Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to school for Term 4, 2014. We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and are ready for another busy and fun filled term.

**English**
Our writing focus will be Information Reports and Narratives. We will be using a variety of media, including digital forms, to analyse how fairy-tales are written. We will be continuing with our morning literacy and spelling groups. If you’d like to assist please see your class teacher. Our News groups will be starting up in Week 2. Please ensure News is prepared as speaking and listening are a key component to the English syllabus.

**Maths**
In Year 1 we explicitly teach mathematical concepts and language, we then use concrete materials and games to consolidate and extend these ideas. There are various activities happening in the classrooms and on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon we also do some cross grade maths groups. This will ensure that all children are working to their potential.

**HSIE**
This term we will be learning about “Extinct Animals”. We will be consolidating this information with an excursion to the Sydney Aquarium and Wildlife Centre. Children will also be completing a project at home on an extinct animal that is due in Week 5.

**Homework**
Homework is to be handed in on a Thursday and given out on a Friday. We have created a booklet that contains all the worksheets for this term. It contains both Maths and English sheets. The appropriate pages are to be completed each week and this is located on the front cover of the booklet. There will also be a weekly spelling sheet. We realise that all students are working at different abilities and have many commitments outside of school, please see your teacher if there is a problem with homework. Continue to bring in reading logs and change home readers on a Thursday.

**Personal Development and Health**
We will be covering the mandatory syllabus requirement of Child Protection.

**Class Rewards – Dinosaur Dots**
We will be collecting dinosaur dots as a class. Dots will be awarded for good behaviour and trying your best. These will be stuck onto our class dinosaur and when our dinosaur is filled up we will have a class party.

**Excursions**
- Musica Viva will be visiting in Week 4.
- End of Year Picnic, this year will be at The Sydney Aquarium and Wildlife Centre. Parents are welcome to attend but must make their own way there and buy tickets on arrival.

Just a reminder that if your child has 20, 40 or 60 red, blue or green card awards, they need to be at the office by Week 5 for your child to receive a special award at the Presentation Day assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Kylie Kirkland, Jenny Garden and Liam Chapman