. This will go towards making our multi-purpose room into a Library and putting data cabling into the Music room so it can be converted into our administration block. The current office spaces used by Ms Callard and Mrs Hannigan will then be used for learning support and by our itinerant teachers and staff. We are very excited and should find out if we get the grant by the end of the term.

Absences
This year it is mandatory that the school contact parents if their child is away. We will be doing this by text message so we ask that you make sure your contact details are up to date. Text message will allow us to keep records. Please call us to let us know your child is away as this will make the whole process easier for us.

Facebook
Our new Facebook page launched last year. Please like the page and turn on notifications. If you don’t have notifications for our page turned on you may not receive all our posts. Instructions for turning notifications on will be in next week’s newsletter.

Leadership
This year we have 3 year 6 students. Those students will need to apply for school leadership positions. The leadership ceremony will be Monday the 6th of February.

Full School Review
We will be having a full School Review this year. It will be sometime between Term 2 and Term 4 but the exact date is unknown. Parents will be able to have their say about our school and some parents may be selected to speak directly to the reviewers. More information to come.

School Focus
THIS YEAR OUR SCHOOL FOCUS IS READING! We want every child to make lots of gains in their reading fluency and comprehension. Please support your child and make sure they read daily. Both classes are looking at improving all children’s reading stamina. That is their ability to read and concentrate for extended periods of time. We will start small with a few minutes and home to build on this as the term progresses.

If you have any concerns, please come and see me, phone me at the school or email me on rcall32@eq.edu.au
Rochelle Callard
Principal