Welcome back! We are delighted to welcome all our students and families to the 2015 school year at Coral Park Primary School. We hope that all families have enjoyed a happy holiday and are looking forward to the new school year with enthusiasm and energy. A special welcome is extended to all our new Prep students and their families. We look forward to building positive relationships with you all in 2015 and beyond. Congratulations to all students on their first weeks efforts, they not only look happy, refreshed and excited to be back at school, but are also all wearing their school colours with pride. I was very pleased with the attendance of students so far, with only a few forgetting the first day. Remember, all absences must be explained. Please call the office before 9am to explain while your child is away, don’t forget all reasons must be valid (not for shopping or birthdays!) and are required by law. Parents can now be fined if unexplained absences occur.

We extend a warm welcome to Liz and Solange, both returning in a part-time capacity after Family Leave. Pania and Natalie (now as a full-time teacher) also return to the school and we welcome two new graduate teachers, Katya and Veronica who begin their teaching career this year at our school.

In 2015 our focus as always is on “LEARNING” with our school priorities including Literacy, Numeracy, ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and EAL (English as a Second Language). At Coral Park we expect students to strive to achieve their best and to behave in a manner that reflects well on themselves, the school and its community. We will continue to provide excellent educational opportunities for your child, respond to the needs of our community and provide opportunities to ensure that your child’s years with us are happy and productive.

This week students have been discussing what they value here at Coral Park which will form the basis of our school rules and consequences. We believe that by students knowing and understanding what they value, they will do their utmost to ensure it happens across the school and treat others as they wish to be treated. Once defined across the school, we will promote and practise these through daily routines and we rely on parent support to uphold these values and support the codes and policies that underpin these values.

I look forward to seeing you all at assemblies and whole school events beginning with assembly this Friday in the MPC beginning at 2.55pm. M15 are hosting the first item for the year and don’t forget, our student leaders welcome you in from 2.35 with tea, coffee and afternoon tea. We hope you will join us.

Our first School Council meeting is this coming Monday afternoon at 4pm. All parents are invited to come along to these meetings, please let the office know you are coming for catering purposes. School Council elections will be held this term so if you are interested in becoming a School Council member, make sure you read the details out next week.

Here’s to a great term. Gill Gray, Principal

First Aid for Students

St John Ambulance visited Coral Park yesterday to deliver free First Aid in Schools training to our students. Through the First Aid in Schools program, trained St John presenters led students from all classes through tailored sessions on the importance of First Aid and what to do in the event of an emergency. Our junior students learnt about how to identify when there is an emergency, keeping themselves safe, and how to call for an ambulance. Middle and senior students learnt about delivering CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and the things they can do to assist in an emergency.

Students have been given a special piece of homework for parents to complete. We encourage you to “do your homework” and go online with St John to see how much you know about First Aid.

Are you First Aid READY? More information about the St John First Aid in Schools program can be found at: www.stjohnvic.com.au/schools (See pictures of first aid action on page 3)
Welcome to our 2015 Preps!

Social skills that promote friendship
Children who are good at making and keeping friends use positive social skills. Parents, carers and school staff help children learn positive social skills by guiding them as young children, being positive examples for children to follow, and providing opportunities for play where children can practise their skills. Key social skills that help with friendships include cooperation, communication, empathy, emotional control and responsibility.

All children go through friendship conflicts. Even usually popular children experience rejection sometimes. When this happens children’s confidence may be affected. They may blame themselves or others. Beliefs about the reasons for the friendship conflicts they experience affect the ways that children react. Some kinds of thinking are more helpful than others for managing the conflicts children have with friends. The following example shows different possible reactions to being refused when a child has asked to join in a game with others.

Key points for supporting children’s friendship skills
Parents, carers and school staff have important roles to play in helping children develop friendships. They set examples for children to follow through the ways they manage relationships. They can also act as coaches for children, teaching them helpful social skills and talking through friendship issues to help with solving problems. As they learn how to manage social situations, having opportunities to talk about friendships with parents, carers and school staff helps children feel supported and develops their communication skills.

Provide children with opportunities to play with peers
Children gain experience and learn important social skills from playing with friends. For children who are still learning how to get along, it can be helpful to plan what to do before having a friend over for a play date. This could involve deciding whether to share all of their toys or only some, or encouraging them to think about what games the other child would like to play when they arrive.

