Welcome to all families of Foundation students!

Our first day of school has passed but the term and year ahead hold so many more exciting, fun and challenging experiences ahead. The step up into Primary School went well on Friday with very few tears. There was a great sense of excitement and discovery from students and parents alike.

**PYP – TERM 1**

**CENTRAL IDEA:** Cooperative communities have routines and procedures.

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<th>CONCEPTS:</th>
<th>LINES OF INQUIRY:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>• Communities have agreed ways of behaving and working</td>
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<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>• Common attitudes help us work together</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• We are all responsible for creating a safe and supportive community</td>
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*Please note: Detailed Foundation PYP Unit Overviews will be provided separately.*

**Getting to know you**

The children are settling into their classrooms and routines will become established over the next few weeks. If you (or other family members who may be involved in collecting students) have not introduced yourself to your child’s teacher please feel free to pop in either before or after school to do this. It is really important that we all get to know one another so that our ‘Learning Community’ becomes well established.

**Entry Assessments**

Please note that students will not be attending school on Wednesdays during the month of February except for their allotted 50-minute period to undertake a compulsory entry assessment with their teacher. This is more of an information-gathering exercise than a test. Please do not panic. If you are not aware of your timeslot, please contact your child’s teacher for a reminder.

**Housekeeping**

Parents would be aware that with over 80 Foundation students starting at Milgate this year our shared spaces can become rather congested. If parents can please remember to leave the building promptly on delivering their children to classrooms in the morning, and wait for them outside the building at 3.30. Students should enter and exit using the external classroom doors. It is a good idea to talk with your child about a regular meeting spot in the school grounds where you can meet up each night. Also, the area outside the office is one place that regularly becomes a little congested if families use the front door as an exit point.

**Milgate hats, library bags and art smocks**

Term 1 is a Sunsmart term and school hats must be worn when outside. Please help us by ensuring that these hats come to school each day and that they are clearly named. If you would like, we will gladly keep them at school in a safe place for each student.

If your child has not brought their Library Bag (a waterproof one) and art smock to school, these need to be provided promptly as programs have already started. You can request a class timetable from your classroom teachers shortly so that you know when the different specialist programs operate.
Green take home bag and notices
Please make it a habit to check your child’s green bag as well as their school bag – it is sometimes surprising what you might find! If you miss out on any notices please speak to your classroom teacher or check the Milgate website for details. Your child’s **green take home bag** will contain a book to be read each night, a yellow book for progress tracking / motivation and any school notices, letters, permission slips and so on.

**Parents Helpers, Parent Representatives**
Teachers will send out a request for ‘Parent Help in the Classroom’ shortly. This assistance is invaluable to our programs and it is also an opportunity to work with your child – they love it! We will be starting our F.R.E.D. (Fast Reading Every Day) program very soon. F.R.E.D. involves reading with the Foundation students every morning. Please consider the request and talk to your teacher if you have questions or concerns.

Each grade will also be looking for a Class Parent Representative – speak to your teacher if you would like more information about this role.

Also, if you are looking for a fun committee and some new friends, consider joining the Parents and Friends committee or maybe the Education Sub-committee. If you would like to learn more about the programs operating at Milgate Primary School leave your name and contact number at the Front Office and one of the committee will contact you to provide more information on the role of their group within the school.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>17/2</td>
<td>Bully Busters Incursion. This is a fun and informative session for students to learn about appropriate behaviours and responses to real-life situations.</td>
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<td>3/3</td>
<td>PYP and Parent Helpers’ Information Session (2:30-3:30pm). This will be a great session for any parents or carers who would like to learn more about the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program we frame our curriculum around at Milgate as well as information on roles and responsibilities of parent helpers.</td>
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<td>4/3</td>
<td>Milgate PS Community Picnic (5:00-7:00pm). Always a fun evening for new and old members of the Milgate community to come together, roll out some picnic rugs, play some games and share stories.</td>
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_We look forward to an exciting and successful year ahead where we will develop special relationships with both you and your children, creating a true ‘Learning Community’._

The Foundation Classroom Teaching Team 😊
Carly Jones, Rohan Daenke, Julie Parker, Jasmine Cergol