Newsletter 1 – 12 February 2016

Principal’s Message:
Welcome to the first newsletter of 2016. Newsletters will be sent home every fortnight and will be used to inform you of the happenings at our fantastic little school. I am pleased to say that we have made a positive start to this year and have our sights set on improving the quality education delivered by Jarvisfield State School.

Sincerely,
Mr Troy Patti

New Staff Members
With a new year comes new staff members, not just myself. We welcome Mrs Louise Bostock back to Jarvisfield. Mrs Bostock will be teaching every Monday and will be teaching the areas of History, Technology, Art and Geography. Mrs Vera Keryk is also taking on a teaching role on Tuesday and Thursday morning this year. She will be teaching reading and the English Units on these days and will also be providing literacy support to students who are experiencing difficulty in aspects of English. Finally, we also welcome Mr Denis Thomas as our new cleaner. Mr Thomas will be working at Jarvisfield in the mornings, except for Friday, where he will be working in the afternoon.

Curriculum
This year we have adopted the Australian Curriculum in the subject areas of Technology, The Arts and Health and Physical Education. Currently, in English, the P-2 students are examining emotions in picture books and identifying how these emotions are communicated through words and pictures. The students in year 3 and 4 are reading ‘The Twits’ and examining the descriptive language in this book. The students in year 5 and 6 have been comparing short stories and identifying the orientation, rising action, complication, falling action and resolution. In Mathematics, the students are learning various number concepts and will continue to do so for the next 3 weeks.

Positive Behaviour Learning
This year, our school will be changing our Responsible Behaviour Plan to introduce PBL into the school. PBL is a behaviour management system that focuses on recognising, rewarding and teaching positive behaviour. We will be having many discussions with staff, students and community members to discuss the implementation of this programme. We have already made small steps towards this end goal with Mr Keith Kiloh conducting specialised behaviour lessons and the introduction of ‘Gotchas’ which are certificates given to students when they are caught abiding by the school rules. The students have been set a goal of 800 Gotchas in the first term. If they achieve this goal, they will be able to participate in a fun activity at the end of Term 1. Weekly winners are also drawn out at our parade on Friday afternoons.