Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to 2015! We excitingly welcome back all of our returning students and their families. We also warmly welcome all of our Kindergarten and new students and their families. We look forward to your continuing support and involvement across the year. Kind regards, Hallie Baxter (Principal)

NEWSLETTER

term one, week two: Thursday 5 February 2015

www.middletongr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

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UPDATES and REMINDERS:

- **School Times** ..... our school times are 9:15am to 3:15pm. Students are supervised by staff from 8:45am each day – students should not be arriving to school before this time.

- **Newsletter via Email** ..... Last year we made our newsletter available via email, website or APP only. This will be the only paper copy you will receive this year. We appreciate your support to receive a paperless copy by adding your name to the email list. Please call the office or email the school: middletongr-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and place “newsletter” in the subject line. You can also download it via our APP or on our website. A copy of our newsletter and permission notes will be displayed weekly outside the office. Our newsletter will be issued fortnightly – every even school week.

- **Before and After School Care** ..... please urgently advise the office – in writing or via a phone call – with any care arrangements for your child before and/or after school. Who is the provider? What are the days of care?

- **We are an Allergy Aware School** ..... some students are highly allergic to nuts and nut products. If they come into contact with these foods they will have an anaphylactic reaction, which can be life threatening. The school has a number of strategies to help provide a safe and supportive environment for our students at risk of an anaphylactic reaction, including seeking community support. We request parents avoid sending peanut butter, Nutella and similar spreads, or whole nuts to school. We provide support to all students to be aware of a nut allergy, and their contribution to providing a safe environment including not sharing or touching others’ food. At lunch and recess time, all students will clean their hands with a hand wash. We ask that families keep us regularly updated about student’s medical needs.

- **Entering the School Grounds** ..... if you are entering the school grounds; please ONLY use the front gates at the front brick wall of the school. We ask that parents and caregivers DO NOT enter school grounds through the staff carpark gates or around the administration building. This is for vehicle and staff use only and is not for pedestrian access.

- **There is NO Active After-school Sport in 2015** ..... the Federal Government previously funded this program and it has now been completed.

- **Replacement of School Badges** ..... any lost school badge will incur a $15 replacement cost – this has been set by the company who makes the badges.

- **Payment Online** ..... payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school’s website by selecting $ Make a payment. Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, excursions, school events and sales to students. There is also a category called Other; this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings. When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter the students name, and class and reference number OR the students name, and date of birth. These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed. Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school. For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact Mrs Beard.

- **Voluntary School Contribution** ..... a voluntary contribution is a payment that can be made by parents and caregivers to enhance school programs. This is a matter for decision by families, and is not compulsory. At Middleton Grange we ask all families to support the school and its programs, including in the following ways: wearing of school uniform, attending sporting programs and excursions, participating in special events, and contributing to fundraising initiatives. Where financial hardship is being experienced, families may be eligible for assistance from the Student Assistance Scheme. This is money each school receives from the State Government, given specifically to target financial hardship. Confidentiality and privacy is maintained. Please make an appointment with the Principal at any time to discuss this. Middleton Grange Public School has set a voluntary school contribution - $30 per student or $50 per family. Contributions received this year will directly support the purchase of new resources to support students’ learning. If you would like to make a Voluntary School Contribution, you can forward payment to the office at your convenience at any time throughout the year. Please note – this is a voluntary payment based on a decision made by families and is not compulsory.
Attachments to today’s newsletter:

- **Swimming Carnival – ONLY for students aged 8 years or older** - please see the attached information note and action urgently.
- **Swimming Scheme – ONLY for students in years 2 – 6** – see attached permission note.
- **Lunch Order Form** – the attached menu is for 2015, with some price increases and change in items. All orders must be received by the front office BEFORE 9:30am each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please use correct change and only Australian coins.
- **Maths and Homework Textbooks** – see the attached information note and action as soon as possible.
  - Maths Textbook – primary and Fox Moth students only
    
    In 2015, the mathematics teaching and learning programs in Fox Moth and all primary classes will be supported by students using a textbook. **Textbooks need to be purchased at a cost of $17.50 each.** Please action the attached payment slip.
  - Homework Textbook
    
    **In 2015 we are offering a HOMEWORK TEXTBOOK for interested families at a cost of $15 each.** Our Homework Policy states that this textbook is not compulsory but is available for purchase at parent discretion. Homework textbooks will be available to view in the front office. Please action the attached payment slip by the requested due date ONLY if you would like to.
- **Moving into Year 7 in 2016 – ONLY for Year 6 students** – please see the attached information and action as soon as possible.

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### 2015 Staff and Class Groupings

We farewell Miss Fiona Filippi from Middleton Grange Public School - Miss Filippi has recently been appointed through merit selection as Assistant Principal at Bonnyrigg Public School. Congratulations! We extend our best wishes for happiness and success.

In 2015 we welcome Mr Mark Bimson and Miss Alana Druitt as classroom teachers for the entire year. They are highly valued members of our team!

