Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break, spending quality time with loved ones.

We have a huge year ahead of us with endless learning opportunities for every child, every day.

Our beloved Mr. Cridland has gained a relieving Principal position 3 days a week at Tarro Public School. I know he will be an outstanding Principal and wish him all the best in this role. I am sure his; “Good Morning Irrawang” calls, will be even louder on the two days will still have him. Well done Mr. Cridland.

A few ideas for a smooth transition into 2016

* New classes - Last week students were placed in classes for 2016. Class placement was done strategically, with your child’s best interest in mind. Please allow your child ‘settling in’ time to get to know their class mates and teachers.

* Stage Information – By the end of week two, you will receive a note from your child’s Stage. It will have an overview of the term and will also have additional information such as sport times, units being taught etc. Please check your child’s bag and read all notes sent home so that everyone is on the same page, with the same information.

* Returning of notes – You will be given a 2/3 page stapled booklet of consent notes that need to be completed, signed and returned for all students. This includes consent for walking excursions, internet access, etc. Please ensure these are signed and returned to school ASAP.

I am very excited and proud to be the Principal of Irrawang Public and look forward to leading this amazing school community for years to come.

Sincerely,

Mrs Mathieson
Principal
School starts at 8.55am Please “don’t be late as School won’t wait”.

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<th>Term 1</th>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
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Welcome to the 2016 school year everyone! I am always amazed by how much students seem to grow during the summer holidays ... and I was very pleased to have some overdue books returned this week. Thank you to those students (and possibly parents and carers!) who searched for them during the Christmas break.

The schedule for Library lessons this term is as follows:

Tuesday: K-6C, 3/4I, 1T, 1M and 2T
Wednesday: Preschool, KR, KV, 2E, 3-6M and 2-6B
Thursday: 3/4G, 4/5E, 5/6F and 5/6P

Once again, I would like to remind parents and carers that you also are very welcome to borrow from the Library at any time. Please take advantage of the excellent resources we have in our Library ... for younger children you may have at home or simply for your own interest and enjoyment!

Bookclub brochures were distributed this week, with a return date of next Thursday, 11th February. This year, Scholastic have produced only one booklet containing all the individual clubs. This has been given to the eldest child of each family. Please advise me or the office if you would like an extra copy to go to other siblings.

My Website of the Week is National Geographic Kids Australia. It simply gets better and better. Go to http://ngkids.com.au/

Happy reading everyone

Chris Berry
Teacher Librarian

Chess News

Students keen to play Chess this term need to register their interest with Miss Berry in the Library. Come to the Library during Lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday to practice your skills.

Chris Berry
Chess Co-Ordinator

BIKE SAFETY

Just a reminder that for safety reasons, scooters and skateboards are not to be brought into the school.

Students are allowed to ride their bike to school as long as it is in safe working order. Bicycles must have working brakes and a lock and chain (these will be checked randomly from time to time). The school cannot be responsible for bikes. Helmets MUST be worn properly at all times. No helmet-no ride. This includes them being properly done up. It is recommended that students under 10 be accompanied by an adult if riding to school. Students 12 and under are allowed to ride on the footpath as are accompanying adults. Road and pedestrian safety is very important and needs to be discussed with your children regularly.

Mr Jones
Irrawang Public School Community are safe, responsible learners who show respect in all settings

Welcome PBL members
(IPS Staff, School Community, Students, Parents)
WOW!!!

Where did those holidays go????
Welcome to 2016 and to another exciting year at Irrawang Public, the ‘Quality School’, where everyone plays their part by being safe, responsible learners who show respect in all settings, at all times.

PBL is an integral part of OUR school and OUR community.
By sustaining a consistency together, we are maintaining an environment that is safe for learning, where everyone shows respect and are responsible for their actions.
During the first few weeks teachers will be reviewing and consolidating the ‘Aussie 5’ and the ‘Behaviour Consistency Chart’ so that there is a common understanding of expectations.
Welcome back. I hope you all had a relaxing and happy break. Today’s feature is “5 things you don’t know about me – Staff”. This is a quiz involving staff from all areas of the School. Clues will be given about an individual staff member for you to guess who they are. Write your answer on the tear off slip at the bottom of the page. Place in the box in the foyer at the office. The winner is the first correct answer drawn out of the box which will be published in the next newsletter.

