Dear Parents,

On behalf of our staff I wish everyone a Happy Christmas holiday and a safe relaxing summer break. Thank you to our parent helpers, School Council and families for all your hard work, commitment to our school and support this year.

To the students, staff and wider school community, I thank you all for a most enjoyable first year as principal of Pinewood Primary School.

Musical Evening
Last Wednesday, we held a very successful music evening. I would like to thank Heather McLaughlin and Nicole Blowfield for all the preparation they did with the students and of course the children for their excellent singing and playing. Special thanks to David McKinnon for the stage and sound system.

Thank you also to the parents club for providing the BBQ, organising the Christmas hampers and conducting numerous raffles on the night. The parents raised the amazing amount of approximately $1500.00 for the BBQ and $1561.00 for the raffle. Great job!

Graduation – Farewell to our year 6 students
Congratulations year 6 students for being such wonderful senior school leaders and role models. We are all very proud of you and the Graduation Ceremony on Tuesday was amazing, especially the dances. Well done and best wishes for your secondary school education and a successful future life.

Many thanks to Moui Ung and Troy Hartigan for all the work they put in to make the night such a huge success. Thank you to our school captains, Jordan Chapman and Willis Pearce and School Council Vice President, Geoff Williams, for their excellent speeches. Thanks also to Joe Dowsett for the great work he has done in supporting the students with their ICT morphing presentations.

Walk Up
On Wednesday, the students met their new teachers for
2016 and visited their new classrooms. It was a very exciting time for everyone.

Pinewood Nursery
I would like to thank the Pinewood Nursery for their generous donation of pansies for our garden at the front of the school. We really appreciate your support.

STAFFING- 2016
Our staffing for next year is finalised and is as follows:

PREP D- AMELIA DELANEY
PREP H – TRACY HOBSON
PREP L - CZE-CHIAO LEE
PREP M– WENDY MANN
PREP P- FAYE PARK
PREP R– ROBYN RUSSELL

1A – AMY ASHCROFT
1J/K – SANDRA JAMES/MARIA KOVAS
1H- TANIA HAMAMEN
1T – JENNY THOMAS

2G- SIMON GRANT
2M -KAREN MOLONEY
2R- JEN ROBINSON

3B – RYAN BOLGER
3K– KATHRYN BLEECHMORE
SANDRA MCGREGOR (0.6
Literacy and Numeracy support for yr 3)

4C- YALENKA CLEMENT
4H- HELEN CROCKET
4M- ALYSSIA MCGILL

5D- PAUL DOBNEY
5K -JILL KAY

6D- ROCHELLE D’CRUZE
6H- TROY HARTIGAN
6U– MOUI UNG

ART – FRANCINE COMBES/JESS MURPHY
LIBRARY – CO-ORDINATOR-
LINDA HAYDEN
LOTE- INDONESIAN – NATALIE JONES
MUSIC – NICOLE BLOWFIELD
PHYSICAL EDUCATION – RICK BYRON
SCIENCE and ROBOTICS
SPECIALIST- GREG TATE

EAL (ENGLISH AS AN
ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE) MEL
PRYCE, LINDA HAYDEN (0.4)
and NATALIE JONES (0.2)

READING RECOVERY/MATHS
INTERVENTION – HELEN DENT

ADDITIONAL NUMERACY
SUPPORT YR 4-6 -SANDRA MCGREGOR

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL—
ROBBIE MALLETT

OFFICE MANAGER – JAN
BEECROFT

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT –
PIP LEWIS

EDUCATION SUPPORT –
ESTELLE BOWMAN/ANNA
PERVAN

RESPECT     SELF CONFIDENCE     INTEGRITY     RESPONSIBILITY    OPTIMISM
Reminder, Last Day of Term finishing time – please note
Final Assembly - 1.30 pm Friday
School finishing time is 2.30pm on Friday 18th December, the office will close at 3pm.
Crossing supervisors will be working at this time to support the school and ensure our children are able to cross roads safely.
Students start the 2016 school year at 9.00am on Thursday 28th January 2016.
Prep students begin at staggered times on Friday 29th January.

