WELCOME BACK
After a six week holiday, the staff and students are pleased to be back ‘on deck’ for another year of quality teaching and learning. This week we welcomed 120 new bright shiny kindergarten faces to The Bush School and set them free on their journey of primary education. The sheer joy and excitement evident from our newest students reminds us that learning and gaining new knowledge and skills is intrinsically fun. I have enjoyed visiting each class throughout the school and observing how well students have adjusted to their new environments.

STUDENT ABSENCES
When students are absent from school, written explanatory notes are required by the school in order to maintain legally compliant records of attendance. Notes should be written to the class teacher and outline the date/s and the nature of the absence. Illness and injury will be recorded as ‘sick’ while appointments, domestic necessities, attendance at special events and misadventure will be marked as ‘leave’. Absences due to sleeping in and difficulty delivering the student to school, for example, are marked as ‘unjustified’. Your assistance in providing explanatory notes is greatly appreciated.

SAFETY & SECURITY
Media coverage over the last week has highlighted concerning cases of schools, some nearby, receiving hoax phone calls threatening of explosives within the grounds. Please be assured that the Department of Education and each individual school has worked closely with the police force to promptly evacuate the sites, inspect the school and in most cases, return students to their classes. Wahroonga Public School has clear and well-communicated emergency response procedures that are practised regularly. Parents need not worry about the safety and security of their children while at school – it is always our first priority. I am available to discuss any concerns you may have.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
Next week parents will receive notices requesting payment for various contributions to school programs, events and the purchasing of resources. It is only through the generosity of and partnerships with the community that the school is able to provide high quality opportunities and instruction, and I kindly urge you to make payment when notices arrive. Parents experiencing financial hardship are welcome to confidentially discuss their circumstances with me, as some support, though limited, is available.

NEW STAFF FACES
This year we are pleased to welcome Miss Nadia Shah and Mrs Tanya Croswell to our full time teaching staff. Both Nadia and Tanya are part of the Year 5 team. Mrs Kim Ross joins us in a part time capacity teaching KGR. Please make them feel welcome as they settle into their new teaching environment. We also welcome back from absence Mrs Kris Graham (KGR), Mrs Fran Hall (2HP), Mrs Louise Fiennes (3F) and Mrs Leonie Hibbert (4H).

STAFFING STRUCTURE AND SCHOOL MAP
Please click here to access the staffing overview and map of the school.

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