Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3. It is lovely to see the smiling faces of students and the enthusiasm that they are bringing to their learning this week. It is obvious to teachers that students have continued with their positive attitude to reading throughout the holidays and are continuing to make positive gains. Reading and spelling skills have a major impact on student learning and self-confidence. As a school community our goal is for every student to achieve to the very best of their ability, to be challenged, but also supported in their quest to attain grade expectation or higher. Reading expectations for each grade level at Evandale Primary are:

- Prep—Level 10
- Grade 1—Level 19
- Grade 2—Level 27
- Grade 3—Level 30
- Grade 4 to Grade 6—Level 30+

The Spell-a-thon held on the last day of Term 2 was a resounding success, particularly in relation to individual spelling skill improvement. Thank you so much to parents for supporting this event and assisting students at home to continue to practise and refine their spelling strategies. It is an expectation that students spend 2 sessions per week practising their spelling words as part of their homework regime. On Monday 21st July (Professional Learning/Student Free Day) Evandale teaching staff focused on Spelling. All teachers presented sessions based on research by Christine Topfer and Deirdre Arendt covering aspects such as: Letter/Sound Relationship, High Frequency Words, Spelling Patterns, Meaning and Proofreading. We reviewed our School Operational Plan and documented progress so far in the areas of Early Learning, Literacy and Numeracy, Quality Teaching and Learning, Supportive School and Community Environment.

This term you will see some new faces around the school. Mrs Janine Lucas is taking a well earned Long Service Leave break for all of Term 3. During her absence Mrs Larissey will be co-ordinating Gumnuts (our birth—4 years program) and Mrs Sharyn Parry (pictured) will be our Kindergarten Teacher Assistant. Mrs Davson-Galle is on leave for the first 2 weeks of this term. Lynette Knibbe and Jean Rosevear have taken over her teaching load during her absence. This week Mrs Larissey has been unwell and I would like to thank Mrs Chris Grima for ensuring that our Kindergarten children have made a smooth transition after the holidays. Hopefully Mrs Larissey will be well enough to return next week.

At Evandale Primary we are committed to learning for all and work in partnership with other agencies such as work experience for High Schools, Colleges and University teaching practice programs. This term Georgie Palmer will be working in the Kindergarten every Thursday with Mrs Larissey. Georgie is currently attending Launceston College and interested in early years learning. Keira Purdon (University of Tasmania student) will be volunteering every Monday morning in Mr Guy’s class to gain experience in Early Childhood teaching.

Regards

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