Teach positive social skills
Observe your child to work out the negative social behaviours your child uses too often and the positive social behaviours they could use more. Little things like smiles, looking at the person, knowing names and using a confident, friendly voice can make a big difference when making friends. Being able to better control negative emotions and paying attention to the needs and wants of others are also very important. Teach one behaviour or social skill at a time and make sure the child is able to do it before introducing another skill. Show your child what to do. You may act out the situation and even demonstrate what to say. Take turns ‘acting’ until your child can demonstrate what to do. Don’t be too serious. Make it a fun experience.

Be a coach
Coaching is critical for helping children use new skills in real-life situations. Coaching involves prompting, reminding and encouraging (but not nagging!) children to use the skills they have learned. Coach your child to practise positive social skills in everyday situations with family members and friends. Support children’s learning by giving positive feedback and praise.

Help children solve friendship conflicts
Talking through problems with a supportive adult helps children to think about what happens, how they feel about it and what to do next. Thinking through things like this helps to build more mature social skills.

Coral Park is becoming a Kids Matter school in 2015.
Growing Great Kids

Are you tired of yelling?
How to get kids to listen without having to yell.

Dealing with Anger?
Helping parents, helping kids to deal with anger and frustration.

Strategies that Work?
How can parenting be easier and more fun?

Technology and our Kids
When to limit it and how?

Come along and join with others to discuss experiences, ideas and learn strategies in a relaxed, friendly place.

Refreshments provided.

This program is run by Parent Zone through Anglicare. For more details on their programs please visit www.anglicarevic.org.au

When: 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Tuesday 17th February – 34th March 2015
Where: Timbara Community Centre
Parkhill Drive, Berwick
Who: Parents, grandparents, step-parents or carers

Bookings & Enquiries: Sandra Phillips at Parentzone
Ph: 1300 794 911 or 0447 500 355
sandra.phillips@anglicarevic.org.au

In 2015, Primary Music Institute are offering keyboard lessons At Coral Park

- Enrol TODAY – via PMI’s website OR enrolment forms available from the school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons outside of school hours
- Only $13.50 per child per small group lesson (typically 3-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available ($32.50 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via “PMI Stars” program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for lessons (students bring only PMI Stars workbook)
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child’s school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces available for Term 1 so please enroll ASAP

Contact Us
For more information about any of the PMI programs please have a look at our website and to receive any further information please contact our Parent Support Team at admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au or call on 1300 362 824.
**Session times**

Before SC – 6:30am - 8:45am
After SC – 3:30pm - 6:00pm

To enrol your child into the Coral Park OSHC Program, complete an OSHC Registration Form which is located on the Camp Australia website - www.campaustralia.com.au.

All bookings, cancellations and account changes can be done through the Parent Portal located on the Camp Australia website. Once enrolled be ready to get involved in Fun, Quality and Engaging experiences in a Safe and Happy Environment.

If you have any queries please call the Kids Club Coordinator Jess on 9799 6182 or drop in for a visit and see the programs in action.

**KIDS CLUB = fun!**

Kids Club are Back!

It’s a new year at Kid’s Club and it’s great to welcome back old friends and meet new ones.

Families who are interested in before or after school care are welcome to drop by before or after school and talk to Jess about what we do.

This term we are learning about birds. We are lucky to have so many different types of birds visit us. We have been seeing lots of Galahs on the oval. One morning we saw 15 of them.

**Transit Soup Kitchen**

Did you know, Transit serves a hot three course meal and free groceries to those in need every Wednesday from 10am-2pm. Transit Nights operate on Monday nights with groceries and a three course dinner for families in need.

Last year they were so overwhelmed by the number of families in need that they are now open every Thursday where food is available for families with school aged children as well as students and young adults. Brochures can be collected from the community notices area near the front office.

**Birthday Books**

Thank you to Jess for donating a birthday book to our library.

We wish you a very happy birthday.

If you would like to donate a birthday book to the school, please see Linda in the library.

**CORAL PARK P.S. PLAYGROUP**

This term Playgroup will on **Tuesday** and **Friday** mornings, 9-11am.

It will no longer be on Monday mornings.

Come along and join us in the art room. It’s fun and its free! Tomorrow we will be cooking with Sita, grandmother of Justine S13 and Joana M15.

**Out of School Hours Care**

Contact Us
Kids Club Direct: 9799 6182
School office phone: 9702 8398

**Session times**:

Before SC - 6:30am - 8:45am
After SC - 3:30pm - 6:00pm

**Birthday Books**

Thank you to Jess for donating a birthday book to our library.

We wish you a very happy birthday.

If you would like to donate a birthday book to the school, please see Linda in the library.

**Birthday Books**

Thank you to Jess for donating a birthday book to our library.

We wish you a very happy birthday.

If you would like to donate a birthday book to the school, please see Linda in the library.