Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back everyone and welcome to our new families who this year will be joining our fantastic school.

Over the coming weeks, I will be visiting all classes to spend some time with the students and to participate in teaching and learning. Today we formed classes for 2015. Our staff has spent a significant amount of time in placing students in particular classes and have done so with great consideration and thought. Issues such as academic progress, social relationships and behaviour were all considered when making decisions. We are confident this is the best make-up for our school organisation. Some of our parents made specific requests regarding class placement for their child. While we make every attempt to consider these cases, it is not always practicable or possible. Making up classes is a complex and difficult task when taking into account academic levels, behaviour issues and interpersonal relationships. We are hoping to maintain this class structure; however should there be an increase in enrolments throughout the team, the class arrangement may have to be adjusted. Current class arrangements for 2015 are as follows.

**Classes for 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KS</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KT</td>
<td>Mrs Rebecca Thompson</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Mrs Amii Davis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>KC</td>
<td>Mrs Catherine Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>KW</td>
<td>Mrs Nadine Scott</td>
<td>Relieving Assistant Principal Stage 3 - Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Mrs Joanne Figallo</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Mr Kurt Briggs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1J</td>
<td>Mrs Kerrie Jackson</td>
<td>Mon, Tues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Mrs Kim Miller</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miss Katrina Hextall</td>
<td>Wed, Thurs, Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2DM</td>
<td>Mrs Therese Darch</td>
<td>Mon – Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Ruth Morgan</td>
<td>Thurs, Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2T</td>
<td>Miss Jess Tout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3W</td>
<td>Mrs Kylie Williams</td>
<td>Relieving Assistant Principal Stage 2 - Term 2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3T</td>
<td>Miss Shara Toomey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Mrs Katrina Gabriel</td>
<td>Wed-Fri</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Kylie Brooks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Miss Jasmin Hargrave</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Carmen Clare</td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4G</td>
<td>Mrs Brenda Gilmour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome New Teachers
Welcome to Mrs Vicki Young who joins us as Deputy Principal from Gorokan Public School and welcome to new teaching staff: Kurt Briggs Year 1, Katrina Hextall Year 1, Kylie Brooks Year 3, Lauren Owen Year 6, Tania Dever Multicat Class and Anna McLeod Multicat Class SLSO. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise Mrs Joanna Henderson who was successful in gaining a Deputy Principal position at Banora Point Public School. Mrs Henderson was a dynamic leader, a supportive colleague and a great teacher. We will miss her very much but wish her well in her new role. Mrs Henderson’s Assistant Principal position will be filled through merit selection this term and the successful candidate will teach 6O from Term 2.

Grade Coordinators
If ever you have a particular problem at school, the first port of call is the class teacher. If required, any concerns regarding students in a grade can be referred to the grade coordinators indicated below.

Part Time/Job Share Teachers
Like many schools, businesses and government organisations, our school has staff who work on a part-time basis. This may be because of leave options, employment requirements
or employee choice. As the Federal Government provides this entitlement to all workers nationwide, more and more employees will take the option if desired.

This results in many classes in schools across Australia being taught by two teachers on different days of the week. While some parents may not see this as desirable, it is a staffing arrangement that exists in all schools. Our teachers are committed and hard working and when those who do job share, team up with a colleague, we ensure that regular and frequent communication takes place between them and that the effect of two teachers on the students is nothing but positive.

**Composite/Split Grade Classes**

This year we have four composite classes. Composite classes are a regular inclusion in all schools across the nation. Inclusion in composite classes can be a very positive experience for students. The students, whilst participating in regular grade appropriate programs, will have the opportunity to work with their class mates of similar ability levels and as a result, improve their learning performance. They will also develop their independence skills and enhance their interpersonal abilities. As in other classes, all students will be provided with learning programs relevant to their own needs and abilities. These students will regularly integrate with other classes in their grade for a wide variety of activities.

**School Contributions**

Each year we ask families to support their child/children by donating $35.00 per child to the school. This money is tax deductible and is used as a Library Fund to purchase much needed literacy and technology resources. For us to continue to provide quality literacy and technology resources, we appreciate your support. School Contributions can be paid by cash, cheques can be made out to Niagara Park Public School – Library Fund, credit card (slip attached) and EFTPOS.

**Summer Reading is a Blast**

The Summer Reading is a Blast holiday reading program has concluded. The students who participated and completed the Summer Reading is a Blast reading card and successfully read for 21 days during the holidays are eligible for a selection of book prizes. Please return your completed card to the school office by **Friday 6th February 2015**.

