Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to the parents who attended our first P & C Meeting for the year. I was delighted to see many new parents attend the meeting and hopefully stay on as long term members of our P&C. Ms Skinner has been tremendous over the last decade but she is moving on with her daughter Clare so we need fresh faces and fresh ideas. The P&C will play a pivotal role in identifying Parent & Community needs and assisting the school to increase parent/community involvement. I look forward to the P&C growing in numbers and many parents involved not only in fundraising but also in important decisions affecting school improvement.

Parent helpers are welcomed in many areas of the school. These include class reading, class parent contact, school banking, scholastic bookclub and excursions. I am very excited about our future.

COLA

Late last year I had many requests from parents regarding covered Shade Shelters. The Department has a program where they sometimes match the contribution of the school community. A large COLA in Area 1 would cost approximately $200,000. If we pay half, it’s possible the Department may pay the other half. This project would require a very heavy fundraising commitment from the school. However, we are a very large school so I will commence preparing a submission to the department.

PBL

Positive Behaviour Learning signs have been placed in classrooms and large permanent signs will be installed next week around the school. The printing company has done an exceptional job and the signs look fantastic. The teachers are promoting the PBL message in the classroom and during assemblies. Mrs Mateski has a weekly PBL message in the newsletter and we will hold a parent information session in the near future.

Be Safe  Be Responsible  Be an Engaged Learner

Personal Rights

I have been advised that one of our elderly parents or community members has been taking photos of cars parked around the school in the mornings and afternoons. I advise you to contact the police and provide a description if you feel that you have been illegally photographed or harassed. We have council rangers inspect the school in the mornings and afternoons. They have the authority to take photos but local residents do not.

Greek Language Classes

In 2016 we are able to offer Greek classes for Year One students. If your child is in Year One and has a Greek background, please notify the classroom teacher that you would like them to attend Greek classes. So far, based on school enrolment forms we have identified 4 students but we believe more students may qualify.

Meet the Teacher Evenings

One of the ways to ensure a successful and productive school year for your children is for parents and teachers to have a very good shared understanding about student needs, school programs and class operations. To develop this shared understanding our Parent Teacher Information Evenings will be next week. These meetings will outline in more detail the class and stage arrangements for the year, major events your child will participate in, syllabus requirements and homework expectations among other topics. It is important that parents establish early contact with the class teacher to ensure good communication and a smooth start to the new school year. In circumstances where parents or teachers need to share
personal information, an additional time should be arranged early in the term to do this. All meetings will be held in your child’s 2016 classroom.

Early Stage 1 – Kindergarten classes: 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm Wednesday 17 February
Stage 1 – Year 1 & 2 classes: 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm Wednesday 17 February
Stage 2 – Year 3 & 4 classes: 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm Tuesday 16 February
Stage 3 – Year 5 & 6 classes: 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm Tuesday 16 February

Please see information later in this newsletter inviting you to meet our Language Teachers in Week 5 to share information about our Community Languages Program.

Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL)
This week, our school focus is: ‘Be Safe on the Grass Area; Games Court and Playground Areas.’

![Playground Areas 1, 2, 3](image)

Stay within the playing area.
Seats are for sitting.
Wear a hat.
Handballs during recess and lunch time only.
Move sensibly.

![Grass Area & Games Court](image)

Wear a hat.
Play only when supervised by a teacher.
Eat your food before playing in this food free area.
Play approved games (soccer, basketball, touch football).
Use grass area on your stage day only.

Regards
Stephen Vrachas
Principal

Parent Online Payment Facility- Coming Soon.

Within the next few weeks it will be possible for parents to make online payments direct to the school bank account for amounts owing for students resources and some excursions. These amounts will be listed and sent to you on a school invoice. Your payment will be made via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or a MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting “$ Make a payment”. The current payment facilities via the office will still be available. More details will be available next week.

