Welcome back to school for 2016. We hope you all had a safe and enjoyable break. The Stage 1 teachers are looking forward to an exciting and productive term. Following is a sample of some of the work we will be doing during the course of Term 1:

**English**

We will continue to implement our new spelling program this year. The children are already showing an improvement in their use of the high frequency words in their personal writing.

During this term, we will be implementing a handwriting program, focusing on letter formation and stroke patterns. The lessons will involve a combination of interactive whiteboard lessons, formal handwriting and engaging, hands-on activities.

Reading Groups have started and teachers are constantly monitoring each child’s reading level. There will be a continued focus on the use of the Super Six comprehension strategies (Predicting, Visualising, Making Connections, Summarising and Monitoring) along with fluency, accuracy and expression.

**Reading Eggs**

The children should now be using the Reading Eggs program in the classroom and at home. You should have received your child’s password from your child’s teacher. If you have misplaced your child’s login details, please see your child’s teacher. Reading eggs is a valuable resource and we encourage you to allow your child to log on, on a regular basis at home ☺️
**Mathematics**

Term 1 will see Stage 1 developing their skills in problem solving and mental computation. We will focus on addition and subtraction in Number, whilst also exploring time, length, 2D shapes, patterns and data. Students in Stage 1 will be given opportunities to participate in group activities using technology and concrete materials to investigate and record their mathematical thinking.

**History**

This year we are implementing the new History K-6 syllabus. This term Stage 1 are learning about Families past and present – how life is different to that of our parents and grandparents, how toys are different and similar and how the roles of family members have changed.

**Important dates for your calendar!**

- 11 March – Brainstorm
- 18 March – Touchdown cut-off date
- 21 March – Harmony Day (orange mufti)
- 22 March – School photos
- 23 March – Easter parade and mufti day (gold coin required)
- 25 March – Good Friday
- 28 March – Easter Monday
- 29 March - 8 April – Parent – Teacher interviews
- 5 April – Touchdown morning tea and Public Speaking display
- 6 April – School Cross country
- 7 April – ANZAC Day ceremony

**Friendly Reminders**

Please ensure your child comes to school with their school equipment, such as lead pencils, glue and coloured pencils.

Could you please ensure that all belongings (hats, jumpers, lunch boxes and drink bottles) are clearly labelled with your child's name, so that they can be easily returned 😊

We are looking forward to a fantastic and busy term with your children! 😊