Dear Parents,

The school’s vision statement, *our school community is committed to providing a supportive learning environment fostering respect, creativity and resilience* is our ultimate goal. It is a powerful message and one we should strive to carry out each day.

In working toward this goal, the school implements many programs which complement each student’s learning opportunities. The Learning & Support Team (LST), for example, is our school’s safety net aiming to support the learning & social needs of students.

Learning & support at Soldiers Point is a joint effort. It reaches all students across the school and includes aspects of teacher training, specialist consultation and support for staff and families. It may involve carrying out specialist assessments, targeted student learning support, behavioural support for students and counselling.

The LST is made up of: Mrs De Souza (coordinator), Mr Clements (counsellor), Ms Beavan (learning & support teacher), Mrs Shotter (chaplain) and myself. We also have two school learning & support officers, Mr Holloway and Mrs Sala, who regularly support students across the school.

In 2016, Ms Ash Beavan returns to the role of learning & support teacher. Ms Beavan can be contacted at the school each Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday for student and family support enquiries.

Parent Information Sessions
This week we’ll be holding the last of our 2016 Parent Information Sessions. I trust you have found these sessions beneficial in hearing about class & stage expectations, practices and other organisational matters. Dates and times for the remaining Parent Information Sessions are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1</td>
<td>Monday, February 15</td>
<td>4:00-4:45pm</td>
<td>HB1&amp;2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(KC &amp; KM)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Monday, February 15</td>
<td>4:45-5:30pm</td>
<td>HB3&amp;4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( 1/2D, 1/2E, 1/2F &amp; 1/2S)</td>
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Scripture
Scripture classes will commence this Wednesday, February 24, from 1:35-2:05. Scripture classes will be offered for both Protestant & Catholics students. Students electing not to attend scripture will also be accommodated during this time.

Welcome BBQ
The P&C will be holding the annual Welcome BBQ on Friday, March 4, which all school families are welcome to attend. The Welcome BBQ is a social night and a terrific opportunity for families new to the school to meet some of our established families. So please join us on the night.

Please note: as this function is being held at school and children will be present the consumption of alcohol is not permitted.
Term Dates

Term 1 – Week 4

Monday 15th February  Parent Information Sessions Year 6 Leadership Day
Tuesday 16th February  Wednesday 17th February  Thursday 18th February  Friday 19th February  
Term 1 – Week 5

Monday 22nd February  Tuesday 23rd February  Wednesday 24th February  Thursday 25th February  Friday 26th February  
Term 1 – Week 6

Monday 29th February  Tuesday 1st March  Wednesday 2nd March  Thursday 3rd March  Friday 4th March  
Term 1 – Week 7

Monday 7th March  Tuesday 8th March  Wednesday 9th March  Thursday 10th March  Friday 11th March  
Term 1 – Week 8

Monday 14th March  Tuesday 15th March  Wednesday 16th March  Thursday 17th March  Friday 18th March  

Term 1 – Week 9

Monday 21st March  Tuesday 22nd March  Wednesday 23rd March  Thursday 24th March  Friday 25th March  

Term 1 – Week 10

Monday 28th March  Tuesday 29th March  Wednesday 30th March  Thursday 31st March  Friday 1st April  

Term 1 – Week 11

Monday 4th April  Tuesday 5th April  Wednesday 6th April  Thursday 7th April  Friday 8th April  

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 19th February  
No Assembly

Friday 26th February @ 1.30pm  
K-2 Assembly Hosted by 1/2E

Our school community is committed to providing a supportive learning environment fostering respect, creativity and resilience. (2015)
The Playground
As you can see in the photo below, the school’s Creative Play Spaces project is almost complete. There are a few minor adjustments required to the retaining walls but we hope to have the students on the equipment very soon.

When the playground is open, each class will visit with their teacher to have a play and discuss how to use the equipment safely.

The equipment will be open at recess and the 2nd half of lunch each day with a teacher supervising students directly at these times. Initially, while the equipment is still a novelty, classes will be placed on a roster to ensure fair access for all. The equipment will be closed before and after school.

In the interests of safety, parents are wholly responsible for their children not attending this school (toddlers). Children not attending Soldiers Point Public School are not permitted to use the playground equipment.

Book Packs
Thank you to more than 80% of families who have already purchased their child’s 2016 Book Pack. If you are yet to purchase your child’s Book Pack, we urge you to do so at your earliest convenience.

Payments for Book Packs can be made at the office, online (via the school’s website), sent in with your child or paid over the phone with a credit card. I remind parents that Book Packs can be paid by instalments (each term) or financial assistance is available via application. Please call the office if you wish to apply for financial assistance.

Organisation for 2016
Below is the class structure for SPPS for 2016. As a staff we have worked very hard to create optimal class groupings, which are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KC</td>
<td>Ms Champion</td>
<td>HB1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Mrs Miller</td>
<td>HB2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2F</td>
<td>Mrs Freeman</td>
<td>Room 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2E</td>
<td>Mrs Egan</td>
<td>HB3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Ms Strassmeir</td>
<td>HB4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2D</td>
<td>Mrs De Souza</td>
<td>HB5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4F</td>
<td>Mrs Fuimaono</td>
<td>Room 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4N</td>
<td>Mr Nix</td>
<td>Room 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Mrs Aitchison</td>
<td>Room 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4W</td>
<td>Mrs Waglison</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5G</td>
<td>Mr Gibson</td>
<td>Room 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6SE</td>
<td>Mrs Sproule (M,T)</td>
<td>HB6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miss Ensbey (W,T,F)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6P</td>
<td>Ms Pawley</td>
<td>HB7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Mr MacGregor</td>
<td>HB8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The classes will be supported by Mrs Baxter, Miss Ms Cornwell (Reading Recovery) and Mrs Merriman (library). Mrs Beavan is our learning and support teacher. Mr Holloway and Mrs Sala are our learning support officers.