Scholastic Bookclub
Scholastic is a company that provides schools and families with a range of books which are available for purchase. Our school operates the LOOP (on line) Scholastic Bookclub, twice per school term. The first brochure for this year will be going home this week. The last date to place school delivered orders on line is Thursday, 25 February, 2016. Orders lodged after this date will be sent to your home address and postage charges will apply. Please read the middle section of the brochure for the link to the online website and follow the prompts for the LOOP (Linked Online Ordering & Payment) system. All orders must be made online. No payments will be accepted at the school office. Money and orders sent into school will be returned to the student. Please contact Mrs Davids 0410 336 048 for further details.
**Term 1 - Week 3**

**Thursday 11 February 2016**

**Uniforms**

Only three weeks back and we have a large collection of lost property in the containers near the school office. Please make sure your child’s name (first and last name) is written (with a permanent pen) inside their school hat, on lunch boxes, drink bottles and on all items of clothing. On the jackets please write on the reverse side of the collar (when folded the name will not be seen). Please check regularly as the ink may fade over time.

**P&C News**

*Monthly Meeting*

It was a wonderful start to the year with a great roll-up of parents to our first P&C meeting for 2016 on Tuesday night. It was a great opportunity to share ideas and also make some decisions about fundraising for Term 1.

While our main aim of holding fundraising events throughout the year is strengthening the relationships between parents, teachers and students it is also great if we can raise some money to support the school along the way. You will soon receive information about our wonderful Easter Guessing Competition with lots of prizes that will run this term.

We also spent much of the meeting hearing about the new options to enable parents to purchase uniforms from a quality, reliable source.

**WANTED - 2nd hand uniforms please!**

Next week, on **Friday, 19 February** at 8.30am – 9.15am there will be stall held selling second hand uniforms. If you have any clean uniforms in good condition please send them in to the office. Now that the school year has begun in earnest, it is a great opportunity to send in uniforms that your children have grown out of. The stall will only sell actual items of the Carlton PS uniform so please don’t send in generic items.

**Annual General Meeting Notice – Tuesday, 8 March, 2016 at 7.30pm**

Remember to mark the date of the P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) in your diaries – **Tuesday, 8 March, 2016 at 7.30pm**. Following the AGM our regular monthly meeting will be held.

All positions on the P&C will become vacant at our AGM in March. Marrianne Skinner will be standing down from the President’s position after 6 years in the role. Please consider giving something back to our school by taking on a role in 2016. Being a part of the P&C allows you to discuss and make decisions about what happens in our school that affects all students, not just your own child/children. **Members of the P&C executive need to be able to represent and consider the wide variety of views held by our school community not just their own personal view.** Much of the work of the P&C happens behind the scenes not just at our big events or at the actual meetings, so it is important to remember that being part of the P&C executive is an important but rewarding commitment.

To nominate for a position at the AGM you need to be a financial member of the P&C. If you wish to vote or nominate for a position at the AGM $1 membership will need to be paid on the night which is in accordance with our constitution. Please see a member of the current P&C executive to discuss the responsibilities involved in the various roles and/or request an information pack outlining the specific roles and responsibilities of each position. Alternatively you can send an enquiry via our email address: carltonpandc@gmail.com

**Student Banking**

School Banking will begin next week on **Tuesday, 16 February for Years 1-6**. The school banking coordinators rostered on next Tuesday are Angela, Juliet, Hoda R and Marrianne S. Thank you to Hoda who has volunteered to take over the role and provide the students with this opportunity to bank each week. Thank you also to the parents who will come along each week to support her.

Students in Years 1-6 (and any Kindergarten students with accounts already) should hand in their yellow deposit books to their teacher as soon as the bell rings at 9am. **Please make sure your child’s new class is clearly labelled on the front of their wallet.** This is especially important for the students who will be at Languages on Tuesday morning.