Karen Jenkin
Principal

TERM DATES 2016

Term 1
Years 1—6 Thursday, 28th January - Thursday, 24th March
Preps Friday, 29th January—Thursday, 24th March
Good Friday, 25th March
Easter Monday, 28th March

Term 2
Monday, 11th April – Friday, 24th June

Term 3
Monday, 11th July – Friday, 16th September

Term 4
Monday, 3rd October – Friday, 20th December

School Office will close at 3pm on Friday, 18th December, 2015.

PARENTS CLUB NEWS

Well it’s been another very busy year for the Pinewood Primary School Parents Club.
The fete was a great success with one of our best results ever. There have been our usual events throughout the year including Hot Dog Day, Popcorn Day, Pizza day, Zooper Dooper Day, Twilight Sports BBQ, Mothers Day Stall, Fathers Day Stall, School Disco, Bunnings BBQ and lots of other fun activities for the kids and school community. One of the highlights of the year was Harmony Day and the fantastic involvement of the Pinewood parents with cultural demonstrations and cooking displays. It was a great day, enjoyed by all and we look forward to it again in term 1 next year.

Last week the Parents Club hosted the concert BBQ and Christmas Hamper Raffle which raised a combined total of around $3,000.00. This money and other funds raised throughout the year will be put towards some significant improvements to the school facilities in the 2016.
Thank you to all the helpers who assisted with the many events in 2015. The great success of the Pinewood Parents Club is a direct result of your hard work and dedication.

And finally, a very heartfelt thank you to the Parents Club Committee namely Lisa Strong, Jules Berry, Kellie Ellis, Sue Bleeke, Scott Williams, Kathryn Nichols, Lucy Adams and Koula Giannakis who give up so much of their valuable time to attend the meetings and work so hard to coordinate our numerous events.
On behalf of the Pinewood Primary School Parents Club Committee, I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and we look forward to a fun filled 2016.

Mick Daly
President
Pinewood Primary School Parents Club
RESPECT     SELF CONFIDENCE     INTEGRITY     RESPONSIBILITY    OPTIMISM

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS PROGRAM
Progress Update - December 2015

Enviro Captains 2015 Review

Developing a good sustainability program is not just about the future but learning from the past and this year’s Enviro Captains were able to share their experiences when they sat down with So-Eco in late November. This is what they had to say:

What have been the highlights as Enviro Captains?
* “Helping the environment”
* “We all have different ideas but we are one big team with different skills.”

What ideas do you want to pass on for next year?
* “A Switch Off competition every week”
* “Develop Habitat Haven”

What advice would you give the incoming Enviro Captains?
* “Don’t be afraid to ask or tell teachers about your ideas.”
* “Have a checklist (action plan) so you can tick things off; it helps get things done.”
* “Have fun working as a team.”
* “Just go for it!”

Our thanks to the outgoing 2015 Enviro Captains for all their hard work and great insights.

Finding out what the Enviro Captains think about sustainability at their school and their ideas for the future – Neha, Josie, Occa, Zara, Sarah (top row) Jonathan, Aadarsh, Vonara, Mackenzie, Marcus, Lona Perry (bottom row)

A big "thumbs up" for Pinewood Primary's Sustainability Program

To find out what the school community thinks about sustainability and how it impacts our everyday lives at home and at school, So-Eco for Schools recently conducted a Community Engagement Survey of school teachers and families.

The response rate was very positive and showed huge support for Pinewood's participation in the United Energy & So-Eco Sustainable Schools Program. Some key findings were:

* 92% felt it was important for Pinewood Primary to be implementing a sustainability program
* 63% were aware of the difference between an energy retailer & distributor
* 78% were aware of how to minimise energy use during peak time
* Parents are already doing a lot at home with sustainability but they are keen to find out more about waste minimisation, biodiversity improvements and energy efficiency
* 39% stated that a school's sustainability credentials are a factor when considering a school for their child
* 42% parents indicated that they wanted to be more involved!

Embedding sustainability in a school takes a whole school community approach. So-Eco for Schools, United Energy and the Enviro Captains look forward to working with teachers and parents to make Pinewood Primary School a great Sustainable School in 2016.