The office will be ably managed by Mrs Sherman who will be supported by Mrs Bradbury and Mrs Dowker.

Mr Clements is our school counsellor again this year and he will be working at Soldiers Point each Wednesday. Mrs Robinson is our Defence School Transition Aide and Mrs Shotter is our school chaplain.
Swimming Carnival

The annual swimming carnival was held on February 5th. While the weather didn’t look promising, it didn’t dampen the spirits of the students even when the heavens opened during the 25m events. It was pleasing to see the number of students participating throughout the day as many of them have come through the school’s swimming scheme.

There were some great individual performances in the 50m, 100m and 200m events, especially from Mackenzie, Cooper, Ebony and Cale. Likewise, there are always students who have a go at everything, trying to win points for their team and getting into the spirit of the carnival.

While not everyone participated in the races held in the 50m pool, most joined in the novelty events in the program pool. Mr Gibson and Mr Holloway did a fantastic job with the novelty events, organising such a large group of students.

All students should be congratulated for their efforts in and out of the pool. Thank you also to the staff for the wonderful job you do to ensure the carnival is a success and to the parent helpers, Mr Lack and Mrs Mamotte.

The champion swimmers this year were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Ebony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years</td>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Cale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The winning house was EVERITT.

See website for more photos of the swimming carnival.

BUS PASSES – 2016

If your child is in Year 3 and you’re eligible, you may choose to apply for a new bus pass (Opal Card) for 2016.

All passes must be applied for online via the Transport NSW website. For more information for new applicants and existing pass holders, visit transportnsw.info/school-students

Thank you

From the Office ..........

If your child requires medication to be administered at school or has an asthma or medical plan, please come to the office to check all details are correct.

If you have a new home address or changed personal or emergency phone numbers, please let us know ASAP. This is imperative for your child’s welfare and safety.

The office accepts cash, cheque or EFTPOS for all school payments (excluding uniform shop).

We are also now accepting payments online via the school’s Website.


By selecting the $Make a payment link you will be taken to the secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page. (when requested to enter the student registration number, use the Student Name)

Thank you

On-Line Payments

Payments for Book Packs, excursions etc. can now be paid on-line via the School Website (address below). There is a link in the line next to Contact Us.

Please refer to the Information Booklet that was sent home to all families at the beginning of December.

School Banking is Back!

Please bring your Deposit Book to School every Tuesday

New Account openings (sign ups) will be outside the School Canteen

8.30am Tuesday 16\textsuperscript{th} Feb

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Our school community is committed to providing a supportive learning environment fostering respect, creativity and resilience. (2015) Page 5
P&C news

From the P&C President...
Hello Parents/Caregivers,
Just a reminder that the P&C has its AGM in March. It would be great to have more candidates for election of officers. All positions become vacant automatically and then are filled by volunteers who are nominated and voted on.
This is my fifth year as President and I would like to have someone else step into that role so I can focus on grants and lobbying politicians for buildings and things like that. Please consider if you can help in any role or even just come along to the regular meetings even if you do not take on a position. We still need 5 people each meeting excluding the Principal to constitute a quorum to approve any decisions, so even being there is valuable in any case.
To keep a P&C (including the canteen and uniform shop) going per the constitution we need a President, Secretary and Treasurer as a minimum. I do not intend to stand for re-election due to my commitments going forward.
Thank you, Tristen Cosgrove.

Meetings
Please note that the next P&C meeting is our annual AGM.
Next SIFC meeting: Wednesday 2nd March at 7pm.
AGM meeting + P&C meeting: Tuesday 8th March at 7pm.
All welcome in the Admin Building.

School canteen
There will be a new price list for the Canteen menu coming out on Monday 22nd February with some price increases. This is necessary to cover the rising costs of fresh produce and to help maintain the equipment in the Canteen. There will be a weeks grace for everyone to get used to the new prices. They will become effective from Monday 29th February.
Are there any parents our there who can help us out with a fridge that is not working or anyone in the pest control industry. If you can help us out please let me know, we would be very appreciative (my mobile 0448 771 336 or through the office).

Roster:
Wed 17/2 Matt Connor
Thurs 18/2 Yr 6: Libby T., Rhyannan N.
Fri 19/2 Deanne Cosgrove, Leanne Benbow
Mon 22/2 Karen Jones
Wed 24/2 Frank Renner, Bek Paradisis
Thurs 25/2 Yr 6: Aidan G., Sam S.
Fri 26/2 Rebekah Newell, Liz Dennison
Mon 29/2 Lynda Simon

Thank you, Paula.

Uniform shop
The Uniform Shop is open:
• Tuesday from 8.30–9.30am and
• Friday from 2.15–3.15pm.

Events and Fundraising meeting
Please come along to our informal meeting on Thursday 18th February at 10am at Soldiers Point Bowling Club.
We’ll have a quick chat about what opportunities the P&C have this year for events and fundraising. All welcome, including pre-schoolers!

Welcome BBQ 2016
We have pencilled in Friday 4th March for this year’s Welcome BBQ.
Watch this space for more information.