Welcome from Steve: Welcome back to school for Term One 2015, and to what I know will be a positive school year for the whole community. How do I know? Because after having spent the day on Monday with a group of dedicated, passionate and professional people, I know that we are of a single mind to ensure that Cottage School is indeed a school that makes a “Big Difference”. I would especially like to welcome two new Teacher Aides to our school; Susanne Karst who will be working with Tom in the 3/4 Middlies, and Jane Tickner who will be working with Hana in the 1/2/3 Middlies.

Just a reminder that during term 1, the Sun Smart Policy requires all students and staff to be wearing a suitable sun hat when moving outside of the classroom. Also, a reminder that students should be wearing suitable footwear for participation in PE and other active programs.

Thank you to those parents who made me feel so welcome at last week’s morning tea, and for those who had commitments and were unable to attend, I look forward to meeting with you in the very near future.

Cheers, Steve.

We would especially like to welcome all our new families/students to the Cottage School community:

- Henrik Hickman and his parents Stephen and Ruth (Kinder)
- Ella Scarlett and her parents Jenny and Ben (Kinder)
- Poppy Talbot and her parents Elle and Tristan (Kinder)
- Remi Inches and her parents Hayley and Robert (Kinder)
- Lilly Montana and her parents Holly and Jason (Kinder)
- Stella and Jonathan Wills and their parents Carly and Chris (Kinder and Littlies)
- Wellington Adams and his parents Arianna and John (Littlies)
- Georgia Thurling (Middlies 1/2/3) Melissa’s daughter and Amy’s big sister.
- Steph’s son Roscoe Lawler is also joining the Kinder group this year as well as
- Gabrielle Ward- Henry’s sister
- Vallie Silva – Ashleigh’s sister
Farewell: Sadly we farewell the Upton family from Cottage School. Banjo is off to Taroona high school and Toby and Mollie will be nearby at Taroona Primary. We wish you all well in your new schools😊

Working Bee – Saturday 14 Feb 2015: Our first Working Bee of 2015 will be on Saturday 14 February (we can share the love on Valentine’s Day!) from 9am – 2pm. All families are expected to contribute 4 hours work (eg 1 adult x 4 hours or 2 adults x 2 hrs). It is a very social day and there is a real sense of satisfaction to see the school looking so well cared for at the end. Working together strengthens our school community and the Working Bees have a direct financial benefit – without them fees would need to increase to pay for this maintenance.

A list of working bee jobs is attached to the email with this week’s notice. A hard copy master list (including the usual few late addition jobs!) will placed on the wall of the White (Littlies) Cottage on Friday morning (6 Feb) at 8.45am. Please choose a job and write your name next to it. Please do not email Annette or the WB co-ordinators asking them to put your name down for a job as it might already be ‘taken’.

To make the working bee as effective as possible, please take ‘ownership’ of your job, take time to find out what is required (ask one of the Working Bee coordinators) before the day and then bring any tools/equipment that you will need to complete it. Please name all tools/equipment that you bring to ensure they go home with you at the end of the day!

Please bring a piece of fruit to share for morning tea. For those people working into the afternoon a light lunch will be provided.

Working Bees are not ‘optional events’ – they were part of the deal when you signed up for the Cottage School. While it is possible to do ‘catch up jobs’ after the day, these are time consuming to arrange/follow up and it is often not as efficient as if they were done on the day.

If you are genuinely unable to attend the Working Bee due to work commitments or personal reasons please let one of the Working Bee coordinators know in advance and an arrangement will be made. Otherwise you are expected to be at school bright eyed and bushy tailed on Saturday 14 February.

If you are unable to attend and you are allocated a catch up job these will need to be completed within 4 weeks after the working bee ie by 14 March or you will be invoiced for the standard working bee payment of $120. In fairness to all this will be strictly enforced this term.

Children are welcome at working bees however please be aware that:

Children are not allowed inside the buildings unless they are in the company of an adult. Classroom resources (computers/stationary/games etc) are not to be used on the day.
· You are responsible for the supervision and safety of your children. Please bear this in mind when you are choosing a job to make sure you are able to supervise them appropriately.
· All working bee participants (both adults and children) need to be aware that on the day the school will be a worksite with various tools being used, large objects/equipment being moved around etc. This requires extra vigilance to ensure that we all remain safe.
· Children should remain inside the school grounds at all times unless they are in the company of an adult.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Saturday 14 February. Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any queries/concerns.

Thanks from the Working Bee Coordinators:
Gabrielle Balon & Mel Thurling

French: BONJOUR tout le monde! C’est la rentrée ! Voici des nouvelles de Kate… All classes will be concentrating on conversation this term. IF you know a few phrases, please use them. If not, perhaps your child might teach you. Practice makes perfect.
And in the Littlies, it would be great if you child could bring along a soft toy friend each Friday this term, not too large, one of their favourites, preferably a bear, but we will accept other nationalities. Merci beaucoup!

Absentees: Can parents please let the school office know if their children are going to be absent for the day.
Garden Market: Roll up, Roll up! The first Garden Market for the year will be held on Wednesday 11 Feb from 3-3.30pm outside the Kinder classroom. Any contributions of garden produce (eg veggies, flowers, fruit, seedlings etc) would be very welcome as would healthy, low sugar sweet and savoury treats from your kitchen (remember no eggs or nuts please). All funds raised from the market go back into the school to buy extra equipment for the classrooms, plants for he grounds and items for the school garden etc.

See you there!

Term Dates 2015: The term dates for this year are as follows:-

Term 1 – Tuesday 3rd February – Thursday 2nd April
Term 2 – Tuesday 21st April – Friday 3rd July
Term 3 – Tuesday 21st July – Friday 25th September
Term 4 – Tuesday 13th October – TBA

PE Lessons: A reminder to all students to wear lace up shoes, stretch clothing and hats for PE lessons. Biggies & Tom’s Middlies please bring a drink bottle on your sport days because we usually leave school for PE.

PE Days:

Biggies – Tuesday
Tom’s Middlies - Thursday
Littlies & Hana’s Middlies– Tuesday & Thursday

Georgie

Family Jobs: Planning the family jobs is a huge task and we are still finalising the job list for 2015. Could families continue on with their jobs from last year until the new list is circulated please? Thanks

Family Contact List: For those who don’t know, at the beginning of the year we circulate a ‘Family Contact List’ throughout the school. This list has students’ name, address, parent’s names and phone numbers on it. It is the best way for people within the school community to be in touch with each other. Car pooling arrangements and after school get togethers are easy to organise. If you are running late, a timely phone call to another parent in your child’s class will also avoid time consuming communications to the office. If you would like any of your details kept private before I circulate the list, can you please let me know.

Thanks, Annette

Guitar 2015: Just a reminder that the first lesson for Grade 5/6 Guitar students will commence on Friday 13 February 2015 with Di Perry.
What’s On:

Bupa Kidfit Triathlon Series - This year, there are 5 events across Tasmania. Find the event that’s nearest to you, and register now!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Registrations Close</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Norfolk</td>
<td>Sunday, February 23rd</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 19th</td>
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<td>Lauderdale</td>
<td>Sunday, March 2nd</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 26th</td>
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<td>Blackman’s Bay Beach</td>
<td>Sunday, March 16th</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 12th</td>
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<td>Ulverstone</td>
<td>Saturday, March 22nd</td>
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<td>Launceston</td>
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For more information visit [www.kidfitseries.com.au](http://www.kidfitseries.com.au)

Attachments: First term working bee jobs list