Dear Parents, Staff & Students,

Welcome everyone to the start of another very exciting year at Northview State School. We extend a very warm welcome to all our new students and families, and a big welcome back to all existing students and parents. It was fantastic to see how well our Prep students settled into school yesterday. There was hardly a tear shed – except for the parents!

Included in this edition of the Mini News is some important information about the day-to-day running of our school. Rules and routines are a very necessary part of a smooth running school. Rules and routines help to reduce the “cognitive load” of our students and ensure that their brains can focus on learning new knowledge, rather than processing and thinking about mundane activities. Rules and routines help to ensure that certain expectations become automatic. For example, if a child who is learning to write is in the routine of sitting in an upright position with two feet on the floor with the correct pencil grip, they will be able to focus on the formation of letters and sentences on the page, rather than thinking about how they are sitting – the posture is automatic. Routines at home are also very important so I encourage parents to get their children into the routine of handing over notes from school, completing homework etc.

Enrolments
Our enrolments have increased significantly this year and it is possible that Northview will gain a 14th classroom teacher. If this scenario eventuates, we will likely form a year 4 class to decrease numbers in our year 2-7 classes. This will also necessitate the moving of some students from virtually every class between years 2-7. In deciding which students to move, we will take into consideration the following:

- Teachers (2013 class teacher) views on the best placement of each student.
- Parent requests from 2013
- Needs of students with a disability or venerability

A letter will go home before the end of this week with an update on our class groupings. We’ll endeavour to keep parents informed as decisions are made regarding a 14th class grouping.

School Car Parks
The safety of our Northview students is absolutely paramount and remains a top priority of all staff.

We want every child to return home of an afternoon in the same condition that they arrived. With this in mind, we ask parents not to park, drop off students, or collect students from our school car parks. The bottom car park near the hall is used for staff, who generally arrive before 8.15am, and for deliveries which occur periodically throughout the day. Students will often be walking to and from the hall or waiting for buses near this area, so we ask for the safety of all students that parents refrain from using this car park without prior permission.

Likewise, the top car park near the SEU is used as a staff car park and for SEU students who need extra assistance to get into their car. We ask parents to please refrain from parking in both these car parks. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Collecting Students from School
It was wonderful to see so many parents eagerly waiting to collect their kids after the first day back at school, especially our parents of Prep kids. Prep students will continue to finish their school day at 2.45pm for the next 6 weeks. The following are a couple of reminders about collecting students from classrooms of an afternoon.

- Please wait outside the classroom (teaching block) to collect your child. Please also keep doorways clear of traffic as classes are often returning to their class just before 3pm to clean up and get ready to go home. This will reduce distractions for our students and teachers and allow all students to exit safely and smoothly at the end of the day. Parents are welcome to enter our teaching blocks after students have vacated classrooms to talk with teachers.
- When leaving the school ground, please use the front main gate. The gates to our two car parks are not for pedestrians. Using these gates as exits compromises the safety of our students. We want out Northview students to develop safe habits such as using designated footpaths and thoroughfares.
- Please encourage your child(ren) to cross the road using the traffic supervisor.

Arrival at School
Parents are reminded that students who arrive at school before 8.20am should wait in the undercover area until the first bell rings. No students should be on our school site before
8.00am in the morning as we are unable to adequately supervise these students. Before and After School Care, as mentioned above, is the new option for parents who need to drop off their students before 8.00am. This is to ensure that students are adequately supervised. Teachers will open up classrooms at 8.30am to give students an opportunity to prepare for the day – sharpen pencils, hand in notes, visit the toilet, fill water bottles etc. There should be no students or parents in classrooms before 8.30am unless a prior appointment has been made with the class teacher. If you could reinforce this message with your children it would be greatly appreciated.

Before and After School Care
Camp Australia have commenced their Before and After School Care service at our school. The service runs from 6.30-8.30am in the morning and from 3.00 – 6.00pm in the afternoon. Parents interested in having their children attend are encouraged to visit the Camp Australia website http://www.campaustralia.com.au/ to register your child or find out more information.

Student Leaders for 2014
Congratulations to our school captains and vice captains who were announced at our Awards Ceremony at the end of last year.

Year 7 School Captains
Aaron Powell
Liam Cochrane

Year 6 School Captains
Ellie Degunst
Jayden Jones

Vice Captains
William Bradford
Tyler Allen

House Captains and Cultural Captains will be announced on 11th February on completion of their application process. Year 6 & 7 students who are vying for these positions will present their speeches after Assembly on 10th February. Our student leaders induction ceremony will likely take place on Monday 17th February.

