Dear Parents/Caregivers

**Staff News**
I am very pleased to be able to announce our 2016 school staff and the year levels that they will be teaching. Chris Sheldon returns from Long Service Leave as Principal, and I will return to my much loved role as Deputy Principal. Angela Hopes returns from leave after having children of her own and is a welcome ‘old face’ to many of us, sharing a class with Sue Hutchesson. Sue Hutchesson, Daniel Castle and Rikki Helps will take on leadership roles as Co-ordinators in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT Innovation and Creativity. Reception : Liana Hrvatin, Tamara Fleming Reception / Year 1 : Teresa Shaw, Donna Winckel Year 1 : Lauren Suggate Year 1/2 : Gill Andrew Year 2 : Bec Hunt, Sue Hutchesson/Angela Hopes Year 2/3 : Sandi Wilkens Year 3 : Helen Papastamatis/Chetna Rambani , Belinda Say Year 4/5 : Jess Magarey, Jennie Mannion. Peter Duncan, Jess O'Neill, Renae Perryman Year 6/7 : Sam O'Neill, Matt Bannister, Daniel Castle/ Angela O’Nghia, Alison Whibley/Heath McShane, Sami Collins Performing Arts: Andrew Bone, Chetna Rambani Italian - Angela D’Onghia PE - Heath McShane & Renae Cliff Digital Technology – Rikki Helps We welcome back the ‘backbone’ to our school, our SSOs, without whom the school could not function. Business Manager: Gay Brooker Front Office : Tracy Kain, Jaime Newell Library: Mel Norman, Michelle Kuller Classroom Support: Andrea Wright Special Needs/Education: Mel Norman, Di Miller, Deb Muhovics Classroom Support: Andrea Wright ICT Support: Steven Grosvenor Sadly we also say farewell to two teachers who have contributed so much throughout their time at our school and we wish them all the best at their future schools. Jen Herbert has already visited her new school, Brighton Primary School, while Alana Rowley will be in the Highland Reserve State School in the Gold Coast. Heidi Kerr is also leaving to take up a position at St Anthony’s in Millicent. We also farewell Alicia Sutherland and Emma Reppin. Their enthusiasm and energy will be missed.

**Reports and Transition**
Earlier this term every student listed up to 5 ‘friends’ with whom they would like to be placed. These notes were sent home to enable parents to talk through their choices. This information has been used when constructing classes. Every student has at least one of their selected friends in their new class, but not necessarily their best friend. On Friday morning all students will transition to their 2016 classroom. They will spend approximately one lesson with their new teacher and classmates. Sometimes the reality of a big change is difficult for children, so arriving at a new class is a shock to some. If your child is upset during this transition lesson, we will aim to fix any issues during the day. If they come home to you upset, we request that you listen and then wait for a calm time to talk through their issues. “Who are you with from your friend list?” is a good starting point. Sometimes a perception about a teacher can also be worrying for children and I would always advise in these cases, to build resilience, that you work to convince them to give it a go. (Didn’t we all fear a teacher once and then found out they were a real treasure? Mine was Mr Norley!) Students will also receive their end of year reports on Friday and a 2016 class placement letter.
Congratulations 2015 Student Leaders

Congratulations for a job well done and thank you to our 2015 Student Leaders and House Captains. As senior students at Reidy Park, each has made a major and valued contribution to our school decision making process. At all times they have shown outstanding leadership and integrity in their role as our school’s representatives, both at school and in the community. I know that their hard work and conscientious approach to providing authentic student voice at our school has provided them with skills and abilities that they will carry with them to high school and beyond. Our sincere thanks to:

Captains – Maddison K, Luke B
Sports Captains - Eaglehawk - Sophie E, Jack C (Captains), Faith K and Brodie M (Vice)
Lava - Georgia B, Ruben G (Captains), Abby B and Darcy H (Vice)
Lake - Teagan H, Connor P (Captains), Angela M and Abby M (Vice)
Willow - Alex Jolley, Harry S (Captains), Zahli F and Ethan N (Vice)

Over the past few weeks, the Year 6s have been busy writing applications to become 2016 Student Leaders and Sports Captains.
For next year our elected student leaders will be – Brielle W, Zara V, Sophie A, Alex J, Darcy H, Aaron R, Alice A, Sarah D

We wish them all the best in their new roles for 2016.

Farewell Year 7 Students

The staff and I would like to say a fond farewell to all of our graduating Year 7 students, some of whom have spent their whole eight years of schooling at Reidy Park. Congratulations to you all. The staff agree that you have been a wonderful group of young people who have made both us and your parents very proud. We are confident that you will do extremely well at high school and that you have very bright futures ahead of you.

Good Luck!

Polling of School Fees

Recently you would have received a notice polling you about the 2016 School Fees which have been set at $300 for the school year. Votes were 103 in favour to 18 against. Governing Council have approved and finalised this process. This means that where families fail to pay the school fees next year, action can be taken to legally recover the full amount.

Final Assembly

Our final assembly for the year will be held in the Gym on Friday 12th December. Students will be dismissed from the Gym at 2:30 pm. Following our assembly, staff will form a guard of honour to farewell our Year 7 students through the administration area as they exit through the main door.

On a personal note

I would like to pass on my personal thanks to the school community, staff, parents and students for their support whilst I have been Principal this term. It has been rewarding to watch the school at work, at all times upholding our common values of Respect, Care and Courage. In particular I have enjoyed working alongside Stephen Jolley who has back me up and supported us all this term as Deputy Principal. His calm manner and attention to detail will be missed as he heads back to Mil Lel in 2016. Thank you Stephen.

Lesley Okholm
Acting Principal

Stephen Jolley
Acting Deputy

Cash Office Opening Hours 2016

The cash office will be open for uniform sales prior to the commencement of Term 1, 2016 from 9am - 4pm on Wednesday 27th January & Thursday 28th January, and from 9am - 12 noon on Friday the 29th January.

Gay Brooker
School Business Manager

Reidy Park Primary School has a Facebook page. Here you will find posts about what’s happening in our school, up and coming events and so much more.

https://www.facebook.com/reidyparkprimaryschool