Principal’s Message

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our children and their families, after what I trust, was a safe and enjoyable school holidays. It was wonderful to see all our students arriving at school last week full of enthusiasm for a new year of school. Our 6 Kindergarten students’ Reece, Riley, Darby, Benji, Senna, Dean and Lensovior started off ‘Big School’ and have done a wonderful job… and so did the parents when it was time to leave them!

I would like to encourage all families to actively involve themselves in our school. Helping out in classrooms, listening to students read, helping with our new Interest Groups on a Friday, more information will be included in next week’s newsletter, Sporting events and lessons and attending P&C meetings provides added insight and knowledge of our school as well as contributing to and learning more about our school.

Staffing for 2016

K-2  Miss Jasmine Cliff – who has been appointed as a Temporary Teacher for the year.

Yr 3 – 6  Mrs Angela Sampson – is Relieving Principal for 2016 and will be team teaching with Mrs Kerry Dal Nevo who will be teaching the class on Fridays when Angela takes time for administration duties, Principal Release.

We welcome back Mrs Alana Primrose who is taking on the Learning Support role by assisting us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays by splitting the school three ways, reducing class sizes, providing greater opportunities for smaller class sizes and quality teaching and learning programs being implemented. Mrs Paulina Violi is also returning as the Release From Face to Face Teaching on a Monday, teaching Italian and Science. Mrs Belinda Brand is continuing as our School Administration Manager and will work on Monday, Tuesday, every second Wednesday and Fridays. Her hours are from 9am – 3:40pm. Library will continue to be on a Friday. Please ensure your child has a Library Bag so they can borrow books.

Staff Development Day

Whilst Thursday was the first day for students, staff returned to work the day before to complete mandatory training in the Code of Conduct and Child Protection. We also established roles and responsibilities, discussed the Student Wellbeing and Homework Policies, which will need to be revised during 2016. We were also very busy setting our individual professional goals for our Professional Development Plans and reviewed the Scope and Sequence for History and Human Society and Its Environment. We even managed some time to complete classroom preparations that have been ongoing throughout the holidays.

Swimming Carnival

Please keep an eye out for the note regarding the Swimming Carnival. It is always the first of our carnivals for the year and will be held on February 16th. For students to be eligible to attend, they must be turning 8 years old this year. I would also like to welcome any parents and carers to attend the carnival to support the students and assist the staff on the day.
Best Start
During the first week of school Mrs Alana Primrose was able to complete all of the Kindergarten student Best Start assessments. The Best Start assessment examines the child’s knowledge and skills of key components in Literacy and Numeracy prior to commencing formal schooling. The results therefore serve as an effective starting point against which a child’s progress can be measured. All this information will then be collated and reports prepared. When this process is complete we will be able to present you with some valuable information about your child.

Voluntary School Contributions
A note about school fees is being sent home today. School fees include the cost of all stationery and resources your child will require at school. Our school fees for this year are $50 per student or $80 per family. Your support and assistance in prompt payment is greatly appreciated.

Welcome BBQ
We would like to invite all of the Tharborgang Public School families to a Welcome BBQ on Saturday 6th February commencing at 4pm. We ask that each class be responsible for bringing in something for us all to share.

K-1 Slice or dessert
Yr 2 – 3 Nibblies
Yr 4 – 6 Salad

We ask that you RSVP so that we can arrange catering. We will have a whole pig on a spit, sausages, vegetarian sausages, chicken kebabs and bread rolls. Please bring with you your own drinks, a picnic rug or chairs, swimming costume and a towel. We will have some water fun for the children.

Updating Information
We ask that you keep the school up to date with any changes to your contact details, for example, new phone numbers, addresses, work circumstances etc. Phone numbers are the most often changed and yet also so important for us to be aware of if your child is unwell.

Permission to Publish Note
This note is included in with this newsletter. Without this permission we do not include the student in any photos we take at school events as these may be included in our Newsletter, school webpage, Facebook or Media. We ask that all notes be returned to school no later than Monday 8th February. We thank you for your cooperation.

Scripture Classes
Once again, Scripture classes will be offered to all students. Catholic and Anglican Scripture classes are available for all students in Kindergarten to Year 6. For those students who are not attending Scripture, supervision will be provided.

Students and Learning Support
As a parent, if you have any concerns about your child’s academic/social abilities, please make an appointment with your child’s teacher to discuss these issues. The classroom teacher will have a very strong understanding of your child’s strengths and needs. As a team, you can discuss ways of helping and guiding your child to help improve their individual results. If there is a need to provide individualised learning plans, then the teacher will refer to the Learning Support Team to seek assistance in this matter. Working together, both at home and at school, we can provide great assistance for your child.

Lost Property
Every year, many items are brought to Lost Property. We ask that you ensure that all of your children’s items are clearly labelled. This will ensure any lost items are found and returned quickly.