**Office Hours**

Please note that the school office hours are **8:30 am to 3:15 pm** Monday to Friday. It is not always possible to get messages to children after **2:30 pm** unless in the case of an extreme emergency. If there is a change in your child’s going home arrangements, please let the office know as soon as possible **before 2:30 pm**.

**School Uniform**

It is wonderful to see the vast majority of our students wearing full school uniform. When our students are assembled together it is a very impressive sight indeed. A reminder to some families however, that **black** is the colour of shoes at our school. Black shoes should not be mixed with multi colours or be of a slip-on variety. We remind students that no nail polish is permitted at school and that jewellery should be minimal including stud type earrings. Our school uniform policy will be provided in a future newsletter.

**Usage Agreement**

Each year we ask parents/carers to sign a Usage Agreement that contains permission forms for:-

- Walking excursions
- Child Protection lessons
- Media coverage
Your support with your authority enables these programs to operate efficiently. The Usage Agreement will be provided next week, please return it to your child’s class teacher ASAP.

"Wayamadi" - Newsletter/Communication
On Fridays, our weekly school newsletter “Wayamadi” is available for you to read. This is an excellent way of keeping up to date with what is happening within our school. You are also invited to visit our school website which has copies of the Wayamadi, school notes and other useful information. A form will be sent home next week asking you if you wish to receive the Wayamadi via email or a hard copy. Please indicate your preference.

Our school website is www.niagarapk-p.schools.nsw.edu.au You can also download the Niagara Park Public School app available for android and iPhone smart phones and you can find us on Facebook. The app and the school Facebook page will keep you up to date with events and activities.

Parent/Student Information Note
Shortly, parents will receive a note requesting up to date details concerning contact numbers, emails and medical information. We ask that you return this note to school immediately in order for us to keep our records current.

Head Lice
Head Lice are a concerning problem for all schools. Please check your child’s hair regularly and if lice or lice eggs are detected, please treat your child’s hair with appropriate treatments available from pharmacies. It is recommended that the whole family be treated at the same time. Household items such as linen, brushes etc. also need to be treated.

Swimming Carnival
Our school Swimming Carnival will be held from 5:00 pm on Thursday 12th February at Gosford Pool. Information and a permission notes will be sent home early next week. Students turning 8 years old to Year 6 are eligible to compete.

High School Students On Our School Grounds
In previous years we have had some problems with high school students arriving on our school grounds at the end of the day and causing problems for our students. As a result, we banned high school students entering our school as our students’ safety and security is a priority.

However, if parents wish for their high school child to collect his/her sibling on an afternoon, we ask that you request an “entry pass” by email to adam.boulos@det.nsw.edu.au in writing. High school students will be required to keep the pass with them when entering our school grounds.

School Crossing Supervisors
Please be aware that the crossing supervisors are on the top crossing (front of our school) and shopping centre crossing from 8:15 am to 9:15 am and from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please make sure that if your child is using the crossing, they must follow the supervisor’s instructions, walk behind red lines on the footpath and that any balls are to be carried in a plastic bag or school bag and not be bounced about to ensure students’ and road users’ safety.
Bus Travel
We have 3 bus routes from our school each afternoon.
Red Bus (53): line up at Library courtyard – Dean, Hanlan South, Fountains Roads area
Blue Bus (50): line up in K-2 area – Maliwa, Showground, Narara Creek Road area
Green Bus (54): line up in K-2 area – Mangrove, Pinetop, Bentley, Alan Street area

Staff Car Park Danger
We request that students and parents not use the staff car park to walk into and from school for obvious safety reasons. We have locked the middle gate for this reason.

Sport Days
We are finalising our sport days currently and will let you know ASAP.

Email Communication
We find it practical for staff and parents to communicate via emails. Included is an email list of all our staff for your reference.

We are all looking forward to a terrific 2015. When we all work together, we do great things for kids.

Have a great weekend.

Adam Boulus
Principal

STUDENT NAME: ................................................................. CLASS: ...............  
Payment for: ...............................................................  
Type of payment:  
☐ Cash  ☐ Cheque  ☐ Visa  ☐ Mastercard

Total Paid $.......................  
(minimum $10 for card payments)

Card number  Expiry Date  

Cardholder’s Name [please print clearly]  
Date: .................................................  

Daytime Telephone: ..................................  

Cardholder’s Signature  

Receipted OASIS  ☐  Initial ...............  Date .................................  

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE IN PERSON, BY TELEPHONE OR BY COMPLETING THE ABOVE ADVICE FORM AND SENDING TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE.