Hi Everyone,

**Week two and heads are down hard at work:** With our first 5 week unit assessment looming the students are well and truly in the groove. There has been new students enrolling since day one which has meant a rethink of class structures and teacher aide timetables. Each year all State schools finalise their classes by the eighth day of school which is this Thursday. Presently we have climbed to 195 students with a possible 2 extra children across the year levels. Most of our neighbourhood schools are in similar positions with full classes and therefore we consider class restructuring or resource support. For every extra child before the 8th day, our budget increases and our teacher aide hours rise. In order to minimise distress on the children any possible changes if needed will be communicated to parents in advance.

**PBL School rule expectation for the week:** This week our PBL Program focus is on the school uniform policy as set out in our school prospectus. The policy supports our School Rules, particularly Be Safe. The teachers will be discussing allowable jewellery, correct uniform including hair styles/colours and long hair secured. Each week our PBL program will feature an expectation which will be taught to the children. Many green cards have been received by students in our first week for responsible behaviour demonstrating our school rules. Congratulations to all the students who have started towards their first 25 token Emerald Award already. Some yellow cards have been sent home for individual behaviours. A yellow warning card is designed to teach your child what behaviour is expected and rewarded. An orange card is issued when the same minor behaviour has been exhibited three times. Major behaviours include a red card sent home and follow up phone call from me. These are serious behaviours requiring serious consequences.

**New communication diary for year prep to 2 students out this week:** Tomorrow every prep to year 2 child will bring home their own diary which we have provided for them during this trial period of first term. The idea of the diary is to provide our parents and teachers an easy consistent way regularly communicate. The students are expected to bring their diary home and return to school every day! Notes and teacher information will be in the diary. Please use the diary to record any messages for the teacher including absentee messages that will save our office staff time in contacting parents when children are away. The teachers have requested if you can cover the front with contact or place in a book cover this will protect the diary.

**School Leaders ceremony:** We anticipate holding our School Leaders official ceremony on week four Monday’s parade pending their badges being delivered. Invitation letters for family members will be sent home soon.

**Safety in and around the school:** Parents please always be vigilant by keeping an eye out when dropping off or picking children up from school especially in Pheasant Street. Our new 2.50pm bell time will help us coincide with the High School drop off. Secondary students and parents are reminded to please wait quietly in undercover areas provided until the classroom doors have been opened. Tuesday is our staff meeting day commencing at 2.55pm so I encourage parents to please catch up with your class teachers outside of this important time of the week.

**Writing focus in 2015:** Each year we analyse student performance and set an explicit improvement agenda. This year we are specifically focusing on student writing. Learning and applying number facts to problem solving and developing reading strategies remains a priority area as well. Both number facts and reading must be practised every day. All year levels are expected to complete homework daily, 4 days per week. We offer homework program every Wednesday afternoon for parents to come along and assist your child. Your assistance to monitor this homework is critical. Please communicate regularly with your child’s class teacher and see them as soon as possible if you have any conflicts with your child. Reading needs to be supportive and fun for both of you.

**PCYC before and after school care planned for on-site:** PCYC pick up from Slade Point School in the afternoon. We have commenced planning to have an onsite facility operating later in 2015 once approved. Please contact PCYC if you would like to use this service.

Rod Finney
Principal

"Caring, Sharing, Learning Together"
STUDENT AWARDS
Harper, Anarchy, Seth, Ethan, Blake, Aaron, Cooper

ATTENDANCE — ICE-BLOCK WINNERS
1st Week: 2/3A! Well done!

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School Photo’s will be on Thursday 12th February. Envelopes will be sent home soon.

P & C NEWS
- If anyone would like to purchase a new shirt, please contact Kelly 0427544119, $30 each. School bucket hats will be available soon for $15.
- AGM is the Monday 16th February 6pm in the staffroom. All welcome to attend. All executive positions will be vacant. Nominations needed for this year.
- Monday Munchies will be on Monday 16th February. Notes home in the next few weeks.

HATS
HATS: Parents/caregivers can we please arrange that your child/ren have a hat with their name on it. Thank-you

TUCKSHOP
Please have your name/class/order on a brown bag. If you need to buy a bag they are .10c from the tuckshop.

PLAYGROUP
Wednesday 1-3pm every week of term. Free to attend. Please bring a hat, enclosed shoes and a drink bottle. We meet in C Block. Please go to the office if you need directions. Parents supervision required for the duration of the playgroup.

FOOD FROM OUR GARDEN
Last week the students got to try either watermelon and cassava (tapoca) which grow in our school garden. Special thank you to Mrs Jenkins who turned the cassava into a beautiful cake and Aunty Vicki for distributing the watermelon.

STUDENT ABSENCES/ CONTACT DETAILS
If your child/ren are absent from school please ring the student absent line on 49657 360. Admin will be contacting parents/caregivers daily if you haven’t contacted the office if your child/ren are absent. Thank-you Admin.

CONTACT DETAILS: Please make sure your phone numbers/addresses are up to date in the office.

YEAR SIX CAMP—FAIRBAIRN DAM
We are planning a year six camp to Fairbairn Dam again this year — Term 3. Information will be sent home to the year six parents as soon as possible. We will also be asking for parents to help us to do fundraising. Please see Miss Usher if you are able to help.

YEAR 6 SHIRTS
Students have received a letter regarding Year 6 shirts. If you would a shirt for your child please send note with name/size and $31.50 cash in an envelope into the office.

CHAPLAIN NEWS
Welcome back to School. I hope the new families have had an enjoyable introduction to life at Slade Point State School. In my role as School Chaplain I am here to help children to fit into the School Community and flourish in their lives. If you have any questions or need a listening ear then I am only too happy to have a coffee with you in my room. You can just chat with me as you see me around the School or the other way to catch up with me is to contact the Office and tell them you would like an appointment with me.

I have several programs planned to run throughout the year along with gardening and craft. I am in the process of consulting the children to see what activities they would like to participate in.

I am very thankful that I am once again able to offer 3 days of service to Slade Point State School. The government funding covers almost 2 days and I have several donors who contribute towards the gap. I will be seeking help with some fund raising this year so we can ensure that the 3 days continues throughout the year.

I look forward to working with your children this year and watching them develop and embrace a love of life and learning.

Chappy Lyn

BRAIN SNACK
Please be mindful of brain snacks for your child/ren as a lot of food is getting wasted as children don’t have much time. Please cut an apple/banana into a half size, suggestions are: cheese, grapes/sultana’s.