Helpers Wanted Please
A team of approx. 4 volunteers are needed for to cover student books in clear contact. If you can assist with this, please let Angela know what day and time is best suited. Thank you
Parent Information Sessions for 2016
Teachers will be holding class Information Sessions for parents and carers to gain a greater understanding of the school and class behaviour expectations, curriculum and class organisation relating to your child’s class. Families, who have children in Year 2 or 3, may wish to attend both the sessions relating to your child’s grade. All sessions will commence at 2:45pm, in the teacher’s classroom.
Miss Cliff K–2 Tues 9th Feb
Mrs Primrose Yr 2 – 3 Wed 10th Feb
Mrs Sampson Yr 3 – 6 Thurs 11th Feb

P&C Meeting
The first meeting for the year will be held tonight, at the school at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not have to be a part of the executive in the P&C to be a part of this integral team who work together with the school to support student needs.

Toys at School
Many children like to bring toys to school, however, we strongly discourage this from happening. At times, toys can be lost or broken. We strongly encourage children to use the playground equipment and sport equipment available to play with at Recess and Lunch times. This assists students in developing vital social skills which creative play develops.

Parent & Carer Help
Parents and carers are always welcome to come to school and assist in any way. Volunteers are always welcome. Please do not feel that you have to commit to a certain time or day. If you have a spare half an hour and wish to come in to assist in the classroom, listen to children read or help to make valuable classroom resources, you will always be welcome. Please note that all volunteers will require, by law, a Working With Children’s Check. This can be completed, free of charge, via the Office of the Children’s Guardian webpage http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check

Please understand that this is for the safety and wellbeing of all our children.

iPad Chargers
Unfortunately, all 11 iPad chargers are missing. After spending much time searching around the school, and asking the children if they know where they may be placed, it has been brought to our attention that students may have taken these home at the end of last year. Replacing these chargers is a huge expense for our school, and unfortunately, until they are found, or can be replaced, we will be unable to use the iPads. If you, or your child knows where any of these are, we ask that you kindly return them to the school as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Assembly
Our first whole school Assembly will be held on Friday 12th February at 2:45pm. We invite all members of the Tharbogang community to come along to celebrate the achievements of our students.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Angela Sampson
Relieving Principal

Up & Coming Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 5th Feb</td>
<td>Mrs Sampson at Induction training in Wagga Wagga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 6th Feb</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ at 4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9th Feb</td>
<td>K – 2 Info Session 2:45pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10th Feb</td>
<td>Yr 2 – 3 Info Session 2:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th Feb</td>
<td>Yr 3 – 6 Info Session 2:45pm</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th Feb</td>
<td>Small Schools Swimming Carnival ages 8yrs and older</td>
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Take a look at what is happening in our classrooms…

Kindergarten & Year 1 our Thematic Unit for Term 1 is called “All About Me” and will encompass all Key Learning Areas. Within this unit there is a strong focus on our History concept of change and continuity within students and their families lives. We will also be learning about perspectives and how our own and others’ points of view can differ.

I would like to ask that students bring in a couple of photographs of themselves and their family (parents, grandparents etc.) that we can look at in class. No precious originals please. You may prefer to email a digital copy to me at jasmine.cliff1@det.nsw.edu.au I encourage you to talk with your child about the people, places and times in the photographs so they can share them with the class.

This week in Mathematics, K/1 will be learning how to count, order, read and write whole numbers. In Literacy we will be writing about “Me” as well as learning and revising single sounds.

On Mondays and Fridays, the K-2 Literacy program will run parallel to what we are doing Tuesday to Thursday. However, in Mathematics on Monday and Friday, K-2 will be exploring Measurement, Space and Geometry. This week we will be focusing on Time. I will also be teaching K-2 Personal Development and Health on Monday and Sport on Friday.

I want to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome at Tharbogang Public School.

I am looking forward to a productive and fun year! 
Miss Jasmine Cliff

Year 2 – 3
Students in Class 2/3 are this week beginning their English unit of work, which will focus on Dreaming stories and traditional folktales from a variety of cultures, related to the theme of night and day. This will tie in with HSIE /History where they are learning about families past and present through traditional stories passed from generation to generation. The focus in Spelling for Year 2 this week is ‘st’ words, Year 3 will be looking at ‘mpt’ words and both groups will be revising s, ed, and ing as extensions of these words. In Maths, we will be looking at Place Value (Tues, Wed Thurs) and Time (Mon, Fri).

Mrs Alana Primrose

Year 4 – 6 Welcome to our Super Class
Our Thematic Unit for Term 1 is based on Identity. Most of our subject areas will be covered through this thematic unit, including our History concept of ‘Perspectives’. We will be looking at our individual identity and discussing what it means to be Australian and how we identify with different groups or communities. Our whole class text will be Misery Guts written by Morris Gleitzman. It is a funny story about a young boy who tries to cheer his parents up by convincing them to move from England to Australia. This book links in perfectly with our unit of work, as we discuss the stereotypes around what Australian people do, eat and say. Our writing will be based around this topic and we will focus on the 3 purposes of writing; to inform, to entertain and to persuade. Mrs Dal Nevo will teach our Art lessons – once again referring back to the unit topic of Identity, and will teach Sport on a Friday.

Our Spelling rule this week Year 4 – double sounds e.g profession, Year 5 & 6 is the ‘Bossy E’ and Syllabification.

In Mathematics we will be working on Place Value (Monday – Thursday) and Time with Mrs Dal Nevo on Friday.

We hope to share some work samples with you soon.

Mrs Angela Sampson & Mrs Kerry Dal Nevo