Welcome to the new year at Cartwright Public School. It has been wonderful to meet the new students of KM, to get to know their unique personalities and see each one enjoy the school experience. Kindergarten is a special year for students as they begin their school life and it is a privilege to be a part of this.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS AND BEHAVIOUR PROGRAM
At the beginning of the year, class rules are established which ensure a happy and safe environment for students to learn in. The basic rules include:

- Respect others and their property
- Put your hand up to speak
- Keep hands and feet to yourself
- Try your best
- Listen to the teacher and follow instructions
- Speak with manners and respect
- Walk in the classroom

KM follows a step process for both positive and negative behaviour. The class has a chart on which all students begin the day on “Good” then progress through “Great”, “Excellent” and “Wow”. When students reach “Wow”, they receive a “Wow” award. When a student misbehaves, the Cartwright Public School four-step process is implemented:

1. Warning – issued by the teacher
2. Time out – the student works independently at the Time Out table
3. Time out with another teacher – in another classroom for a short period of time
4. Sent to the Assistant Principal/Principal

The CPS award system:

- 5 Wow cards = 1 merit award
- 5 Home Reading awards = 1 merit award
- 5 awards including merit, quality work, sport and ribbons = 1 Gold award
- 5 Gold Awards = 1 Gold Medal

Overview of the Kindergarten program:

LITERACY
Literacy sessions occur during the morning session Monday-Thursday and cover such areas as reading, writing, phonics, handwriting and news. Students begin tracing sentences, then progress to writing independently. Reading Groups occur 4 times a week in which students read a levelled text with the teacher and complete a variety of other related tasks. Students present a news item once a week to the class in which they can show a toy from home or speak about their weekend or any other special event. Kindergarten follows the Jolly Phonics program to develop their understanding of the alphabet and letter sounds.

MATHS
The beginning of the year focuses on number recognition, number writing and counting as well as basic strands such as measurement and shapes. Students participate in Maths groups and complete hands on activities to gain a better knowledge of number concepts. The Language of Maths program is also incorporated into the Maths session in which students learn mathematical language.

HSIE
This term KM will participate in the unit, Our Families and Friends which explores the many groups that have different roles in our lives, including family groups, special interest groups and community groups. The aim is to develop students understanding of others by understanding what is similar and unique about our families and groups to which we belong.

SCIENCE
In Term 1 students will study the characteristics of living and non-living things in the unit, Our Natural World: How Plants and Animals Grow. Students will discuss the differences between plants and animals and what
each needs to grow. Hands-on activities will allow students to explore this topic in practical and fun ways. In Technology, students will learn the basic parts of a computer and will begin to use basic computer programs. They will also have the opportunity to use an interactive whiteboard in whole class and small group tasks mostly during Literacy sessions.

**PDHPE**

As a part of the HSIE unit, students will identify different kinds of relationships, people who are special to them and people with whom they can form positive relationships. Students will learn cooperation skills through group activities and take on differing roles within groups. They will explore the different roles, rights and responsibilities of people in families and within peer groups. Students will participate in Sport on Friday and fitness sessions throughout the week as well as the whole school You Can Do It program.

**CREATIVE ARTS**

Creative Arts includes areas such as Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music. As a part of the Our Families and Friends unit, art activities will explore local, national and international ceremonies of different groups. Food, customs and objects may be used as a stimulus for making, composing and performing activities.

**HOME LEARNING**

Home Learning will be given out to students on Monday and will outline tasks students need to complete during the week. In Term 1, this will involve students using a name, alphabet and number tracing card as well as activities from the Carter Club pack that students received at the end of last year. In Terms 2-4 students will receive a Literacy and Maths sheet to complete.

**HOME READING**

Students have the opportunity to participate in Home Reading. This allows students to borrow a book from the classroom appropriate for their reading level and read it to a family member overnight. Students then return the book to school, and may borrow another. Students require a record card (or a simple exercise book) in which they record the date and the book they read as well as a folder to carry the book in to and from school. Students receive a home reader award after 5 nights of reading.

**SPECIAL TIMES DURING KM’S WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RFF (Release-from-face-</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1:55-2:55</td>
<td>KM are taught by Mr Leech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to-face)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11:50-12:50</td>
<td>Students need a library or plastic bag to borrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-2 Assembly</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1:15-1:35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-2 Scripture</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12:35-1:05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 Assembly</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td>Parents/Caregivers are welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>Students should wear sport uniform</td>
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</tbody>
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**GENERAL NOTES**

- Please ensure **all** students belongings are labelled
- As a part of the CPS No Hat, No Play policy, students must bring a hat to school to wear at lunchtime and recess.
- Please check your child’s bag each afternoon for notes they may be bringing home. You may also check their labelled pouch inside the classroom for any notes and/or awards that may not have reached their bag. There is also a Lost Property container in the classroom.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school office to make an appointment. I look forward to a fantastic year with KM.

Miss Megan McDonald