In the alternate week Newsletter we will have the section called “Who am I? – Family” This is a quiz involving families who attend Irrawang Public School. Clues will be given about an individual family for you to guess who they are. Write your answer on the tear off slip at the bottom of the page. Place in the box in the foyer at the office. Good luck!

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

4 Things you don’t know about me- Staff

1. I have lived in Raymond Terrace for 30 years.
2. I have represented NSW for State Softball twice (my position was catcher).
3. I have had a tractor & motorbike licence.
4. I had my first job at 15yrs as a waitress.

Who is this staff member?
Please write your answer on the tear off slip at the bottom of the page. Place in the foyer at the office by the morning of Monday week 3 (8/2/16). The winner is the first correct answer drawn out of the box which will be published in the newsletter Week 4. Good luck!

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

Guessing Competition Answer.

Name: ………………………………………………………………………..

Class: ….................................

Answer: ……………………………………………………………………….
TERM 1 PROGRAM 2016

What we do..............................................

We provide a variety of programs to the community in partnership with other services.
We support families with children with a particular focus on the years before school.
For more information about these and other programs, please visit the Centre during
school term, phone 4987 4666, or look us up on face book, for the most up to date
information.

Rhythms

Join us once a month on a Monday
morning. Let’s celebrate
diversity in our community. All
ages welcome.
FREE drumming, cooking, catch-up
and more....
Call 4987 4666 for more information.

THURSDAY 28th JANUARY TO FRIDAY 8th APRIL 2016

Evening Course
Tuesday Nights

1-2-3
Magic Parenting Program
Easy to learn parenting solutions that work
For parents with children 2-12 years

‘An end to the arguing and yelling’
‘Simple, save and effective’

An effective and positive way to discipline your children. 1-2-3 Magic
provides parenting solutions that are easy to learn and that work.

Topics covered are:
- Children are not mini-adults
- Too much talk, too much emotion
- Brain development
- Patterns of families
- Remaining flexible

This course is being run by a parent-teacher licensed practitioner. This is a free
workshop.

Venue: Thou-Walla Family Centre
Date: Tuesday 15th, 22nd and 29th of March 2016
Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

To register your interest, please call 4987 4666, or 640047877, or email Gina.Ascott-Evans@det.nsw.edu.au.

This a a partnership with the Family Action Centre, Newcastle University and
Thou-Walla Family Centre

NEW Hunter Schools as Community Centres Website
We are currently working on a website: Hunter Schools as Community Centres,
in partnership with our other Hunter SACC’s including Woodbury, Pennell Bay,
Anna Bay, Gosford and Wondae. This is expected to go LIVE in the next few
weeks. We will keep you posted.

Calling out to anyone interested in joining a sewing group. No
experience and/or sewing
machine required. Please call 4987 4666 or drop in to the
Centre for more information.
TRIPLE P
GROUP PARENT PROGRAM

The Power of Positive Parenting

For parents / grandparents/ carers with children aged 3-8 years. There is no such thing as ‘one size fits all’ when it comes to parenting. Triple P is an approach that emphasizes the positive. This is an 8 week – 1 day week program.

We can help you:

- Encourage behaviour you would like from your child
- Deal consistently with problem behaviour
- Take the stress out of parenting

Venue: Grahams town Public School

Date: Tuesday mornings – 9th, 16th, 23rd of February, 1st March and 22nd March

Time: 10.15am to 10.30 am start (finish at 1 pm)

Please call 4987 4668 or 0409422157 or email tripleP-Graves@det.nsw.edu.au

This is a partnership with the Family Action Centre, Nuccaleena University and Family Focus.

Free Baby Massage Program

With Clare from Infant Massage (Newborn to 6 months) A 5 WEEK course for parents/carer's & their babies. Monday afternoons. Starting date to be confirmed.

Benefits INCLUDE:

- Enhance bonding & empower parents in the care of their baby
- Assists with sleep and digestion
- Stimulates baby’s growth & development
- Helps baby sleep better

Booking essential. Please call 4987 4668 to reserve your spot. Limited child-care available.

My Time

My Time is a local support group for parents and carers of children with a disability or chronic medical condition.

My Time gives parents the chance to socialize and share ideas with others. Parents can meet with people in similar circumstances to have fun, hear from others and find out about available community support. Play session. Each group has a play helper who facilitates

THOU-WALLA PLAYGROUP

Join us at Thou-Walla between 9:15am and 11:00am on Tuesday mornings. New Families welcome. For families and their children ages 0-5 years. Morning tea provided. Phone: 4987 4666

PORT STEPHENS
PARENT PLAYGROUP

Join us at Thou-Walla, from 9:15am on Wednesday mornings during school term, for activities including painting, dough stamping, gardening and sand play. Activities are provided to suit your child’s age and developmental needs, with an emphasis on Messy Play.