For the first few weeks of this year, both Ms Carla Buscaino and Mrs Carlie Stratford are on Long Service Leave. Until their return, we are joined by Ms Samantha Kellner and Mrs Sandra Gagliano.

Today all students were placed into their 2015 class grouping. These groupings are formed within guidelines determined by the Department of Education and Communities. **We have been able to form eleven (11) mainstream classes.**

**Every student at Middleton Grange Public School has a fully qualified teacher who provides quality teaching and learning experiences in a safe and happy learning environment.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mrs Kimberley Sargent (AP)</th>
<th>Kittyhawk Class</th>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Kate Goddard</td>
<td>Mustang Class</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Rosie Awad (term 1)</td>
<td>Dolphin Class</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Carla Buscaino - Ms B (AP)</td>
<td>Spitfire Class</td>
<td>Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Emily Harris</td>
<td>Cessna Class</td>
<td>Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Sally El-Azzi (term 1)</td>
<td>Wirraway Class</td>
<td>Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Alana Druitt</td>
<td>Fox Moth Class</td>
<td>Stages 1 and 2 (Years 2 and 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Sarah Ings (Rel AP)</td>
<td>Kingfisher Class</td>
<td>Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Rosanna Fenato</td>
<td>Delta Class</td>
<td>Stage 2 (Year 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Bianca Turrin</td>
<td>Tomahawk Class</td>
<td>Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Bimson</td>
<td>Lancaster Class</td>
<td>Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Jolande Beemster (AP)</td>
<td>Dragonfly Class</td>
<td>Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Carlie Stratford (Mon, Wed)</td>
<td>Boomerang Class</td>
<td>Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Sandra Gagliano – Mrs G</td>
<td>Boomerang Class</td>
<td>Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Suzana Klanac</td>
<td>Tiger Moth Class</td>
<td>Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Lorraine Husarek (Mon-Wed)</td>
<td>Teacher Librarian (TL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Rebecca Murray</td>
<td>Reading Recovery (RR) and Learning and Support Teacher (LaST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Nicole Liveris</td>
<td>English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Ermana Camo</td>
<td>RFF Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Cathy Kline (Tues)</td>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Rachel Beard</td>
<td>School Admin Manager</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Angela Lucre</td>
<td>School Admin Officer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Debbie Lewis (Tues)</td>
<td>School Admin Officer and Library Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Carmen Grizelj</td>
<td>School Learning Support Officer, Support Unit</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Ingrid Hoven</td>
<td>School Learning Support Officer, Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Wendy Dredge</td>
<td>School Learning Support Officer, Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Michelle Biggs</td>
<td>School Learning Support Officer, mainstream</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Andrew Tribbia</td>
<td>Site Manager</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please see the attached school map for the location of our 2015 classes.
Block A: OFFICE
Admin Manager: Mrs Beard
Admin Officer: Mrs Lucre

Block D: LIBRARY
Teacher Librarian: Mrs Husarek
Library Assistant: Mrs Lewis
Library Volunteer: Grandma June

The Bunker
Reading Recovery Teacher: Mrs Murray
RFF Teacher: Miss Camo
Speech Pathologist: Miss Jones
SLSO: Mrs Biggs
Monday 2 February 2015

SCHOOL SPORT SWIMMING SCHEME

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The Department of Education and Communities’ School Sport Swimming Scheme is an intensive learn-to-swim program which develops water confidence and provides students with basic skills in water safety and survival.

Students who have not reached a satisfactory standard of water safety and survival skills, and are unable to swim 25m confidently unaided in deep water, are eligible to participate in the School Swimming Scheme. The Scheme focuses on weak swimmers from Year 2 up to Year 6, as well as students with special needs.

There are only 50 places available so I now ask that you return this Permission Note with your $30 deposit as soon as possible. The first 50 notes and payments received will be given a place.

Full payment must be made by Wednesday 18 March (week 8) otherwise your child’s place may be given to another student on the waiting list.

When
Monday 23 March until Thursday 2 April (9 days in weeks 9 & 10, term 1)

Where
Whitlam Leisure Centre, Liverpool
Lessons are given by qualified swimming instructors
Students will be accompanied by school staff

Travel
bus

Time
the bus will leave school at 11.30am and will return to school at 2pm

Cost
$85 per student (includes bus hire costs and pool entry)

Dress
School uniform

To Bring
Each child should bring a swimming costume, t-shirt, towel, hat and warm clothing on a cool day. Please also bring a plastic bag to store wet clothing.

Food
Students should bring food for recess and water in a plastic bag with their name clearly labelled.

Please note: students will be assessed during the School Sport Swimming Scheme for all water safety skills without wearing goggles.

Please complete and sign the attached permission form and return it to the front office with your $30 deposit as soon as possible.

Kind regards, Hallie Baxter (Principal)
Swimming Carnival

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our school is still too small in numbers to conduct a whole school swimming carnival. This year, we have again been kindly invited by Kemps Creek Public School to have a few students participate at their school carnival.

