Stage 2
Avoca Beach Public School

2015 promises to be another year of fabulous opportunities for all of our students.

3F – Ms Kim Fyffe    3D – Mrs Alison Dowling
3/4D - Mrs Roxanne Davies
4B – Mr Craig Blanch   4J Mrs Julie Boarer

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our students and their families.

We hope that you have had an enjoyable break and have had the opportunity to enjoy some time together with family and friends. For some, coming back to school is quite easy – the routine, the friends and the learning. For others it presents a few challenges, perhaps it’s the structure of school (what class am I in? Who’s my teacher?), re-establishing friendships or the separation from family members. While I am talking about the students here, as teachers we understand that parents may be feeling a little the same! Please be assured that all of these feelings are quite natural and given a little support and with time things should settle.

How can you help an anxious child?

- Always speak positively about the school and the teachers to your child.
- Reinforce to your child that you believe in them!
- Remain consistent in your routine where possible and give children notice of any expected changes.
- Inform the teacher of any difficulties so we can support them and yourself.

DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 Feb – Week 3</td>
<td>Text Book sale day</td>
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<td>17 Feb Week 4</td>
<td>Parent / Teacher Information night</td>
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<td>2 March</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>1 April</td>
<td>Mexico – Cultural Day</td>
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<td>3 April - 17 April</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
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<td>20 April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>21 April</td>
<td>Term 2 – students return</td>
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“Every child deserves a champion -- an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be.”

- – Rita Pierson
Curriculum Content

2014 saw the implementation of the new English Syllabus. This year we are required to implement the new mathematics and science syllabuses. All staff has been provided with professional development opportunities to ensure that they are ready to provide engaging and rich learning experiences. Keep your eye out for parent information sessions about these areas of learning.

HSIE – This term we are doing a cultural study of Mexico. On Wednesday of Week 10 (1 April, 2015) we will be cooking (eating) performing and playing games celebrating this culture. Try to save this date and come along to share this experience.

Website and School App - Please visit the school website regularly to see what is happening in and around our great school. The school now has an App to make communication such as absences and payments more easily available. You can download the App by searching Avoca Beach Public School in an App store and request push notifications for up to date information.

Homework - Aarrggghhh! I hear you scream! Please relax! Stage 2 will be provided with homework each week however it will be in the form of a homework grid. This approach to homework designed by Ian Lillico (Boys’ Education – Boys Forward) recognises the student in a holistic way. Homework will include aspects of sport, culture and family life. Homework should never become a struggle – nor should it be completed by parents to ‘get it over with,’ (yes, I have done this in the past too!) If your child is reluctant to complete homework encourage reading for pleasure or better still read to them for 10 minutes.

Roxanne Davies (Assistant Principal) Julie Boarer, Craig Blanch, Kim Fyffe and Alison Dowling.

Classroom Requirements!

Stage 2 students will require the following stationery items. Please ensure everything is clearly labelled.

All stationery should be able to fit in one pencil case and are restocked at the beginning of each term.

1 pencil case - containing the following:
- 3 HB lead pencils, red pen, blue pen and a highlighter
- a pair of scissors, a glue stick, an eraser
- a 30cm wooden ruler
- a pencil sharpener
- coloured pencils or crayolas, textas
- simplex wallet (for homework)
- 1 USB stick

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This year will see the implementation of PBL. Over the last twelve months we have been reviewing our current practices regarding student wellbeing. Stellar, our school mascot will become the centre of our reward system. Over the next few weeks you should be hearing a lot about ‘Stellar’ recognition awards for being respectful, responsible and demonstrating personal best both inside and outside of the classroom. These values will be consistently used and identified throughout the school by all staff members, students and members of the community. Students will be working towards participating in a rewards day at the end of the term.