In the coming week **all students** will receive a ‘2016 School Banking Program’ envelope. **Please don’t throw this away** as it has important information inside for **existing bankers** and **new bankers**. Inside you will find the **redemption sheet for the 2016 rewards program** and information about how you can begin school banking.
Rewards

Two new rewards are available in Term 1 – the ‘Flying Snake Tail’ and the ‘Wildlife Writer Set’. Please wait until your child receives the ‘2016 School Banking Program’ envelope to claim a reward using the new 2016 redemption sheet.

Account Opening Morning - Wednesday, 2 March

Would you like to open a school banking account for your child? Milanka Plavsic, our School Banking Specialist will be at the COLA near the hall from **8.30am on Wednesday, 2 March**. If you wish to open an account please bring along appropriate ID (your driver’s licence and birth certificate for your child).

Class Awards

3E- Mahdi J; Mira B  
3P- Thomas P; Garwa L  
4D- Jasmine B; Nicholas M  
5E- Lawrence K; Hannah S  
5/6F- Callum P; Jeremy Z  
6S- Simone C; Noah S  
3S- Yara A; Danny G  
3/4M- Jason Y; Chelsea L  
4N- Erik H; Eloise T  
5NH- Lan H; Layla H  
5/6B- Jarrad A; Rianna S  
3J- Fatemah A; Hassan F  
4B- Jawad A; Selina C  
4KC- Kishan S; Amira S  
5SW- Katrina L; Damian N  
6KM- Paawan P; Hannah A

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3 – 8 February- 12 February</th>
<th>Week 4 – 15 February- 20 February</th>
<th>Week 5 – 22 February- 26 February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8</td>
<td>Mon 15</td>
<td>Mon 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y3-6 Assembly 11.25am</td>
<td>Y3-6 Swimming Carnival at Canterbury Pool</td>
<td>Meet the language Teachers 9.30am</td>
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<td>Tue 9</td>
<td>Tue 16</td>
<td>Tue 23</td>
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<td>Tea ‘n’ Tissues session for parents of Kindergarten students 9:00-10:30am</td>
<td>Student banking starts for Years 1 - 6</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Stage 3 (Year 5 &amp; 6) 5pm</td>
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<td>Wed 10</td>
<td>Wed 17</td>
<td>Wed 24</td>
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<td>Y1 – 6 Scripture commences</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) 5pm</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Early Stage 3 (Year 1 &amp; 2) 6pm</td>
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<td>Thur 11</td>
<td>Thur 18</td>
<td>Thur 25</td>
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<td>Fri 12</td>
<td>Fri 19</td>
<td>Fri 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer PSSA starts</td>
<td>8.30am Second Hand Uniform Stall</td>
<td>Kindergarten Vision Screening Day 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindi Buddy Picnic</td>
<td>Summer PSSA</td>
<td>Kindergarten Vision Screening Day 1</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>29 February</strong></td>
<td><strong>March</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 29</td>
<td>Mon 29</td>
<td>Mon 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y6 Young Leaders Day</td>
<td>Y6 Young Leaders Day</td>
<td>Y3-6 Assembly 11.25am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y5 Excursion</td>
<td>Y5 Excursion</td>
<td>K-2 Assembly 2.00pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y6 Excursion</td>
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<td>Tue 1</td>
<td>Tue 1</td>
<td>Tue 8</td>
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<td>7.30pm P &amp; C (Annual General Meeting)</td>
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<td>Wed 2</td>
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<td>Wed 3</td>
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<td>Thur 3</td>
<td>Thur 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Selective High School Test</td>
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Road Safety Information

As we settle into our new year at school, it is very important that we are mindful of road safety around our school. Many parents, carers and grandparents come to school to pick up their children and so this information is vital. Below are a few reminders to ensure our students are safe on our roads.

