



# Weetangera School

Successful Learning Through Caring and Sharing



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

Weetangera School is an  
**ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL**  
Avoiding eggs and all nuts

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Welcome to 2017 at Weetangera School!

We welcome you back to a new chapter in the lives of your children, one in which we trust that they will continue to grow through our school community caring and sharing.

It is with great pleasure and a wonderful sense of anticipation that I write to you for this, the first time in 2017. I hope your summer has been a real blessing and that you have had the opportunity to rest, relax and recuperate – but most importantly, to enjoy some quality time to be with your family and friends. A special word of welcome to all of our new families who joined us on Monday 30 January. We look forward to forging strong and lasting relationships with everyone, as together we support your children on their journey at Weetangera School.

As this school year begins, we as educators and parents, have an enormous gift to give, and the responsibility of enhancing the lives of all our students. Helping our students grow and succeed. It is our duty to serve as role models. But more than that, it is our responsibility to make a positive and lasting difference to the children in our care.

As we begin this year, let us approach it with boldness and courage. We will continue to ignite passion in what we do, guided by our commitment to excellence, to drive and sustain the quality of our learning and high expectations, and for us as a whole school community to seek ways to continually improve. Our approach to teaching and learning is constantly reflected upon to evolve to meet these challenges, to give our students the best opportunity to engage with their preferred future. Building on firm foundations, the school continues to look to the future and our approaches to learning. Educational literature on 21st century thinkers emphasises a range of qualities that our future will need: open mindedness; the ability to work collaboratively with others; to engage in problem solving; to analyse and integrate knowledge; to think creatively and imaginatively; to apply knowledge to respond to emerging needs and trends; and to communicate accurately, clearly and effectively. We look ahead with optimism and excitement.

## New Furniture and Preschool Upgrade

During the holidays the school completed upgrade works at the preschool to enhance the indoor classroom learning environment. This included creating and opening up the central administration area, an upgrade of the kitchen area for the students and staff, carpeting and painting. In the primary school we have also upgraded the student furniture across the school from Kindergarten to Year 6 with new seating and tables.

## Thank You

I thank in advance our parents and carers, for the unwavering support you continue to provide to the school. We have been able to grow as a school community because of the opportunities that you have given us, as well as the affirmation and feedback that has allowed the school to progress. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together to realise the potential of every single child at Weetangera School. Small positive steps can dramatically enhance a child's learning experience. When we do this, we will be doing all that

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

**Parent Reps.** James Badgery 0412552634; Monique Allen 0407595572; Alex Nockels 0414914006 **Community Rep.** Tomasi Wainigolo; **Principal** - James Barnett 62057488;  
**Teacher Reps.** - Isabel Dunn and Erwin McRae

**Newsletter No. 1**  
**2 February 2017**  
Term 1 Week 1

### COMMUNITY DIARY

*Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.*

#### February

24 Whole school Swimming Carnival

#### March

1-3 Year 5/6 Cooba Camp  
Year 3/4 Jindabyne Camp



Don't forget to visit our Facebook

### ASSEMBLIES - 9:15am

**Friday 3 February**  
No Assembly

**Friday 10 February**  
Whole School Assembly  
Hosted by Year 6



### Attachments & Insert

P&C AGM letter of invitation

Parent/Teacher Getting to know you letter

Adventurers Club (RE) Permission slip

Chess information

Weetangera School  
Southwell Street  
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6205 7488  
Fax: 6205 7487  
Canteen: 6255 2634


**Please read our web site:**  
[weetangeraps.act.edu.au](http://weetangeraps.act.edu.au)

we can to make a positive difference. I urge all of us to take action that builds trust and mutually respectful relationships. Together let's take the small steps needed to make our school and our community an even better place to learn, to work, and thrive.

The happiness, welfare and academic confidence of our students is our priority at Weetangera School.

### Getting To Know You Interviews

In Week 2, we will be holding *Getting To Know You* Interviews from Monday 6 February to Friday 10 February. These interviews are a conversation between you and your child's teacher, and are an opportunity for teachers to receive valuable information from you. Interviews are expected to take approximately 10 minutes. For these interviews we are using an internet-based booking system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). Each teacher will roster their available days and times on the website. It will save time for parents, staff and students, using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best from any internet-connected computer. Please contact the school if you need access to a computer. Please access the system as follows:

- go to the school's home page and newsletter page [www.weetangeraps.act.edu.au](http://www.weetangeraps.act.edu.au)
- click the PTO icon as shown here
- enter your surname and PIN,  provided on the attached slip

Full instructions are provided after you login.

### Communication

For all new parents and anyone who has changed their email address from last year, please send in your email address for receiving the weekly newsletter. If you no longer require the newsletter to be sent to you please let us know and we will remove you from the list. If you did not receive your newsletter today by email and were expecting to, please send your details to [jim.watt@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jim.watt@ed.act.edu.au)

### Weetangera School App

For all new parents and anyone who wishes to receive instant messages from the school for any upcoming events, reminders or school updates, please refer to the attached document outlining '*How to install the Weetangera School App*'.

#### On Apple

- On your iPhone open the app store
- Search for our school name
- Press Install
- Enter your iTunes password

It will commence downloading immediately

#### Android/Google Play

- On your SmartPhone open the Android/Google Play market
- Search for our school name
- Press install

Your app will start installing instantly

### To Open Our School App

- Look for our school's app icon on your phone screen
- Press the icon once

It will open automatically

When prompted select yes to receive notifications and use your location (this will make sure the google maps and pop-up alerts work for you)

#### If you encounter troubles;

- Shut down the app and/or your phone to refresh the phones memory
- Uninstall your app and reinstall it

Contact [www.activeschoolapps.com.au/support](http://www.activeschoolapps.com.au/support) for help within 48 hours.

### Igniting a Passion for Reading

Research tells us that the more students read, the more fluent they become and the better they comprehend. In an effort to increase our students' pleasure of reading, as well as to instil in them a lifelong love of reading, who are not only motivated to read great books but also love reading in its own right. In 2017 we will be setting another Weetangera School Reading Challenge!!

Yours faithfully

James M Barnett  
Principal

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The School Board is responsible for the school's strategic direction (operational matters are the responsibility of the Principal), and meets at least once a term between February and November. The following position will be vacant from 31 March 2017: 1 x P&C member.

Nominations for this position are open from Monday 30 January 2017 and will close on Monday 17 February 2017. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of positions, voting will take place between Monday 20 February and Tuesday 28 February 2017.

Please consider becoming a member this year.

### SCHOOL BANKING

School banking will start on **Friday 10 February**.

For students who don't have a Commonwealth Youthsavers account but would like to start school banking, there is an **account opening information morning on Wednesday 8 February**. Susan will set up a table in the playground from **8:30am** and answer any questions you may have.

**Remember School Banking is every FRIDAY!**