Bus Students
Parents please keep our staff informed if your children catch the bus of an afternoon, but not on a regular basis. Our supervising staff are given a student checklist to account for all children departing each day. If arrangements change please inform the school as well as the bus service PCYC / Glenella Childcare if applicable.

Newsletters and Assembly
Regular newsletters will be sent home with students every fortnight on a Wednesday. On alternate weeks, a brief “Mini News” will be sent home as required. All “Newsletters” and “Mini News” are posted to the school website for parents to access. Newsletters can also be emailed on request. Please email admin@northviess.eq.edu.au if you would like your newsletter emailed each week.

Assembly will held each Monday morning beginning next week. During assemblies we give important messages and recognise the wonderful achievements of our students. All parents and members of our community are invited to attend.

Nut Free School
It is important that our school and community look after all students in our care. We currently have a number of students who have a severe allergic reaction to nuts. As a school community, we would like to provide responsible support for children who have such allergies and suffer severe anaphylactic reactions that may be life-threatening. To this end, we are endeavouring to ensure Northview State School is a nut-free school and seek our school community’s cooperation in supporting the safety of all students at our school.

In essence, we are asking that no food containing nuts be brought to school. Products that contain nuts include Peanut Butter, Nutella, fruit and nut bars, chocolate and any other products that have nuts listed in their ingredients. This does not include however, products that contain the warning “may contain traces of nuts”.

Now is also a good time to remind your children that the sharing of food at school is definitely not allowed. This will also reduce the risk of students having allergic reactions to food they are not familiar with.

Whilst it isn’t possible to guarantee that nut products will not be in our school, we do ask parents to make every effort to support our efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all students.

P&C
Hello to all the new and returning families to Northview State School. We hope you had a safe and happy holiday.

SPORTING GEAR
When preparing for your sporting activities this year, please consider purchasing equipment from Amart All Sports as they have a community kickback promotion where 5% of sales is given to your choice of sporting club or school. Northview is registered as a recipient and this program has supplied our PE Teacher Mrs Agnew sports
equipment and provided some of the great prizes in our Fun Run last year.

THANKS
Thank you to Volunteer Mrs Deb Lucas for opening the 2nd hand uniform shop each morning for the last week of holidays and first week of school. Donations of uniforms in any condition are greatly appreciated which are resold at very affordable prices and the proceeds are put back into the school. New hats ($10) and library bags ($11) are also available. The uniform shop is open in the hall every Monday morning before and after parade.

TUCKSHOP
Opens Friday 31st January offering full menu service. The menu is available from the school website - northviess.eq.edu.au.

AGM
Our annual general meeting is to be held by 31st March 2014 the date will be set at the next general meeting as advised below. All positions will become vacant. If you are interested in nominating for a position on the committee this year please feel free to contact the current position holders for further information or to make your nomination via email - pandc@northviess.eq.edu.au or phone 0478 887 655. President - Mrs Wendy Batley, Vice President - Vacant, Secretary - Mrs Donna Sanim, Treasurer - Mrs Monal Ghosal.

Next meeting is to be held on the usual monthly schedule of the second Monday of the month - 10th February, 9.30am (after parade) in the hall conference room. All welcome. Agenda items can be added by emailing the Secretary via pandc@northviess.eq.edu.au as soon as possible. See you there.

Agenda
- Set date for AGM
- Set date for Welcome Morning Tea event
- New sign on front gate
- BMC ‘Benefiting My Community’ Grants
- Mothers Day stall stock purchasing
- Look at funding allocation - 2014 internet switch payment due

SIGN ON DAY FOR 2014 SEASON
When: Saturday, 1 February 2014
Where: North’s Leagues Club
Golflinks Road, Beaconsfield
Time: 10.00am to 2.00pm
Price: $150.00 per child
Requirements: Birth Certificate – 2 copies
(New players only)
Contact: Veronica Parter - 0422111884
registrar@northsjuniordevils.com
Greg Lamb - 04276683344456
president@northsjuniordevils.com

MACKAY JUNIOR GOLF SIGN ON/TRIAL DAY
Where: Mackay Driving Range, Beaconsfield
When: 8-10am Sunday 2nd February
For Who: New members, old members and anyone just wanting to have a go!!!
FREE RANGE BALLS AND FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
For more information, call Leagh 0413288058