Welcome to the start of Term Two, 2014. We hope that everyone had a relaxing holiday and are ready to continue the wonderful learning from term one.

Mathematics
This term we will be continuing to develop our skills in number with a focus on using a range of mental and written subtraction strategies. We will also be learning about time and two dimensional shapes. We encourage students to practise their learning at home by teaching their family members activities from class.

Literacy
As well as learning about reading through guided reading sessions, we will be looking at the structures of persuasive and descriptive writing. Students will also continue to build their understanding of word families and high frequency words.

Integrated Unit of Work
In term two, our Integrated Studies Unit will focus on Health. Students will learn about making healthy food choices by identifying healthy and unhealthy foods. We will also learn about a healthy lifestyle and what makes you healthy.

Home Readers
Our home reading program will continue in term two. Please remind your child to change their home readers in the classroom once a week (more if required). Reading is a critical aspect of your child’s development. Please ensure that your child is reading on a daily basis and discussing what the book is about. We encourage students to reread their home readers to build fluency and comprehension.

Class Library Times
Library times for term two are as follows: 1HH Thursday 10-11, 1KT Tuesday 10-11, 2AA 9-10 Monday, 2AD 12:30-1:20, 2 TZ Wednesday 12:30-1:20. This term as part of our reading program, we will be encouraging our student to borrow an informational and literary text.

Physical Education
Every Tuesday afternoon Wattle works on Fundamental Motor Skills in the hall. This term we are focusing on movement and dance.

Japanese
Students will continue to have Japanese classes with the wonderful Dark Sensei. This term Wattle students will learn about greetings and colours as well as revise learning in term one. Class times are as follows: 1HH Thursday 10-11, 1KT Tuesday 10-11, 2AA Thursday 10-11, 2AD Thursday 1:50-3:00, 2TZ Monday 9-10.

Drop Off and Pick Up
For the purposes of teaching students to be self-sufficient and responsible please ensure you drop off your child before 8:55am. All children must go to the Quad or library with their bags before the first bell as this is the only place where a teacher is on duty. Students are not to hang their bags in the bag area until after the first bell.
Reading
Because reading is an essential life skill, learning to read is an important part of every child’s education. Like other skills, reading is mastered over time, with practise and with the help of another person. At Gordon Primary School reading is a significant part of our balanced literacy program. Teachers ensure that children have the opportunity to acquire or consolidate reading strategies every day.
Reading at home with your children also has a tremendous impact. At home children can:
- talk about and practise the strategies they are learning at school;
- hear what good reading sounds like when they listen to you read;
- imitate you and read more fluently and expressively.

Most importantly they will develop a love of reading because they see that you value reading.

Hats, Drink Bottles and Clothing
During term two, all students are expected to wear their sun smart hats while on the playground or play in the quadrangle. Please ensure that your child’s name is on all clothing and drink bottles. Lost property can be found in the library before and after school. Jumpers, hats and other items will be returned to their owners if they have a name on them.

Stationery
Could parents and carers please ensure that their children have the correct stationery. Pencil cases are the student’s responsibility and are to be kept in their tote trays or under their desk. Lead pencils, rubbers, sharpeners and glue need to be readily available and will be looked after by their class teacher until they are required.

Important Dates for Term 2
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Minister Joy Birch visit</td>
<td>2/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother’s Day Morning Tea</td>
<td>9/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Assembly</td>
<td>23/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Assembly</td>
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<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<td>School Assembly</td>
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<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>School Assembly</td>
<td>4/7</td>
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Teachers are approachable for discussions and times. Should you have any issues please contact your child’s classroom teacher or Franc De Simone to make an interview time. This can be done through the front office.

Thank you for your continued support in 2014

Franc De Simone (Executive Teacher), Christopher Antram (Executive Teacher: Professional Practice) Hayley Hinde, Kerry Tsirbas, Alyssa Audsley, Tayla Zanotto, Veena Kumari