Dear Parents and Students,

It is with pleasure that I welcome you back to Killara Public School for the 2013 school year. I trust that you had an enjoyable school holiday period and are ready for what promises to be an exciting and productive year ahead. I would particularly like to welcome all the new families to the Killara Public School community.

Organisation for this Week
As discussed at the end of last year, all children in Years 1-6 returned to their 2012 classes today, in most cases with their 2012 teacher. This arrangement is in place to enable us to confirm enrolments and ensure the 2013 class organisation caters for the exact number of students we have in the school. This organisation is difficult to finalise until all students have returned and all new enrolments have been completed. While I am appreciative that children are eager to begin with their new classes and teachers, it is far better to wait to ensure everything is in place rather than rush into forming new classes with the possibility of then having to make changes. I anticipate that children will be put into their permanent 2013 classes before the end of this week. Please be assured that we will be working hard to complete this process as quickly as possible. In the meantime, the teachers have a range of interesting learning experiences planned which I am sure the children will enjoy.

Staffing
I would like to warmly welcome a number of new teachers to the Killara Public School. Ms Ella Holland joins the Kindergarten team and Mrs Sue Salter has begun as our Learning and Support Teacher and will be at KPS on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ms Sophie Honeybourne joins us in a new role as our Enrichment Teacher on Mondays and Thursdays each week. Ms Honeybourne has an exceptional understanding of Gifted and Talented Education and will be working in each classroom during 2013 to support our teachers in the achievement of our 2013 School Improvement Target focusing on differentiation. A full list of staff and their 2013 roles will be published in our next newsletter.

Parent Information Evenings
A new format will be trialled in 2013 for our Parent Information Evenings. On Wednesday 6 of February we will be having a New Parent Information Evening at 7pm in the PAC. This evening will be for new families joining us at Killara Public School in 2013 and will include information about the organisation of the school, major events, assessment and reporting processes and staff roles and responsibilities. The opportunity for parents to meet their child’s class teacher, hear about learning programs they have planned for this year and talk about any organisational details you need to be aware of will be on Wednesday 13 February at 7:15pm. I will begin the evening with a short presentation in the hall to introduce you to staff and outline some of the school’s priorities for 2013.

The organisation for the evening and agenda will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date: Wednesday 13 February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:15pm</td>
<td>Principal’s welcome in the hall for all parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Class information session with your child’s class teacher in their classroom – session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Class information session with your child’s class teacher in their classroom – session 2 Please note that the second session will be a repeat of the first information session so that parents with children in more than one class have the opportunity to attend both sessions. Parents are welcome to attend either information session.</td>
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2013 Routines
In Term 1 we will be trialling a new format for our start to the school day. Once students are in their 2013 classes later this week, when the bell goes at 9:10 each morning, students will proceed directly to their classrooms where they will line up ready to start the school day. Teachers will be in their classroom from 9am each morning (unless they are on playground duty or involved in a meeting) if you need to speak to them briefly. Once the bell has gone at 9:10 learning programs will commence. A reminder to all parents that if your child arrives at school after the bell you are required to take them to the office to receive a late note before going to class.

Communication
I would encourage you to contact the school at any time if you have any questions, concerns or information regarding your child which you need to share with us. We are more than happy for you to ring or come into the office to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, our Assistant Principals or myself at any time. There will be a newsletter sent out next week with further details about the term ahead as well as key dates.

Some maintenance work has been completed during the school holidays, particularly focusing on remedying our drainage issues. This work has been in our drop-off zone and the school oval. With all the recent heavy rain it has been great to see this long-awaited work completed.

Many thanks for your support as we settle into the new school year and I look forward to catching up with all the children and hearing about their exciting holiday adventures.

Regards,

Mrs Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal