



ESPERANCE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

A school of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc

Principal's Comment – 1st February 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been good to welcome all our new students to the School today for their morning of induction designed to help their transition into the life of the School. I am pleased that we have exactly the numbers we expected in Year 7 at 41 but it has been especially pleasing to see four more boarders than anticipated with numbers at 14 (compared with the three we welcomed in 2015). Having seven new students in Year 8 is also an added bonus completing a healthy picture in terms of the growth of the School: final numbers will not be known for a few weeks but we are very nearly at 210.

A few points, if I may, to help the transition back to School in the first week or so.

The Car Park

The parking area in front of the School is primarily for the use of visitors and parents, as well as for buses to drop-off and collect students. The use of this car park has been reasonably successful but a risk assessment has identified one or two points which would merit attention and with which I need your help.

Speed limit – vehicles should limit speeds to walking pace to make stopping easier in the event of children running into the car park

Timing – the buses tend to arrive in the morning between 0835 and 0845 so if drop-off can be arranged outside of these times it would ease congestion.

At the end of the day the buses arrive from 1445 and depart at 1455 – if at all possible please do not arrive before these times. Students who are not on buses are not released until 1500 so there is no need to be here earlier.

No-parking areas – to allow safe bus access the entire area in front of the Dempster building is coned-off between 0835 and 0845, and 1445 and 1500. Please do not park in this area during these times.

Pedestrians – students will be told not to cross the car park whilst the buses are present. When crossing the car park they will be told to show good sense and look, listen and proceed with caution.

Mopeds

Students who are licensed to drive are allowed to use mopeds to travel to and from the School provided they have completed the necessary permission forms (obtainable from Reception). The keys should be deposited at Reception on arrival and collected at the end of the day. Mopeds are to be parked in the designated area in the Flinders car park.

Early Departure from School

No student may leave the School during the School day without being signed-out by their parent or carer. Year 11 and 12 students in particular are not allowed out of the School during study periods and cannot sign-out themselves. The School has a duty-of-care during



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the School day, acting *in loco parentis*, so we cannot let students off-campus without supervision.

Camp for Years 7-9

Just a reminder that all students in Years 7,8 and 9 will be attending an adventure camp at Margaret River from Monday 7th to Friday 11th March. The Canberra Camp for Year 9s will still continue so if parents feel two camps is too much they may opt-out of the Metricup event: an alternative programme for Year 9s will be available at School. Students in Years 7&8 are expected to attend and no alternative programme will be available. Full details will be available in due course.

Sundowner for New Parents/Carers

I will shortly be sending an invitation to all parents/carers of students new to the School about the sundowner to be held from 5.30pm to 6.30pm on Wednesday 10th February at the School and hosted by our *Parents and Friends Association*. Please make a note in your diaries.

Communications

We seek to communicate with parents and carers as efficiently as possible. Our calendar is updated regularly and is available through SEQTA, on the website and via *Skoolbag*. With regard to the latter if you have an iPhone or iPad I would urge you to download the App. To get the App you need to search for *Esperance Anglican Community School 'Skoolbag'* and make sure you check the iPhone tab – we can then link with each other. I do hope this will work well so please keep in-touch with your thoughts.

We are happy to take telephone calls, as well as emails, so please feel free to use these media. Teachers are more than happy to discuss any issues you might have and will endeavour to get back to you within 24 hours of a query. Equally either myself, or the Deputy Principal, Mr Iain Clark, are happy to deal with any concerns you may have. Of course our excellent Administration Staff – Lisa, Michelle and Renae – are adept at dealing with a range of questions and can direct your query to the most appropriate person.

Thank you for your understanding and help with these matters which I hope will ensure we have a smooth start to the year. I look forward to working with you all for the benefit of our students.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

P. Kerr Fulton-Peebles
Principal



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