Welcome back to another school year. We hope you enjoyed your holiday break with your children. Last week we welcomed John, Christopher and Isaac whom are all in Kindergarten. We welcome them along with their parents to our school family. Enrolments are 15.

**P & C AGM & MEETING**
This will be held on Tuesday 10th February 2015, 7pm, at the school. Parents, existing and new, are encouraged to be involved in the P & C. Community members are also welcome.

**PARENT AND COMMUNITY CLASSROOM HELPERS**
This year we are preparing a roster of people able to volunteer an hour a week of the valuable time to listen to children read or help them in another way.

If you are able to help please complete the attached slip and return it to school by the end of this week so that a roster can be organised.

Thank you.

**SMALL SCHOOLS SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
Children turning 8 years old this year (or older) and able to confidently complete 50m freestyle will take part in the Sub District Small Schools Swimming Carnival at the Oasis on Monday 16th February 2015. Please let us know by this Friday 6th February if you feel your child should take part in the carnival.
ABSENTEES

If your child is away from school for any reason, we require a note explaining their absence. This is a requirement from the Department of Education and Communities.

Regular attendance at school is important for students to reach their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

All students who are enrolled at school, regardless of their age, are expected to attend whenever instruction is provided. Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly.

In 2008 the Department of Education and Training introduced new measures to monitor the attendance of students. This was due to the changes in law that occurred at the beginning of 2008 following media focus on a series of horrific cases of child neglect.

Parents are required to explain the absences of their children within seven school days.

These explanations can be:

- Verbal - including a phone call or a conversation in person with the parent. A record of the conversation must be made by school personnel and kept with other absence explanations.
- Written - a letter from the parent or a doctor's certificate explaining the absence.
- Electronic - an email or text message explaining an absence. A record must be made by school personnel and kept with other absence explanations. Text messages must be sent to principal's phone.
- Principals may request a doctor's certificate

PARENT/FAMILY INFORMATION UPDATES

Attached to this newsletter are Information Update sheets. These forms need to be completed so that our records are correct and up to date. Could you please fill them out and return school by Monday 16th February.

The forms that need to be completed and returned to school are listed below:

- General Permission Note
- Media Permission note
- Student/Family update
- Student/Parent/Guardian update

Thank you.

Our Kindergarten students hard at work.