HASSALL GROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal Mr David Rodger

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2018 Return to School for Students.

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Students from Years 1-6, 2018 will return to school on Tuesday, 30th January 2018. They will line up in their 2017 morning assembly lines with their 2017 class. They will then be taken to their classrooms for the morning. Students will not be sorted into their 2018 classes until later that day. Kinder 2018 will join us for an afternoon tea on that day but officially start on Wednesday, 31st January 2018.

At the end of the first day back (30/1/18), students in Years 1 and 2 will be dismissed from the COLA area near the canteen so that parents/caregivers can meet them there. After the first day, Years 1 and 2 will be dismissed from their 2018 classrooms.

Years 3-6 will be dismissed from their 2018 classrooms from that first day. Please ensure your child knows where to meet you on the first day if you would normally pick them up from outside their classroom.

Over the page you will find some information regarding composite classes and the way in which classes are sorted here at Hassall Grove Public School.

I hope you enjoy a safe holiday break and I look forward to welcoming you and your family back in 2018.

Regards,

David Rodger

FORMING OF CLASSES- FACTS FOR PARENTS.

Some parents have asked questions over the years about how we form our classes. We hope you find the following information helpful.

Students complete a range of tests throughout each school year and teachers collect data from these tests. The scores are then used to rank students, which helps with the formation of the next year's class. The Executive use the scores to put students into even classes. Each class will have students with a range of academic abilities and each class will have a similar class average.

When classes have been sorted from the data, teachers and the Executive meet to discuss other needs that are then taken into consideration. These may include emotional and social needs of individual students. Any changes are done in a way to ensure the class averages remain similar.

Composite classes are sorted in the same way to aim for a similar class average to the other classes. As we work in 'Stages' much of the curriculum is similar as well. For example, all of Year 1 and 2 study the same Accelerated Literacy books. So if your child is in a 1 / 2 composite class, they will also study the same books as their peers. Every teacher is well trained, mentored and supported to adapt learning for individual students. Every class contains students who achieve high academic results and students who require support and this varies depending on the topic or subject being taught at the time. A composite class is no different from any other class. Lessons are constantly adapted and modified within any class to suit the changing needs of the students throughout the school year.

At Hassall Grove Public School we believe it is important for students to practise the skills of making new friends and we offer them the support they require to do so successfully. We are a big school and it is impossible to take into account every friendship group when sorting classes. Also, friendships change so quickly with students of Primary School age. It may be that best friends at the end of one year, do not wish to be friends at the start of the next!

Sometimes parents will make requests for a child to be in a particular class or with a particular child or teacher. However, we cannot possibly guarantee that we could grant the request of every parent in such a big school community. So in the interest of fairness and equity, the classes are based on the data and on advice from the teachers.

Your child's new teacher will have information about your child's academic progress so far. If you would like to share further information about your child please send a note with your child or phone the school to arrange a suitable time to meet with the teacher. The start and the end of the school day become very busy and it is unlikely that the teacher will be able to offer you their undivided attention at that time. An appointment will ensure an uninterrupted conversation.