Call Jane on 0429264962 or the Centre on 4987 4666.
Welcome to our club
“THE MEDOWIE MARAUDERS”

The local club where
YOU get to play with your Mates

Our club invites all players and supporters to join us for the 2016 Rugby Season
Juniors, Colts (U19), Seniors and Old Boys

Registration details:
Junior Players - $120
Senior Players - $220
Old Boys - $80
Social Member - $30

FREE PLAYER REGISTRATION FOR NEW JUNIOR PLAYERS
(ONLY) registrations in being registered “BAHA”
Note: a club “player kit” levy of $70 will apply for new players

All junior players will receive:
Thanks to the support of Craig Baumann and Valley Homes

- Valley Homes
- Playing socks and shorts (new players only)
- Club Polo shirt
- Club training singlet
- Club tracksuit (top and pants)
- Club bag
- Ball with Club Logo
- Kicking tee

Club Registration Days:
30th January 2016
Boyd Oval - Grey Gum Street, Medowie
9am to 5pm
Come down for a bacon and egg roll for brekky or a BBQ lunch

Our club registrar will need to site birth certificates for all new players

For further information:
Email: Jimmy Secretary@medowierugby.com or Mick juniors@medowierugby.com
Phone: 0487188786 or 0417756881

Our Website: www.medowie-ugby.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Medowie-and-
Dennett-Rugby-Union-Club/143074044050285

PORT STEPHENS POWER JUNIOR AFL CLUB

Ferodale Oval, Corner Ferodale Road & Kirrang Drive, Medowie

2016 Registration Day at Ferodale Oval
Sunday 14th February 9.00am - 12.00pm

NAB Auskick - 5 Years to 8 Years
$75 (includes 2016 Auskick Pack & Club T-shirt)

Juniors - U9s, U11s, U13s, U15s & U17s
$100 for 1st child (new players receive Club Bag, drink bottle & socks)
$90 for siblings (new players receive Club Bag, drink bottle & socks)

Youth Girls (13-16yrs)
$50 (includes shorts & socks)

***** NO WEEKLY FEES *****

For further registration opportunities please contact Mel on 0412667251
or visit website www.portstephenspower.com.au
HAS YOUR CHILD ENROLLED FOR SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

WILL YOUR CHILD BE STARTING KINDERGARTEN OR PRESCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

ENROL NOW FOR THE BEST START TO YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION!!!

ENQUIRE NOW!

Please ask at the office or phone 02 4987 2403

CAUTION:
Please remember that if you are putting photos from school events on your personal Facebook page that other children should not be in the photos unless you have permission from their parents or carers.

IRRAWANG AUSSIE 5
Irrawang Public School: Absentee Note

Student Name: ___________________________  Class: ___________________________

Date/s of absence/s ____________________________________________________________

Reason for leave: (Please circle)

* Sick  * Urgent Family Business  * Other: ____________________________

Signature: ______________________________________  Date: ______________________

Relationship to student: __________________________

***************Please return with your child to class teacher. Thankyou***************
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<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>First day for students Yrs 1-6</td>
<td>Preschool and Best Start Interviews</td>
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<td>First day for Kindy and Preschool</td>
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<td>2.15pm P-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>Gathang Language 9.15-11.15am</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
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<td>Stage 2&amp;3 Interlate Night @ GPS</td>
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<td>Gathang Language 9.15-11.15am</td>
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<td>8.55am PBL Assembly in hall</td>
<td>School Photos for staff, class and families</td>
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Monday - Exec meetings 3:15 – 4:15pm (Thursday 8.15 - if needed)

Tuesday - Communication 8.30am Tier 2 - 2.15pm
Tuesday afternoon meetings (Staff/Stage/Committee) – 3:15 pm– 4:15 pm

Wednesday - LST – 8.15 am – 8:55 am LASTs/Exec meetings –2.15pm – even weeks PBL – 3.15 pm - 4 pm - odd weeks

Friday - 8.30am – Preschool meetings - even weeks

Betty - school counsellor - ½ day Monday, full days Wednesday & Friday

Irrawang Public School's children, staff, parents and community are SAFE, RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS who show RESPECT