Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of another school year and what a year it has been! We have been incredibly busy throughout 2016 and I am very proud of all the achievements our children have made. They have all worked incredibly hard and made excellent progress across the subject areas, their enthusiasm for learning is wonderful and has been reflected in their results this year. I look forward to working with each of them again in 2017 and helping them to progress even further.

In 2017, we will welcome 6 new students to our school, 2 students in Year 6, 1 in Year 1 and 3 in Prep. This is exciting for our school as we continue to grow and I would like to personally welcome the new families to the Osborne community. We will continue working within our school vision – Success through Commitment, Community and Caring which has been evident throughout 2016. 2017 promises to be an exciting year full of growth for our school and I look forward to being part of it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents and friends of our school who have volunteered their time to help us out this year. Whether it is by being part of the P&C, assisting at fundraising events or supporting us in the classroom, your contributions are invaluable and are truly appreciated by the staff and students. I would also like to thank the various community organisations, businesses and individuals who have worked with us throughout the year. We have had many people volunteer their time and resources to assist our little school and these too are invaluable. Finally I would like to thank my very hard working staff – Tracie, Joanna, Jackie, Michelle, Dale, Vera, Sarah, Kylie and Denis – without your dedication our school would not be the wonderful place it is, thank you!

As we move into the Christmas break, I reflect on what this period means to me. For me, Christmas is a time of happiness and reflection as I spend time with family and friends, taking time to catch up and wind down after another hectic year. It is also a time to remember how fortunate I am to live in a peaceful country where I am free to believe, celebrate and speak as I choose, many are not so fortunate. Regardless of our beliefs, the end of the year is a time for rest and renewal as we look with hope to a new year. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Travel safely and I look forward to seeing you all again to 2017,

Have a fantastic Christmas break everyone,

Hayley Laidlow
Principal
Save the Date

2017
17 January – Pupil Free Day (PFD) – staff first aid training, office closed
18 January – PFD – staff mandatory trainings (Airville SS), office closed
19 January – PFD – Teachers and TAs – Sheena Cameron Literacy training (BNE), office open
20 January - PFD – Teachers and TAs – Sheena Cameron Literacy training (BNE), office open
23 January – Classes resume
26 January – Australia Day public holiday

Back to School
Following the school holidays, classes will resume on Monday 23 January at 8:30am. The classroom will be open from 8:00am onwards. If you have chosen to be a part of the school’s Voluntary Resource Scheme, all of your child’s books will be available for them on the first day of school. Books will already be covered and named.

P&C News
Active P&C membership is vitally important to the success of our school so I would encourage you all to come along to our meetings and see how you can help. Our next P&C Meeting is on Tuesday 2 February 2017 at 6:30pm in the staffroom. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend.

As a school, we have made the decision to take our students to the Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast in 2018. This will be a fantastic opportunity for our kids to participate in an international event and to visit some of the great tourist attractions the Gold Coast has to offer. In order to reduce the cost of this excursion to families, the P&C are undertaking a number of fundraising activities. Please support these activities.

Prep Enrolments 2017
We are still taking Prep enrolments for 2017. If you are aware of any Prep families wishing to enrol for 2017, please ask them to contact the school via email: principal@osborness.eq.edu.au

Attendance
Our current attendance rate for this term is 98.3% (as at 8 December 2016) – this is a fantastic improvement from Term 3, it is great to see all of our students at school almost every day – keep up the great work everyone! Our overall attendance rate for the year is 90.4%. In 2017, we will be aiming to keep our whole school attendance above 93% - remember Every Day at School Counts!

Student Banking
Don’t forget, Student Banking day is Wednesday. Student Banking is a great way to teach kids about how to save money and it also benefits our school as we receive financial benefits for each student who has an account which is registered with our school banking account. If your child does not have a student account and you would like to open one, please let us know and we give you a copy of the required forms.

Student Resource Scheme 2017
During 2017, we will be continuing with the school Resource Scheme. In this system the family pays a fixed amount which is subsidised by the school and the school purchases all of the materials / equipment required for school less tax and supplies them to the children. All covering and naming of books etc will be taken care of by the school. The current levy is $85 per child per year. This levy will cover ALL stationery items for the 2017 school year and one uniform shirt. Items that are not covered under this levy are: school bags, hats, lunch boxes, lunches and school excursions. If you choose not to participate in the Resource Scheme, you will be required to provide all of your child’s stationary and books throughout the school year. If you wish to participate in the Resource Scheme, please return the attached agreement to the school. Full payment will be required by Week 5, Term 1, 2017. Attached is a Voluntary Resource Scheme Agreement, if you wish to participate in this scheme, please complete, sign and return the form to school as soon as possible.
School Bags
Next year, we will be selling our own Osborne branded school backpacks. Manufactured by Harlequin, these black ‘Mighty Tuff’ backpacks have the following features:
- Osborne State School colour logo
- Heavy duty zips
- PVC free
- Anatomical Back System™ protects growing spines
- Reflective piping
- Water Repellent Duragarde™ Fabric
- Padded laptop pocket
- Phone/Music pocket plus ear bud hole
- Waist strap
- Umbrella pocket with evaporation hole
- Reinforced "D" Ring
- Mesh water bottle pocket
- Super lightweight

These backpacks come with a 15 year warranty. The backpacks are **$40 each** and come with a bonus black, Osborne branded pencil case and will be available for purchase from the school office in 2017.

New School Uniforms
The sample of our new uniform shirt has finally arrived and it look fantastic!!! We have placed an order with Cueldee for the shirts which should arrive prior to school starting in 2017. Each child currently enrolled at school will receive one school shirt free of charge. One shirt will also be included as part of the Voluntary Resource Scheme. **Extra shirts are available for purchase at $36 each.**

Our school uniform consists of the school polo shirt, black shorts, white/black/grey or orange socks, a full brimmed hat and closed shoes. All students are required to wear their school uniform to school every day. In 2017, students will be able to wear both the older orange design shirt and the new black print polos.
Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...
Our last 2 weeks have been very busy, having fun at our swimming carnival, making yummy pizzas at our 100% Homework party and performing our fantastic puppet plays.
Voluntary Student Resource Scheme 2017

Family Name: ………………………………………

☐ YES, I will participate in the Voluntary Student Resource Scheme

☐ I wish to make full payment at the beginning of 2017 school year.

☐ Instalments: I wish to make payments over the first term of 2017 and finalise by the end of the first term.

I / We …………………………………………………………would like to be a part of the Student Resource Scheme that will provide all of my child’s stationery, commercially produced workbooks, pencils, rubbers, etc. needed for learning throughout the year.

I/We ………………………………………………………………… do not want to be a part of the Student Resource that will provide all of my child’s stationery, commercially produced workbooks, pencils, rubbers, etc. needed for learning throughout the year. I/We will provide all the listed materials and equipment and ensure that the products are the same as those specified.

Signature: ……………………………………… Date: ………………….

The levy for 2017 is $85 per child. In this system the family pays a fixed amount which is subsidised by the school and the school purchases all of the materials / equipment less tax and supplies them to the children. All covering and naming of books etc will be taken care of by the school. This levy includes all books and stationery items and one uniform shirt. Once paid, this resource scheme contribution is non-refundable as resources are purchased on a yearly basis.