Dear Parents,

Welcome back for our last term of 2011. It’s a shorter term than usual and it’s going to be particularly busy. We had a big finish to Term 3 with the walk for awareness on our last day, as well as a visit from Jamie Briggs who spoke about decision making at federal government level. This complemented our excursion to Parliament House the previous week. The Year 5/6 class also gave the school an impressive display of dance and shuffling as part of the arts showcase on the last day of term. This term has had a massive start already with our Year 6 students on camp in Canberra and our Year 5 students away at Woodhouse.

I have a big list of thank yous to start the term. Thanks to Mrs Grivel and Mr Riches for helping on our trip to Parliament House at the end of last term. Thanks to Mrs Woods, Mrs Rayner and Mrs Sparrow for helping the Year 5s on the rock climbing wall and flying fox on Friday morning. A big thank you to Mr Grivell and Mrs Floyd for coming along and staying on camp, and for all your help with the huge range of jobs we had there. We really appreciate all the assistance we receive from parents – we couldn’t run the activities we do without your help and our students benefit enormously.

Just a few quick notes –

- Grandfriends Day is on Thursday, 3 November. There was some information on this in the school newsletter last week.
- On Friday we have loud shirt day – students are encouraged to wear a brightly coloured shirt and bring a gold coin donation. This is to help the Cora Barclay Centre, an organisation which helps children with hearing problems.
- Our home work grid has been
slightly modified for this week, given the fact that we were all on camp in Week 1. The grid will return to normal for Week 3.

**We** are starting our term with a look at the following topics:

**Unit of Inquiry** – We are beginning a new unit with the central idea: *Water systems provide life to whole regions and they are increasingly under threat from humans*, which is part of the transdisciplinary theme: *Sharing the planet*.

**Language** – We will be doing some work with letter writing before we move on to looking at report writing.

**Maths** – We finished last term working with decimal numbers. We are going to continue looking at these as well as spending time on percentages and money. We will also follow up some of the mapping work we did on our Year 5 camp by looking at location and position.

**Christian Studies** – We will be starting a unit which is very closely linked to our unit of inquiry on water and human impact on water systems. Our unit is entitled *Christians have a responsibility in and for the world*.

Verse to remember:

*Live in harmony with one another.*

*Romans 12:16*

**Have a great week.**

Andrew Boesch

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**Notes**

There are still a couple of portfolios which didn’t come back last term. If your child’s portfolio hasn’t made it back to school yet, can you please return it as soon as possible.