
Dear Parents and staff,

Welcome back to the beginning of the school year. We hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful break and are ready for the new school year. We have been busily preparing for the start of school on Tuesday 31st January which incidentally is also the 35 year anniversary of Chrysalis School!

1. Enclosed with this welcome back letter are several important documents:
   a) **Student Emergency Contact Card** – please complete both sides and return to the office by **Friday 3rd February**.

   b) **The 2017 fee schedule** - Additional forms regarding tuition fee support and payment plans may be received from the office upon application.

2. Changes in 2017:

   a) **Weather policy**: Due to new research regarding the effects of heat, the school will pay very careful attention to days in which the heat index is significant enough to consider cancelling a whole school day, or part thereof. This practice is consistent with the inclement weather policy but has been sparingly used. A copy of this policy is on the school website: chrysalis.nsw.edu.au/wpcontent/uploads/Inclement-weather-Policy.pdf

   b) **Excursion day buses for Dorrigo and Thora students**: When the school organises excursions for a number of classes concurrently that originate from Bellingen, we will charter a bus to assist families who live further afield. This charter will be at the school’s expense and will leave Dorrigo and pick up students at the Thora bus stop.

   c) **Maintenance working bee**: Over the last few years, less and less participation in this working bee has led to the decision to scrap this opportunity. The exception to this is for parents in Morning Star and River Song. And the opportunity to do the Maintenance Levy work will be coordinated with the class teacher as appropriate.
d) **Chrysalis Year 9 + 10 (2018) Feasibility Study:** The School Board determined that we will continue the exploration of offering Year 9 in 2018, contingent upon a firm commitment from continuing students. There will be more information about this in the school newsletter.

3. **Bus transportation:** Travel to and from Bellingen is from the Chrysalis Bus Shelter on Park Street. *Natureland* Buses (Shawn - 0421 164 311, natureland1@bigpond.com) are the bus operators to Chrysalis School from Bellingen.

   Bellingen bus departure times:
   - **Senior Express:** Cl: 6, 7 & 8: **8.15am**
   - **Kindy Bus:** Cl: K & 1 & 2: **8.40am**
   - **Junior Express:** Cl: 3, 4, 5 + only K,1 & 2 students travelling on connecting buses - **8.45am**

4. **Personnel Changes:** We welcome **Lyndal Pitkin** as the Class 1 teacher and **Sean Daniel**, will partner Cathy in teaching class 7. You may also know that **James** will be leaving the school during term 1 as he has accepted a position at Cape Byron Steiner School, and currently the replacement Class 5 teacher position is advertised. Emily Long has also accepted a position at Cape Byron and we wish them both well as they continue on their professional path.

5. **Term times:**
   The School term times are on the web site and are downloadable for your perusal.
   Please note that the shorter day for the primary school students in preparation of the winter festival has now become custom and practice, this has also been extended to the all school music concert which was a resounding success.

**Welcome back to Chrysalis School, we look forward to a fruitful year of learning!**

Warm regards,

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Kelley McGlashan  
Education Manager

Steve Klipin  
Business Manager