Dear Parents and Staff,

Welcome to the 2016 school year. It is delightful to see so many familiar faces and some new ones too.

How terrific it was to see the children coming in to school this morning so excited about being at Yidarra. Thank you to all parents who have been so helpful by having everything the children need to start the year, by ensuring that they have the correct school uniforms, their class booklist items and a happy attitude to school. It’s these little things that make the children so confident and relaxed for the first few days.

This year we welcome some new staff members. Mrs Karen Lawrence (Kindy Red), Mrs Danielle Damjanovic (2 Red), Ms Jana Dugandzic (5B) and Mr Antonio Muto (5G).

SCHOOL TIMES
Parents are reminded that the pre-primary and primary students are required to be at school by 8:40am. Primary school students arriving at school before class times are opened at 8:30am are to wait in the undercover area. Students arriving before 8:20am, are to be supervised by parents or OSH Club, as there is no supervision of students by staff prior to this time.

In the afternoon school staff will supervise the departure of students at the pick-up points outside the school office and Canteen between 3:00 – 3:20pm.

Children are not to play on the school equipment before and after school unless supervised by a parent. Thank you for your assistance with this safety matter.

Parents are reminded that out of school care is provided at Yidarra by Osh Club and is situated in the building at the northern end of the school. Bookings and information are available by calling 9261 3200 and online at: www.oshclub.com.au.

OFFICIAL SCHOOL TIMES
School commences: 8:40am
Recess is from: 10:40am – 11:00am
Lunch time is from: 12:40pm – 1:20pm
School concludes: 3:00pm

Please note: Staff meetings are held every Tuesday afternoon after school and the office will be closed.

STUDENT SIGN IN & OUT PROCEDURES
As a school, it is our duty to ensure that all students who attend Yidarra are provided with the maximum duty of care. It is necessary to be informed of the whereabouts of all students within the school during school hours. To enable this to happen, any students who leave the school grounds during school time must be ‘signed out’ and ‘signed in’ on their return. On ‘signing out’ a student at the office parents will be given a ‘sign out’ slip to take to the class teacher when they go to pick up their child. To ensure that teachers, including specialist subject teachers, are carrying out their ‘duty of care’, we ask parents who need to take children out of school prior to home time to please adhere to this request.

I would like to draw your attention to a number of important events that will be held next week.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING K-yr 6 & BOARD AGM
This year we will combine the Parent Information Night and Board AGM into one evening. So please note the time and date below.

The Parent Information Night and Board AGM will be held this term:

Dates: Tuesday 9th February, 2016
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Commencing in the undercover area and later in classrooms

2016 OPENING WHOLE SCHOOL MASS
On Wednesday, 10th February, at 9am all parents are invited to join us for our Opening School Mass in the St Thomas More Church and morning tea following the mass in the Parish hall.

2016 SCHOOL TERM DATES

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LITURGY DATES
Liturgy dates have not been confirmed. Please check the calendar weekly for updates.

2016 STUDENT CLASS UPDATE FOR CANTEEN ON-LINE ORDERS
For each new year parents are reminded to update their child class when ordering on the On-line Canteen website. This does not automatically roll over each year. Thank you for assistance.

We look forward to partnering with you this year.

God Bless,

Carmel Costin

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**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

**BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, at the commencement of this year, we praise you and thank you for the gift of life and for the opportunity of growth awaiting us. We ask that you bless us and make our school a great place, a place where we feel safe, where we are challenged, and where we smile often. We pray that you will guide us in all ways, so that we will seek to do everything that we do. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
Going to School: Practical Tips

A new year sometimes means new routines for families. Getting your children ready for school in the morning is not meant to be a marathon, but it does get better with some discipline and practice! Here are some practical tips to assist you and your family ease into the day-to-day routine of school:

- Have a set bed time and routine on school nights that allows a minimum of 10 hours of quality sleep. Reading a nightly bedtime story at any age is guaranteed to assist sleep and education.
- Organising clothes and belongings the night before can save a last-minute rush in the morning.
- Label ALL items CLEARLY so that maybe they won’t lose everything they own – and if they do then it is much easier to return.
- Allow enough time in the morning for a healthy, nutritional breakfast and model eating breakfast too! Children who help get their breakfast are more likely to eat it.
- Have a specific place for school bags, lunch boxes & drink bottles, parent notes, uniforms, etc to prevent upsets at home and school when your child can’t find something.
- Try getting to school between 8.20 and 8.30am (except Kindergarten) so that your child is able to meet with others in the covered area and be ready to go to their classroom independently.
- Pack a healthy recess and lunch that we help your child stay alert and meet their energy needs during the day.
- It is worth checking that your child has everything needed before leaving for school in the morning and also before leaving school for home in the afternoon.

2016 Calendar
Staff Email addresses
Community News and other important information is available on our website web.yidarra.wa.edu.au and will be updated weekly.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has declared that 2016 will be the Jubilee Year of Mercy commencing on 8 December 2015. In his encyclical Misericordiae Vultus, which means the Face of Mercy, he invites us to contemplate the need for and meaning of mercy in our daily lives and the wider world: ‘Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy and His mercy endures forever. We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity and peace.’ MV Pope Francis. As the charism at Yidarra encompasses the Mercy order of Sisters we will be arranging events throughout the year that focus on our Mercy roots and traditions.

SCHOOL BANKING
Tuesdays
8.15-8.45am
Undercover Area

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN DAYS 2016

Every Thursday during the term only from 2-3.45pm.

Order forms are available from the website or the office. Orders can be sent through your child’s note bag and will be delivered to the classroom each Thursday morning.

Linda Veletta,
Uniform Manager
Veletta.linda@yidarra.wa.edu.au

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
If you have second hand uniforms, please send to the uniform shop on Thursday afternoons only from Week 3 onwards. Thank you for your assistance.

HEALTH NEWS

Allergy Medication:
All student’s medication that was taken home from the office or classroom for the holidays needs to be returned ASAP. Please ensure your child’s medication is up to date.

Asthma Medication:
All students who have Asthma must carry Ventolin and spacer in their school bag or if preferred a medical box can be left in the sick room for your child to use when required. It is recommended that students from Years 3 upwards keep in their school bag to self manage their Asthma. Kindy to Pre-primary medication is kept in the classroom for staff to manage. Years 1 to 2 medication is kept in the sick room, if child needs assistance by office staff.

Band-Aids, Savlon & Sting Goes etc:
For health and safety reasons cuts will be covered with Band-aids and insect bite will be treated with Savlon or anti-itch cream.

Ice Packs:
For hygiene purposes Ice packs will only be given to students with Head and serious injuries. In this event Parents will be notified asap.