Tuesday 13th May, 2014.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all the students of 1M, parents and carers! And an especially warm welcome to our new student, Joseph, and his family. I hope that you have all had a wonderful break, and are feeling energised, ready for a busy and exciting Term 2. Now is a great time to top up your supply of sharp lead pencils, glue sticks, coloured pencils etc.

First of all, a huge thank you to the many kind and supportive mums, Dads and Grandmas who have generously given their time in Term 1 to assist every student with their reading. If any other family members or friends are considering helping out in any capacity please see me at your earliest convenience. Be assured your presence will be warmly received and highly valued.

As the cold and flu season seems to be already upon us, we will begin our daily BBC (Blow, Breathe and Cough) routine. All children are also encouraged to bring hand sanitiser to use after blowing their nose or when necessary, and to bring a fresh bottle of water daily to help maintain their hydration levels during class time.

Our COG unit this term, Our Families, focuses on exploring the many groups that have different roles in our lives, including family groups, special interest groups and community groups. We can better understand others by understanding what is similar and unique about our families and groups to which we belong.

Students will be engaged in:

- reading texts and discussing aspects of family and community living
- collecting, designing and making artefacts that reflect personal and cultural identity
- expressing feelings through art, drama and dance activities
- designing a museum exhibit for presentation of each student’s ‘Me box’.

Once more you are warmly invited to share your unique cultural heritage with us. Sharing a story, dance or song, or showing traditional dress or artefacts, would enrich our understanding of diversity.

Our fitness program continues with sessions every Monday and Wednesday. Friday sport will focus on strengthening athletic skills such as running, jumping, throwing and catching in preparation for our upcoming Annual Athletics Carnival.

Later this term our school will again participate in the “Jump Rope For Heart” challenge. Thank you in advance for encouraging your child to take part in this highly beneficial and worthwhile event. Stay tuned for further information.

The homework routine remains consistent with Term 1. Thank you for supporting your child to complete these tasks that are designed to consolidate work done in class, and return them on a daily basis for monitoring and rewards. The list of topics for our weekly oral presentations is attached in case you require it.

This term all classes will be learning about child protection.
Our stage explores such issues as:

- caring for others
- relationships
- wanted and unwanted touch: permission
- protection
- comfortable and uncomfortable feelings
- saying no, prepared to go
- happy and unhappy secrets

You are always welcome to visit our classroom to see what we have been doing. Should an issue arise, please make an appointment to discuss it with me so it can be sorted. Afternoons are best.

Looking forward to continuing working as a team this term,

Jo-anne Morrissey
(class teacher)

2014 1M Topic Talks
*These are to be presented to the class during ‘news’ sessions.

**Term 2**
Week 2 – A reptile
Week 3 – A nocturnal creature
Week 4 – A dinosaur
Week 5 – A life cycle
Week 6 – Our planet Earth
Week 7 – A different planet
Week 8 – Space
Week 9 – An insect

**Term 3**
Week 2 – A natural disaster
Week 3 – How something works
Week 4 – Under the sea
Week 5 – Things that fly
Week 6 – Trees
Week 7 – The Polar Caps
Week 8 – A country other than Australia
Week 9 – A fish
Week 10 – Aboriginal culture

**Term 4**
Week 2 – An amphibian
Week 3 – A sport
Week 4 – Something you have made
Week 5 – An interesting animal
Week 6 – A wonder of the world
Week 7 – What you would like to be when you grow up – why?
Week 8 – Your Christmas wish
Week 9 – Free choice