Message from the Principal
Dear members of the Ingleburn North Public School community,

Welcome back or welcome to our fabulous school. To our approximately 50 new families: welcome and please make yourselves known and at home. It is your school now!

My first advice to parents new to the school: read the INPS Information Booklet. This booklet will help you to answer all your questions about the organisation of the school. http://www.ingleburnn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/rules-policies

Despite the size of INPS we provide a rich and full curriculum. There are a confusing range of events, programs and issues related to your child’s education that occur every day – way too many to include in this newsletter. If you want to learn more about issues related to your child’s education I highly recommend that you come along to our very friendly P&C meetings. These are held on Wednesday nights in Week 3 and Week 7 from 6.15pm to 8.00pm.

A second way you can get involved in your child’s education is to attend our whole school assemblies. These occur approximately four times per term on Thursdays (apologies to those who can’t make Thursdays!). Assemblies start at 2.15pm and finish at 3.00pm. These are opportunities for different classes to perform items and for students to be publicly recognised for their efforts.

FEBRUARY
Wednesday 11th: Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 11th: 6.15pm to 8.00pm: P&C Meeting – ALL WELCOME
Thursday 12th: Captains’ Inauguration ASSEMBLY
Wednesday 25th: Meet the Teacher Night
Thursday 26th: WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

MARCH
Wednesday 11th: 6.15pm to 8.00pm P&C Meeting – ALL WELCOME
Thursday 12th: WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Tuesday 24th: 6pm to 7.30pm Parent Information Session
Thursday 26th: WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

APRIL
Wednesday 1st: Student Interim Reports sent home
Thursday 2nd: Easter Hat Parade
Thursday 2nd: LAST DAY OF TERM

Disclaimer:
Ingleburn North Public School does not endorse any product or services advertised in this newsletter.
A third way to get involved in your child’s education is to **volunteer some of your time to the school**. We are in desperate need of canteen volunteers. The canteen will have to be closed on Thursdays and Fridays until volunteers can be found.

**Voluntary School Contributions** are very important to our procuring the best educational resources for your children, particularly the case given that INPS is a small school with a limited budget. The contribution for one child is $45. The contribution for more than one child (the family rate) is $75. Please pay at the Admin Office.

This year I have engaged the services of **Dance Fever** to support our implementation of the physical and health education syllabus (PDHPE). These sessions will occur weekly and should not be viewed as incursions but as normal lessons. What Dance Fever offers your children are instructors who are specialists in certain PDHPE skills. For those of you here last year you will remember that they ran our school disco for free and did a fantastic job, and on Wednesday last week they rescued three cars bogged in our car park! Great people! In regards to the lessons though, I have never seen a more professional private education service provider in my time as a teacher. I have managed to negotiate an almost unheard of cost arrangement of $60 for a 30 week program! The program will be: Term 1 Gymnastics; Term 2 Athletics; Term 3 Dance. Could you please pay the $60 in full, as soon as possible, to Mrs Hancock, our long suffering Administration Manager (paying in full will prevent poor, overworked Mrs Hancock from having a nervous breakdown).

Please note that following the Federal Government’s reorganisation of sport services, we have decided not to commence **After School Sport** until later this year. We will let you know when.

A huge thank you goes to **Mr Pearson, our hard working General Assistant, who painted the landing next to the kindergarten rooms during the holidays.** Take a look if you like; he has done a fantastic job and it certainly is colourful!

**Did you know that there are a number of students at our school who have a nut allergy?** Just touching a peanut could be **fatal** for these children. While I can’t claim INPS to be a nut free school, I can ask that you do not allow your children to bring any foods that contain nuts. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Over the past 10 years education has changed dramatically** and many parents are finding the profession of teaching very confusing to say the least. The concept of differentiated learning alone has many of you scratching your heads. I do not blame you. It is so very different to teaching in the “olden days”. Back then a teacher would teach a single lesson, using a single strategy for a whole class! So the bright students got bored and the students in need of extra support got forgotten. These days, teachers know what each child requires to be challenged appropriately and usually group students according to ability. This is why composite classes make absolutely no difference to a student’s academic progress. In fact if we had a class with 30 students who were all born on the same day, we would still end up with somewhere between 4 and 7 distinct ability groups. In a sense, every class is a composite class.

At present Ingleburn North Public School has **204 students enrolled**. All we need is another two students and we will be able to commence the ninth class. I expect this to happen before too long. Once this does occur I will restructure the infants’ classes as 2 x kindergarten and 3 x Year 1 / Year 2. Because it will take a while before a new demountable class can be delivered, the new class will use the library as its home base.