Students are only encouraged to attend the Kemps Creek Swim Carnival on Wednesday, 11 February 2015 at Camden War Memorial Swimming Pool, Mitchell Street, Camden if they can confidently swim 50m in at least one swimming style: freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, and/or butterfly. Students must be a minimum of 8 years old or be turning 8 in 2015 in order to be eligible to compete.

Student supervision and transport will have to be provided by parents and caregivers. Students will need to compete in the carnival under parent supervision as no teacher from Middleton Grange is able to attend the carnival. Parent assistance for timing and recording Middleton Grange students is also required.

Participation will be approximately $3.20, the cost of pool entry with all parents/caregivers to pay a spectator fee.

The carnival is due to start promptly at 10am. All final details will be confirmed to you in a phone call.

Please complete the permission slip below by Friday 6 February, to indicate if your child will be attending. Please note – any slips returned later than 9:30am on Friday morning cannot be accepted and therefore students will not be able to participate. A lunch pre-order form has also been attached, with money payable at the Swim Carnival.

Yours sincerely,
Mr Mark Bimson (Sport Coordinator)

I give permission for my child _______________________________ to attend the Kemps Creek Swim Carnival on Wednesday 11 February 2015 at Camden War Memorial Pool, Mitchell Street, Camden.

I am able to provide transport to and from the carnival, and supervise their participation in the carnival.

I confirm that my child can confidently swim 50m.

My child has turned/ will be ___ years old in 2015 (this is the age group they will compete in).

My child would like to participate in the following swimming styles –
- freestyle
- backstroke
- breaststroke
- butterfly
- medley

My child has the following medical needs:

Signed: Parent/Caregiver                      Date
MATHS TEXTBOOK - for Fox Moth Class and Years 3 to 6 students only:
payment due by Wednesday, 11 March (week 7, term 1)
Please find $17.50 payment enclosed per child.

Child’s Name: ________________________________    Child’s Grade: ________________________________
Child’s Class: Fox Moth, Kingfisher, Delta, Tomahawk, Lancaster

Child’s Name: ________________________________    Child’s Grade: ________________________________
Child’s Class: Fox Moth, Kingfisher, Delta, Tomahawk, Lancaster

Payment can also be made online from our website: www.middletongr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Online payment receipt no: ________________

OR Total cash or cheque enclosed: ________________________________

Parent/ Caregiver Name + Signature: ________________________________

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HOMEWORK TEXTBOOK – not compulsory; purchased at parent discretion: 
Families must order and prepay for these books. Order and payment is due no later than Wednesday, 18 February (week 4, term 1) – NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY.

Please find $15 payment enclosed per child.

Child’s Name: ________________________________    Child’s Grade:  K   1   2   3   4   5   6   (please circle)
Child’s Class: Kittyhawk, Mustang, Dolphin, Spitfire, Cessna, Wirraway, Fox Moth, Kingfisher, Delta, Tomahawk, Lancaster

Child’s Name: ________________________________    Child’s Grade:  K   1   2   3   4   5   6   (please circle)
Child’s Class: Kittyhawk, Mustang, Dolphin, Spitfire, Cessna, Wirraway, Fox Moth, Kingfisher, Delta, Tomahawk, Lancaster

Child’s Name: ________________________________    Child’s Grade:  K   1   2   3   4   5   6   (please circle)
Child’s Class: Kittyhawk, Mustang, Dolphin, Spitfire, Cessna, Wirraway, Fox Moth, Kingfisher, Delta, Tomahawk, Lancaster

Payment can also be made online from our website: www.middletongr-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Online payment receipt no: ________________

OR Total cash or cheque enclosed: ________________________________

Total Enclosed: ________________________________

Parent/ Caregiver Name + Signature: ________________________________
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS

Dear Year 6 Parents and Caregivers,

Today you are receiving information about enrolment for Year 7 in 2016. Please take the time to read this information carefully.

The information includes –

- This cover letter
- Moving into Year 7 on a NSW government school in 2016. This booklet provides information about government secondary schooling and includes the Expression of Interest form for placement in Year 7 2016 in a NSW government school. This is the form that you complete to indicate your preference for the school in which you would like your son or daughter to be enrolled for Year 7.

What you need to do –

1. Read all the attached information carefully.
2. Complete the Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7 at a NSW Government Secondary School form and return to the front office no later than FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2015 (week 8, term 1).

For your information –

- Your child’s designated local area secondary school is based on your home address. We have placed this information on your child’s form.

- Parents/ carers are able to seek Year 7 placement in a specialist school (eg: sports high school, performing arts high school), in a specific program in a school (eg: academic class, technology class, music class) or in a support class through regional placement panels. If you are seeking Year 7 2016 placement for your child in one of these schools or classes, the preferences should be listed as choice schools in Section C of the Expression of Interest form. You will still need to fulfil application requirements for individual schools.

PLEASE NOTE – all parents are to complete this form even if you have accepted placement, or are applying for placement, at a high school other than a NSW Government Secondary School or your designated local government secondary school. You will need to complete Section E of the Expression of Interest form.

I will be available to meet with you and assist in the completion of your child’s application. Please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange a convenient time.

Kind regards, Hallie Baxter (Principal)