Welcome back to all our students and their families. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer break. We welcomed back our students on Thursday for their first day of the 2016 year, but our staff have been back for some time getting things organised so that everything would be ready for the start of the year. The classrooms have been reorganised by their respective teacher and the grounds have been tidied and everything looks fantastic for the start of the year. We have started the year with 65 students enrolled and have 7 new families to the school. If you get the opportunity, please make sure that you welcome our new parents into the Thorpdale School community.

I would like to welcome our new staff members for the 2016 year to Thorpdale Primary School. Mrs Sarah Wilson has come to the school and is in charge of the 2/3 classroom, while Mrs Melinda Peavey –nee Mackie has returned to the school as our Art specialist. We have Mrs Anna Fahey returning as our Intervention specialist and I would also like to welcome Ms Karen Zipkas to the school as our new Science specialist. We also welcome back Mrs Donna Powell, who has taken on a role as a teacher’s aide in the junior grade.

I would also like to welcome back Miss Dani-Elle Kiel in her role as a 4th Year Student Teacher. Miss Kyle will be completing her work placement in the P/1 classroom.

Below is our staffing structure for 2016.

P/1 & ICT (Computers) Miss Reggardo  
2/3 & Music Mrs Wilson  
4/5/6 & LOTE/Library Miss Brereton  
Maths/Science Specialist Coach Mrs Alice Kenneth  
Science Ms Karen Zipkas  
Art Mrs Melinda Peavey  
Intervention Mrs Anna Fahey  
Principal/P.E Mr Grant Nicholas  
P/1 Teacher Aide Mrs Donna Powell  
2/3 Teacher Aide Mrs Toni McCabe  
Business Manager Mrs Angie Blackshaw

We have also implemented a new bell that will ring at 8:45am to allow our students to put their bags in the galley between the classrooms prior to school starting at 9:00am. Students are expected to put their bags away and then return outside. Teachers will also make themselves available to their students during this time for issues that need to be dealt with prior to the start of school.

ART NEWS: Mrs Peavey has asked that all our students please bring in a large cereal box for an art project that the children will be doing in the near future?

Below are a few dates of upcoming events:

Monday 8th of Feb- Swimming Program Starts  
Thursday 11th of Feb- Family B.B.Q  
Monday 15th of Feb- Y&D Swimming Carnival  
Friday 26th of Feb- School Photos  
Friday 11th of March- Y&D Whole School Athletics Carnival

Yours sincerely,  
Grant Nicholas.