This is going to be a very interesting year for your children and their teachers. We are about to commence **our next three year plan**, something I discussed at length at a number of P&C meetings last year. This plan will see more changes to the way we teach. These changes are much too complex to write about here. What I propose is that on **Tuesday 24th March 6.00pm to 7.30pm**, I will run the **first of four parent information sessions** outlining these changes and other developments in modern education. The sessions will be offered as lessons. So you can come back to school and experience what it is like to be a student in a 21st century classroom. Those of you who attend all four sessions will receive the **INPS Certificate of Education**, a fun way of saying that you are a parent who is very informed about modern education.

Please ensure that you collect your children at 3.00pm sharp. Students are NOT supervised after this time. If you think you will be late regularly then I suggest you enrol your child in the Before and After School Care.

Similarly, there is **NO teacher supervision before 8.30am** and students should NOT arrive before this time.
Please make sure your home and mobile numbers are current and accurate. On five occasions last year we were unable to contact parents or emergency contacts during serious situations involving children.

Edmondson Park Railway Station is due to open on the 8th February.

Interline Bus Company will soon commence a bus service between Ingleburn Railway Station and Edmondson Park Railway Station. This service will stop outside Ingleburn North Public School. Students using this service will be escorted to the bus stop, which is on Macdonald Road, approximately 100m towards Ingleburn.

For everyone, particularly our new parents, the following advice is offered out of my concern for the safety of your children and you. We have had numerous incidents in the car park and along Macdonald Road in the past few years and with our school growing, the dangers will only increase. I have no power to prevent risk taking and the police are not here every day; in short, once you collect your children it is up to you to keep them safe.

Did you know that there are three car parks at INPS and that each of them have particular rules to keep you and your children safe? Did you also know that approximately 20 people a year are killed or seriously injured by moving vehicles in car parks in NSW?

Parents’ Car Park: This is the largest car park to the south of the school. We are one of a very small number of primary schools in NSW to have a parents’ car park. Yes it can be a little difficult to negotiate (especially when muddy) but we are lucky to have it! RULES: please drive VERY slowly (5kph); only reverse park against the hall; do not park near the bus stop or block the area at the end of the car park near the trees where the bus turns around. Watch out for children at all times!

Staff and Deliveries Car Park: This car park is located next to the Admin Office at the northwest corner of the school. Under no circumstances should this car park be used by parents or volunteers — at any time!

Before and After School Care Car Park: This car park is located between the large rubbish bins, the hall and the Before and After School Care. This car park MUST NOT BE USED by anyone other than INPS staff and After School Care workers. This is a thoroughfare for pedestrians and the chances of hurting a child should you use this car park are extremely high!

Street Parking: This is not recommended. Inadvertently people who do this park on the foot path (parents have been fined for this by the Police in the past). Crossing Macdonald Road to get to your vehicle is dangerous and cars being side swiped by passing vehicles has occurred here in the past.

Note: Students are NOT permitted to leave the school unaccompanied by an adult. You should not sit in your car and expect your children to make their way to you unescorted by an adult. The students have been instructed that they are to wait on the silver seats until their parent/carer collects them. The students have been informed that to do otherwise is against school rules.

Please help us to keep EVERYONE safe by following these common-sense rules, by remaining patient and courteous and by being considerate of others. Thank you.

So, in summary:

1. Drive slowly = 5km
2. Do not park or drop your child off in the car park where the large bins are positioned
3. Do not park or drop your child off near the bus bay
4. Stop at the crossing and look out for children – especially when reversing!
5. Always keep a sharp eye on your children in the car park
6. Always park your car and walk your children to or from the school
7. Park rear to the school hall
8. Do not park near the trees at the end of the car park to allow room for the bus to turn around
**P&C NEWS**

**Canteen**
The canteen will be closed on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th February (this week) and every Monday until further notice due to there being no volunteers to run it.

A wonderful way to be part of the school community is through volunteering. We currently have some amazing volunteers in our canteen to ensure we maintain a full-time canteen for our students. However, the canteen is in desperate need for some new volunteers. No experience necessary. If you are able to donate any of your precious time, please contact the canteen or office staff. Your children also gain a sense of pride when their parent helps at the school.

Lunch Wallets are available $9.00.
Colours: Pink, Blue, Green, Red, Purple, Yellow and Grey.

**Uniforms**
In the process of introducing the new uniform (which looks fantastic) the old uniform is acceptable and will be phased out in 2015/2016.

Also please note that size small and medium hats are currently unavailable. Hopefully we will have the new stock in 2 weeks.

Many thanks
Andre Yusuf - P&C President

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**Student Medical Insurance**
Have you paid your $5 to the P&C to ensure your child is covered for medical expenses for accidents incurred on school premises or on school-related activities.
NOTICES

First Confession and Holy Communion
Catholic children in state schools in Year 3 or over are due to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Forgiveness and Holy Communion. An enrolment and information meeting for parents will be held on Monday 16th February at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre of the Holy Family Church, Oxford Road, Ingleburn. Baptism certificates are required for enrolment.
For enquiries please contact Father Peter on 9605 2785.