



10th February, 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term One, 2009! We are enjoying a great start to the year. Our new students have settled quickly and the class is already working well. This year will be an important year of consolidating skills and further developing knowledge and understanding across the curriculum.

As you are probably aware, 5/6VW has two teachers. Mrs Vagg will be teaching on Monday and Tuesday each week. Mrs Woodcock will be teaching on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week.

### Some Practical Points to Remember

1. **Equipment** – Stage Three students have been supplied with the majority of the required classroom resource materials. The students need to keep this equipment at school. They will require blue and red pens, lead and coloured pencils, eraser, sharpener, ruler and textas at home in order to complete set homework tasks. Liquid paper is **not permitted** at school at any time.
2. **Diary** – All Homework tasks will be written into your child's diary. **Please check and sign the diary each day.** As part of our classroom routine the diaries will also be checked by us. This is an important habit for the children to develop as the diary provides a great link between home and school and keeps you as parents informed regarding current homework or special class events. We will also use the diary as a means of communicating information that is not of a confidential nature.
3. **Homework** – This can take several different forms as follows:
  - **Spelling** –students will have tasks to complete each night and they will also need to practise the words in their spelling list.
  - **Reading** - students are encouraged to read for 20 minutes each evening.
  - **Other Tasks** - The explanation for these tasks will be sent home in your child's **Homework exercise book**. Such tasks will include projects and speech preparation.
  - **Incomplete class work** - At times the children will be required to finish incomplete work at home. This will need to be returned to school the next day.

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with integrity  
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**Shoalhaven Anglican School**  
17 Croobyar Road  
PO Box 32 Milton NSW 2538  
Tel 02 4454 0688  
Fax 02 4454 0504  
office@sas.nsw.edu.au

We are very aware that life does not always run as planned and as a result homework is not always completed on time. **If your child has not completed their homework please send a note explaining the situation.** If appropriate, their diary may be used for this explanation.

4. **Attendance** – If your child is absent from school, please supply them with a note stating the duration of, and the reason for their absence. **It is helpful if this note is sent on the day your child returns to school.**

5. **Book Covers** - Over the next few weeks your child will bring a range of exercise books home to be covered. The children will be making several book covers for their exercise books and these will need **clear contact** to protect them. **If you are unable to cover the books on the night they are sent home, please return them to school the next day so they can be used, and we will send them back home at a later date.**

6. **Library** - 5/6VW will have library lessons with Mrs Jenni Allchin every Thursday. Please ensure that your child brings a library bag each week.

7. **Physical Education** – 5/6 VW will have PE with Ms J McLellan on Thursdays and Sport on Friday afternoons with Mrs Woodcock. They will therefore need to wear their sport uniforms each Thursday and Friday.

8. **Music and Drama** – Music lessons will be taught by Ms Atkinson each Tuesday afternoon and Drama will be taught by Mrs Hewison each Wednesday.

We hope your child has a wonderful year in 5/6VW. Thank you for your anticipated support and encouragement as we settle the children into the school year. Obviously our Year Five students and those new to our school will be unfamiliar with some of the Middle School routines, however they will no doubt slot into the routines quite quickly. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please contact us. If an extended time is necessary in order to discuss an issue we are always happy to organise an appointment.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Marion Vagg and Mrs Jenny Woodcock