- Always obey the parking signs around the school. They have been designed to keep our children safe.
- Double parking at any time is illegal and is particularly dangerous around school. It reduces visibility and blocks the road for other motorists. Children stepping on to the road to get into a car which is double parked are not visible to other motorists.
- Your child should always use the safety door to get in and out of the car. The safety door is the rear passenger side door that opens to the kerb side.
- Until they are 8 years old, you should always hold a child’s hand when crossing the road and when you are on the footpath.
- It is the driver’s responsibility to ensure that each passenger is secured in an appropriate seatbelt or child care seat. Check before you start the car on every trip.

Council’s Parking Officers will be enforcing parking restrictions on a rotational roster system throughout the school year. I encourage all parents and carers of the need to obey the parking restrictions in the streets around our school.
Welcome to Carlton Public School’s Language Program

Five community languages are taught at Carlton Public School: Arabic, Greek (not all year groups), Maori, Macedonian and Mandarin. Only students from these cultural backgrounds are able to learn the language. Students from other backgrounds learn Indonesian as a language other than English.

Students will attend languages two hours per week.

Our Language teachers are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>Mrs Liang, Mrs Lamb &amp; Mr Fu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonian</td>
<td>Mrs Mihajlova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>Mrs Karamihalis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Mrs Awad &amp; Mrs Sabra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>Mr Officer &amp; Mrs Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maori</td>
<td>Miss Tahapeehi</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You are invited to the meet the language teachers at the **Languages Information morning** on **Monday, 22 February, 2016**. These meetings will take place in the language rooms at **9.30am to 10.30am** followed by morning tea in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to bring a plate of cultural delicacies, to share with others for morning tea.

**Happy Chinese New Year!**

**Chinese New Year** is an important Chinese festival celebrated on the first day of the Chinese calendar. In China, it is also known as the **Spring Festival**. Chinese New Year celebrations traditionally run for 15 days, with the last day being the Lantern Festival. This year Chinese New Year starts on Feb 8 and it is the Year of the Monkey.

In Chinese astrology, each year is associated with a Chinese zodiac animal sign which repeats in a 12 year cycle. In order, the signs are: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog and pig, and each of them has its reputed attributes.

During Chinese New Year, people say “goingxi facai” and wish each other good luck and happiness in the New Year.

What zodiac sign are you?


**Dragon:** 2012, 2000, 1988, 1976, 1964


Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 Class Directories

Parents Matter - helping Parents Connect

A component of our Kidsmatter initiative is Working with Parents and Carers. An initiative started by our P&C members in 2014 was titled Parents Matter- Helping Parents Connect. Following the wonderful success we have had over the last two years, we are continuing and expanding this initiative this year. Many of our school activities this year centre on ways of supporting our children by finding the best ways to work with their parents and carers.

In 2016 the P&C, with the support of the school, is once again organising a class directory for parents of Kindergarten, Year 1 and also Year 2 students. By providing your contact details, a directory will be put together for each class. The aim is to allow parents to get to know other families of the children in your child’s class and therefore share information and possibly arrange social or play opportunities. The P&C may also very occasionally contact you regarding things specific to your year group.

Parents who wish to connect with other families in their child’s class can complete their details on this form and put it in the collection box in the school office. Once the slips are collected, you will be emailed your class directory and the parents involved will be contacted with further details.

You may also consider being a ‘Class Parent’ contact for the class group and this can be indicated on the return slip as well. ‘Class Parents’ are people who are willing to volunteer to organise class social activities during the year.

Carlton Public School P&C Association Parents Matter- Helping Parents Connect

Your Name: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Your Child’s Name: ___________________________________________________________________________________

You Child’s Class: (Please circle): 2A  2KC  2J  2G  2M  1A  1C  1D  1M  1K  1T  KM  KJ  KF  KT  KIB  KCN

Parent email address: ____________________________________________________________________________

Parent Phone Contact: ____________________________________________________________________________

Class parent Contact: I am interested in being the class parent contact  

Please place in an envelope and post in the collection box in the school office by Friday 19 February. Mark the envelope ‘Class Parent’