Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back for a fabulous year of learning at The Crescent School.

It has been a pleasure to meet the wonderful young people at our school when visiting classrooms this week, and have been delighted to reconnect with students who remembered me since I was last at The Crescent School. I would like to welcome our new students and their families who have joined us this year.

Thank you to all staff at The Crescent School for their warm welcome back, and for their enthusiasm and energy this week. Staff have been busy preparing learning spaces, teaching programs and undertaking professional learning to support all students. We welcome three new staff members to our team Kaisee, Rachael, and Ally, who all bring their own special talents and expertise to our school. On behalf of the school community we would like to congratulate Courtney on her permanent appointment to our teaching staff at the end of 2018.

Personalised Learning and Support Plan (PLSP) meetings will be held from Week 4 onwards, with meeting times to be confirmed in the next week. PLSP meetings provide an opportunity for parents to meet with their child’s class teacher and collaboratively develop personalised learning goals and relevant plans for the 2019 school year.

If you would like to meet with me at any time please contact the school office to arrange an appointment. I look forward to working collaboratively with you this year.

Kind regards

Steve Edmonds
Principal
The Crescent School is proudly a member of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation which now has a membership in excess of 800 schools across Australia.

One of the core philosophies of the foundation is the belief that, “the best way to encourage children to choose food that is healthy is to engage them in fun, hands-on experiences in growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing such food from the earliest possible age”.

At The Crescent School we introduce this approach to Kindergarten to Year 12. In the Primary School classes complete a fortnightly rotation between the kitchen and the garden. The classes are for two hours with the students growing items for us to cook. During term 1 our focus will be on entries to the Goulburn Show in March. Each student in the school will have at least one entry in the show. This year we will attempt to some flower entries as well our cookery and produce.

If you have any old teapots or flowers/ foliage that we might use in the decoration of the teapots during the last week of February please let the office staff know.

The Kitchen Garden Program presents fantastic opportunities for our students to be immersed in growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing good wholesome and tasty food. They are introduced to the many skills associated with garden and kitchen practices where positive and life-long attitudes about living a healthy lifestyle are developed.

We are very proud of our program at the Crescent School and are grateful for the wonderful community support that we have received that has allowed us to provide excellent learning facilities and programs. We welcome parent and community volunteers into our school to assist in the delivery of their programs and to be sound mentors and role models for our students.

To meet the challenges faced in maintaining the facilities and delivering quality learning experiences to our students, we encourage parents and the wider community to continue to support our fundraising efforts and help out with the occasional working bee.

Also, at the beginning of each year, parents of the participating students are given the opportunity to make a small donation to the program to help cover the costs of the many consumable materials and ingredients.
What’s happened in the Kitchen and Garden in the Holidays?

Lots of beautiful flowers grew on the wall of the shed in the playground!

Our produce is starting to be picked. Our small peach tree had 21 peaches on it which have been blanched and frozen for use in ice-cream desserts during the warm weather. The tomatoes have been boiled for use in winter soups and pasta dishes.

My dehydrator will be in use soon with the apples from the tree and tomatoes. Our sauce and chutney making will begin in earnest in week 4 and 5. With the hot weather this year our tomatoes have done remarkably well but we will supplement our own produce with some purchased to make our sauces. Our pumpkins are having a bumper crop and our egg plant should be ready for the show. We will have lots of herbs to show. We will replant lettuce in the next few weeks and spread some of our compost to boost their growth. Next week will be a garden week for all classes except Kinder. They will be doing and introduction to the kitchen program. Students will need a hat and their drink bottle. The kitchen Garden program provided gloves for the students to wear during the lessons.

Thanks to Leah for assisting with the watering during the holidays.

Our resident blue tongue lizard frequently frightened me in the garden …… until I saw his legs! I am not sure who got the bigger fright—him or me!

A special thank you to the Proudman family for their kind donation of kitchen goods, tea sets, saucepans, plastic and glass wear. All of the items will be put to good use and have added to the opportunities that the student have in presenting and enjoying their food during cooking and Food Technology sessions.

During week two some classes will be making their chocolate cake entries for the show. These will be frozen ready for the lead up to the show. The High School Food Technology students will be looking at cake decorating and biscuit making as part of their entries to the show.

Leanne
Come and join us........
The Crescent School would like to welcome parents/carers of both new and returning students to come and have a cuppa and chat at “Crescent Connect”.

“Crescent Connect” is a chance for parents/carers to relax, have a cuppa and connect up with other parents/carers.

“Crescent Connect” started at 9.30am on Wednesday 30th January 2019 and will continue fortnightly.

“Crescent Connect” is held in the staffroom at The Crescent School.

For more details, contact Bronwyn Warren (Chaplain) on 48213680
Welcome back to school everyone! We have enjoyed seeing all our friends again...