Welcome to 2015
A very big warm welcome to all of our families both old and new for 2016, we have had a fantastic start. We have a number of new staff with us to begin the year; Reilly Young (Grade 1), Stephanie Barber (Grade 2), Emily DiBella (Grade 3), Fiona Pyke (Grade 4), Nicole Brown (Grade 5), Ashlee Meyland (Grade 6) and Brooke Williams (Phys Ed). We also have two new Education Support Staff, Jarrod Winzer, Karalee Mason and Megan Trevaskis. Robyn Swan (4 Year Old Kinder Teacher), Melanie Goossenaerts (4 Year Old Kinder Assistant & After School Assistant) and Tanya Ross (Playgroups).

Our Newsletter will come out fortnightly this year and copies will also be available via our website and Facebook.

Homeroom & Learning Focused Groups
At Gowrie Street we work very hard to ensure that your children get what they need with their learning day in, day out. In doing this your children may have up to 3 different teachers during the day. They begin their day with their homeroom and then move into Literacy focus groups for the first 2 hours. After recess they begin their Numeracy focus groups and then send the remainder of the day with specialists or in their homerooms. Our focus groups are based specifically on the learning that your children need. If you have any questions about how we support your children’s learning, please come in and see us.

Hello Night & BBQ – Wednesday February 10, 5.00pm – 6.30pm
All families would have received an invitation to attend our Hello Night and BBQ. The Hello Night will be run across the School and Early Childhood Centre. This is a great opportunity for all families to come in and see where you children learn throughout the day and hear from your teachers.

Health Care and Pension Card Reminder
If we haven't received a copy of your current card please bring it into the office for copying by Friday February 26. We require a copy of a current card to ensure your child’s access to our discounted Curriculum Package and the Departments Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.

Badge Presentation Assembly – Friday February 19 @ 2.30pm
This is an open invitation to all our families who would like to attend our Badge Presentation Assembly. Our Local Member, Suzanna Sheed, will be in attendance to present our leaders with their badges. A reminder that Assembly occurs every Friday afternoon at 2.30pm, and everyone is welcome.

Building Works at Gowrie Street – Complete
Our new learning spaces are complete and have been well received by all the students and staff. If you would like to have a look through them at any time during the day come in and see us at the office.

Have a great week, Travis
**Reading**
At Gowrie Street we place great importance on nightly reading at home. It is vital for all students to be practicing their reading every night and getting their reading diaries signed and returned to school the next day. **As part of this process we are expecting that all students be in their classrooms and begin reading at the first bag bell at 8:45am.** This will enable your child’s teacher to monitor how student’s reading is progressing and allow time for students to change their take home readers. We appreciate your support and encourage you to remind your child to Care for their Learning and be on time for morning reading.

**Gowrie Street Primary School New Uniform**
It has been fantastic to see a lot of our students in our new school uniform for the beginning of the year. School uniform is always available from the office at very reasonable prices. It is the school council’s policy and expectation that all students wear school uniform at all times **including hats when outside**. If you would like a copy of the policy please come in and see us at the office.

**Prep Parents**
A reminder that Prep children are not required at school on all Wednesday’s in February. You homeroom teachers will book appointments for your children to do assessments.

**Car Parking and speed limits – Please take care**
It’s important to remember that when driving and parking around the school we all take care to use the roads and car parks in the right way and always consider ‘**what if that was my child**’. If you pick your children up from the back entrance to the school please park in the car park or on the basketball court to ensure the safety of all.

**Dates to Remember**

- **Hello Night** - Wednesday February 10, 2016
- **Curriculum Day – Student Free Day** - Friday February 26, 2016
- **Grade 5-6 Melbourne Camp** - Tues March 1 – Fri March 4, 2016
- **Harmony Day** - Monday March 21, 2016
- **End of Term 1** - Thursday March 24, 2016

**Birthdays – January / February 2016**

- Nakari J - 10 years
- Dion O - 8 years
- Alexander R - 9 years
- Ryan T - 8 years
- Maddison C - 6 years
- Benjamin H - 11 years
- Jacob McI - 6 years
- Hassan A - 6 years
- Tiaki M - 7 years
- Xander W - 10 years
- Paiton A - 7 years
- Jacanna S - 8 years
- Tahirah L - 9 years
- Jidan S - 10 years
- Kyla B - 11 years
- Tori M - 6 years
- Courtney C - 7 years
- Hamish T M - 5 years
- Marcus C - 8 years
- Zach D - 9 years
- Jagamahra W - 7 years
- Amalia P - 9 years
- Bodhi L - 5 years
- Krystal O - 10 years
- Eli Charles - 5 years
- Ryan S - 8 years
- Jye A - 10 years
- Shania E - 11 years
- Diego O - 11 years
- Aaron McK - 12 years
- Caleb T - 12 years
- David D-J - 12 years
- Eva-Jo E - 8 years
- Jayden A - 11 years
- Ryan B-F - 9 years
- Shaun O-B - 6 years
- Ailye A - 5 years
- Chloe C - 11 years
- Zahra J - 10 years
- Ahmed J - 10 years
- Amir H - 11 years
- Kaiden C-S - 6 years
- Summah M-T - 7 years
- Samantha L - 6 years
- Summer H - 6 years
- Tysun H - 8 years
- Jeramiah F - 10 year
Welcome to Term 1, 2016
Welcome to term 1 2016! We would like to wish you all the best in your journey through the preschool year and make it known that we are here to help you and your child as best we can. Throughout the year we will communicate with you all in many ways, via notes, newsletters (preschool & school), Facebook (please “like” our Gowrie St Primary School Facebook page) and one on one conversations.

Preschool Uniform
Whilst we don’t have a compulsory uniform, the children are invited to purchase a Gowrie Street Primary School Tshirt for $30.00 or a hat for $15.00 if they wish. The Tshirts and hats can be purchased from the school office.

Fruit Roster
We ask that each child brings a piece of fruit to share on our fruit platters. There is a basket on the sign in table for the fruit. We invite parents to stay after drop off time to cut up the fruit and prepare our fruit platters. At the sign in table there is a fruit helpers roster, please write your name down next to any dates that might suit you.

Session Times
Please be aware of our starting and finishing times. Your teachers will open the doors and invite you in at 9am. At the conclusion of the session parents will be invited in to collect children. Please ensure that you are prompt in collecting your child as teachers often have meetings or planning to complete and some have other work commitments to attend to.
As mentioned in a previous letter we will be having a staggered start.
Week 1 February 2nd – 4th 9am – 12 noon (morning tea only)
Week 2 February 9th – 11th 9am – 1pm (morning tea and lunch)
Week 3 and beyond 9am – 2pm (morning tea and lunch)

After Kinder Care
At Gowrie Street we offer After Kinder Care. Families can book their child into After Kinder Care from the conclusion of the preschool session to 5pm at a rate of $5 per hour. Please see Melinda or Jaye for an enrolment form and more information.
We look forward to working with you and your child throughout 2016.

Hats
Just a reminder that children are required to wear a broad brimmed hat during outdoor time. Please send a named hat to preschool everyday.