Welcome back to the new school year!

I would like to extend a special welcome to those of you who are first-time students, parents or staff. The Junior School years are a very special time, with tremendous growth for children, socially, emotionally and intellectually. Helping your children grow through this period of their lives and become healthy, whole, caring and knowledgeable people who know how to use their minds well is rewarding work. I am delighted to be in partnership with you to help maximize your child's potential.

The beginning of every new school year is an exciting time. This year we have two new teaching staff members joining our team. Louise Biundo will teach Prep B, and Belinda Klose is our new Deputy Head of Junior School (Teaching and Learning). We also welcome Linda Tzimos as the teacher of Prep T. Linda was previously a member of staff in the Learning Development and Support Faculty, but after years of study she has returned in the capacity of classroom teacher. Felicity Woodlock rejoins us in the Performing Arts Department two days per week. Please welcome these new and returning staff members warmly into our Overnewton Community.

A tremendous amount of energy goes into the start of every school year. Teachers have worked hard prior to the return of students to ensure they have the best possible beginning in order to help them make it a successful, productive, and happy year. Each classroom teacher spent an hour with each one of their students getting to know them and their abilities. The assessment interviews offer invaluable information for teachers and promote the building of positive relationships for all involved.

It was exciting to see the students begin the school year this week. There is nothing quite like the return of fresh faced students to school at the beginning of the year, particularly our new Prep students who begin school for the first time. The Prep students were lucky enough to spend an hour and a half at school on Tuesday this week where they were re-orientated to their school environment. This ensured their first day of school on Wednesday was as successful as it could be. Seeing the Prep students in their crisp new uniforms is always a wonderful sight.

It is timely at the beginning of the year to remind our community about uniform expectations. Some specific uniform points to be aware of are;

- Earrings are to be small, plain silver or gold studs or sleepers (no stones)
- Hair ties are to be in school colours only
- Shoes are to be black, leather lace-up school shoes (not to resemble runners)
- Hair past the base of the neck is to be tied back

(Please refer to the diary for further information with regard to uniform)

We are looking forward to a busy and productive year ahead in the Junior School. A strategic plan has been developed based on a variety of new initiatives as well as the continuation of plans put in place throughout 2013.
Teachers have continued to work on rewriting and developing curriculum, ensuring we offer best practice and quality educational opportunities for the students. Further information with regards to our Junior School developments will be shared in Whispers as we progress throughout the year.

Tuesday 11th February is the Junior School Information Evening. This is an important evening for parents to attend. After gathering in the Multi-Purpose Hall initially to introduce staff and share some Junior School priorities, classroom teachers will provide specific information to parents about Year level expectations.

The first Junior School Assembly for the year will take place on 13th February. This will be a time to welcome everyone back to school and to celebrate the year ahead.

**Junior School Captains**
- Eboni Strati
- Daniel Rullo

**Vice Captains**
- Eve Keleman
- Jhett Gaskett

**Chapel Captains**
- Kate Hobbs
- Ella Zammit

**Choir Captains**
- Jenna Green
- CJ Maiden

**Edison House Captains**
- Bianca Schembri
- Luke Armocida

**Curie House Captain**
- Zoe Marcote
- Dion Constas

**Newton House Captains**
- Tara Verzak
- Matthew Grimaud

**Pasteur House Captains**
- Celeste Bozinov
- Marco Siciliano

Please continue to check the student diary and College calendar for important dates coming up this term.

In partnership with families, Overnewton will continue to be a school community in which every person feels respected, valued, and is encouraged and supported to achieve their personal best. I look forward to sharing this journey with you throughout 2014 and beyond.

*Tracy Fielder*

*Head of Junior School-Taylors Lakes Campus*

**JUNIOR SCHOOL-TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS COMING EVENTS - TERM 1, 2014**

**Tuesday 11th February**
Junior School Information Evening-Taylors Lakes Campus

**Wednesday 12th February**
Class Photos

**Wednesday 26th February**
Nude Food Breakfast

**Thursday 27th February**
Prep Barbeque
Friday 14th March
Outdoor Movie Night

Tuesday 25th March
Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday 27th March
Parent Teacher Interviews