Principals Message
Welcome to Term 4. This is always an extremely busy time when we complete another ten weeks of developmental learning with the children, continue teachers’ professional learning and workshops for parents, finalise assessments and set out directions and plans for 2015. Together with the final celebrations for Christmas, our Science Expo, orientations for Preschool, Kindergarten, new OC and children with special needs and farewell Year 6, we have a very full agenda.

New Canteen
Gina, our new canteen operator and, Tracey, our new canteen worker, have made a great beginning. After their first week of operation, the feedback from the children is glowing. Many have excitedly approached me in the playground to let me know how happy they are. Certainly the more extensive menu and opening every day are major ‘pluses’. Feedback from parents (and the teachers, who are enjoying healthy salads and snacks!) is also very positive. Many thanks to our P & C led canteen panel who made an excellent selection.

Deputy Principal Panel
We have had a minor change to the timing of the process with the advertising not occurring during school holidays. As a result we will be making the final selection following interviews in the week beginning 3rd November. I am certain that we will attract some excellent candidates.

Kindergarten Orientation
Will begin on Friday for the first of 4 sessions. We are delighted to be welcoming 74 new ‘kindis’ for 2015. This is an increase of nearly 30 students. The numbers enable us to form 4 straight Kindergarten classes. At this stage, we have drafted a school organisation plan for teacher placement. As you know, we cannot be absolutely definitive, until all our numbers are confirmed. For the immediate purpose of orientation the Kindergarten teachers will be:

- Faye Ashby (Leader)
- Sophie Le
- Danielle LaBrasceur
- Bianca Le

These very fine young teachers will make a really strong team. Faye will undertake a leadership role ensuring the continued development of the stage and Maria Siwak will provide experienced and knowledgeable guidance.

Teacher and Executive Assessment Review
The formalisation of the teachers’ and executive member’ performance and monitoring of professional learning takes place this month. Every teacher is responsible for the construction of a differentiated quality learning program and assessment/monitoring of student learning outcomes. The executive members are responsible for the development of their teachers and stages. All have additional school responsibilities.

Parent Interviews
At the end of last term, I met with a couple of anxious parents who were signaling concern about their child’s academic progress and well being. Both interviews were an exchange of valuable information from teachers to parents and vice versa. If something is concerning you please do not hesitate to make an appointment and/or speak to me on the phone. As a parent I also know how difficult it can be to watch your child’s distress or lack of progress.
Case Conference
Where a child has complex learning needs we may call a case conference where all the professionals e.g. psychologist, teachers, therapists, pediatrician come together to share their findings and plot a way forward that is consistent and developmental. We are in the midst of completing these now.

Special Placements
Slowly the panels are responding to requests for placement for our many special deeds students in the Early Intervention Unit. We work forward to ensuring that the transition process from our unit to the home school is smooth, happy and successful. The placement process should be completed by November.

Year 6-7 Transition
Pia Maturana has been liaising with Prairiewood H.S to organise a transition program for our Year 6 students. In week 7 teachers will 'ungrade' their classes and move the students about according to a timetable that is similar to the one the children will experience in Year 7.
In addition on Tuesday, 14th October at 9.00am, Pia and I will meet with Ray Vella and John Selby from the Salvation Army Youthslink Stepping Up program to identify two groups of students – 1 those who may potentially be at risk of failing in H.S and 2 – Those who are capable of mentoring and supporting others. Youth workers and teachers will meet together once a fortnight to develop plans and programs for the Year 6 – Year 7 students. This worthwhile project will further support our students in their transition from primary to secondary school.

Need to Succeed Symposium
On Thursday morning I will attend and support the Need to Succeed Symposium organized by a group of educators and not for profit organisations. The focus is to put the Gonski recommendations ‘back on the table’ and in the public eye. Our school stands to attract an additional $500,000 per year should the Gonski campaign succeed. We cannot afford to be silent or unrepresented in this campaign.

Help
Domenic our G.A is looking for some old fence palings for a school art project. If you have any at home that you would like to donate please let the office know.

Reminder
Uniform Shop
Uniforms may be purchased on Thursday and Fridays at the school hall 8.30 – 9.30am. You may also order the uniforms through the office.

School Canteen
Open every day. Please note children are able to purchase a range of snacks during recess and lunch. Snacks start from 20c to $2.00.

Have a wonderful fortnight,
Cheryl McBride OAM
Principal

BRONZE & SILVER AWARDS
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR AND HAVE ACHIEVED A BRONZE LEVEL OR SILVER LEVEL

Maryam Almsoodni 1 Hardaker
Le’ati Moefaauo 1 Hardaker
Justin Lim 1 Hardaker
Nour Alameddine 4 Farnham
Joey Basher 4 Farnham
Nesrim El-Khatib 4 Farnham
Hinckley Tapuso 4 Farnham
Tarni Farmfield 4/5 Truscott
Adam Issa 6 Butcher
Amy Charlesworth 6 Butcher
Andy Le 5/6 Muloasmanovic
Hello Everyone,

I’d like to introduce myself to you all, my name is Gina and I have been in the school canteen industry for 12 years now.

I’m excited and looking forward to applying my knowledge to your canteen and getting to know you all.

At first there might be a few teething problems till we settle in and get to know the routine of the school. But once that has been achieved it will be smooth sailing.

Our menu we believe catered to everyone’s eating needs.

We open at 8.30 for breakfast which consist of: * Cereal bowls with milk  
  * Hash browns  
  * Egg n bacon rolls  
  * Cheese macks  
  * Fruit salad cups

These will be available during the week with other food items.

Please come past and say hello and take a look at all the new changes we have put in place.

We look forward to seeing you at the canteen.