STAGE ONE – Years 1 & 2

Teachers:
Mrs Vanessa Chaffey, Mrs Jocelyn Fraser, Mrs Jenny Wetherall

LIBRARY – Teacher: Mrs Kerry Underwood
Stage 1 is allocated a 45 minute library session.
- Students can access the library at lunch times every day - 1.05pm to 1.25pm.
- Books loans are for one week but can be renewed.
- There are no overdue fines – please make sure books are returned on time.
- Library bags (available from the office for $5) are essential to protect valuable library resources.
- The library reading incentive program promotes reading. Mrs Underwood, our librarian can assist parents with more information on this scheme.
- Book Club - students can buy books each month. Look out for the monthly brochure.

SUPPORT TEACHER & READING RECOVERY
Mrs Marilyn Coverdale provides support to those students who are experiencing difficulties in literacy and numeracy. Students accessing this program are prioritised following a referral by the classroom teacher to the school’s Learning Support Team. Miss Cathy Mitchell provides Reading Recovery support to targeted Year One students. Parents/carers will be informed if STLA or Reading Recovery support is to be accessed.

RELEASE FROM FACE TO FACE (RFF)
During the RFF time the classroom teachers prepare and plan their teaching programs. Other members of staff, Mr Greg Smith, Mrs Kerry Underwood or Ms Kim Denny provide educational programs planned with the classroom teacher.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR
The School Counsellor attends the school on Wednesdays. Students are referred to the School Counsellor by teachers (with parental permission) or parents. The School Counsellor will work with teachers and parents to support student learning, behaviour and social skills.

KEY LEARNING AREAS (KLAs)
COGS (Connected Outcomes Groups) are integrated units of work which cover Science, Human Society and its Environment, Creative Arts, and PD/Health/ PE.
This year the following units will be taught:
Term 1 – The Sea
Term 2 – Celebrations
Term 3 – Games and Toys
Term 4 – Past and Present
Excursions are planned to support the learning covered in the COGs units of work. There will be an excursion planned for each term.

English - covers areas of reading, writing, language, spelling and handwriting. Literacy sessions are held every day.

Mathematics - has a daily timetable allocation. The mathematics program involves a range of activities that focus on working mathematically in numeration, space and measurement.

Our priority focus is always on developing the literacy and numeracy skills of each student child.

Parent helpers are always welcome in the classroom to assist with individual students and group work. Please contact your child’s teacher if you would like to help.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PD/H/PE)
- Games and Sport/Fundamental movement skills/Dance
- Safe Living, Drug Education, Child Protection, Road Safety and Personal Health choices
- Personal Development, Peer Support, Social Skills, Interpersonal Relationships.

Creative and Performing Arts
- Music, dance, drama and visual arts make up the Creative and Performing Arts program. Many lessons will be part of the integrated units of work and some lessons will relate to the literacy program.
- All students participate in a range of musical and drama activities during the year and have opportunities to perform to an audience. The annual Student Art Exhibition will be held in Term 3 during Education Week.

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING
Monitoring student progress occurs on a daily basis. Continuous assessment occurs throughout the year and forms the basis of reports to parents. A written report will be provided at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. The report will advise of student achievements over two terms. Formal parent/teacher interviews are scheduled at the end of Term 2. Parents are welcome to contact the office to request an interview appointment as required.

TECHNOLOGY IN LEARNING
All students will access technology as a tool to support their learning. Regular classroom activities integrate technology into learning. All students have access to the internet and email. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard which is used to connect the classroom learning to other classrooms, websites, learning objects and experiences. We also have video conferencing facilities which will allow students to talk to other schools and experts via video and computer.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE OVERVIEW
The school “Hands Off” policy means no student is to harm another either physically or verbally. Students who breach the School Code of Conduct are required to participate in the Responsible Thinking Program and are withdrawn from the playground for a period of time. At the end of each
term students with positive behaviour records participate in a “reward activity”. This incentive activity acknowledges and commends the exemplary behaviour of the majority of students.

HOMEWORK AND HOME READING
Homework is given out on Monday for return on Friday. Home reading is done every day. Take time to listen to your child read, read to them and encourage good reading habits. Mathematics homework will focus on the use of number games. Students will play and enjoy number focused activities to support their learning in numeracy. A new maths game will be published in the school newsletter every week and cards and dice will be sent home with each family in order to play these.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT
The classroom environment revolves around Rights, Responsibility and Respect that all students and teachers are entitled to. Every student has the right to learn without interference from others and work in a classroom environment that is supportive, encouraging and where everyone is valued.

STUDENT EQUIPMENT
Each child is asked to supply a box of tissues. Art/craft items are needed from time to time, such as magazines, toilet rolls etc. Students are not to bring pencil sharpeners to school.

EXCURSIONS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES
Excursions are provided to support educational and social outcomes which will be the focus of classroom curriculum learning activities. Some possibilities for this year include: Education Week, Senior Citizens Concert, local walking excursions, K-2 Sports activities, Visiting performances, NAIDOC Week celebrations, SRC Fun Days and playground games, K-2 Social, Stage “COGs Unit” excursion each term.

GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING
CANTEEN is available each Friday for lunch. Orders to be taken to the canteen before school.

K-6 ASSEMBLY - Thursday afternoon

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION –
Thursday morning - Catholic and Combined groups.

VISITORS must report to the office to sign the visitor’s book when entering and exiting the school site. A visitor’s badge must be worn. This is a departmental requirement in the interests of the safety of all students and staff.

TOYS /GAMES/CARDS/ MOBILE PHONES/ IPODS / SKATEBOARDS are not to be brought to school. Special items are only permissible on designated “news days” and are not to be taken to the playground.

BELONGINGS - Please label everything clearly with your child’s name and class. Lost Property is located in the KM classroom or outside the library.

ATTENDANCE
Roll call is at 9:00am. All absences must be explained within 2 days of absence. Our Home School Liaison Officer closely monitors student attendance patterns. This includes absences and times for arriving to and departing from school.

BELL TIMES
Morning 8.55am
Recess 11.00-11.35am
Lunch 12.45-1.25pm
End of Day 3.00pm

TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS THIS YEAR
Term 1 31 Jan to 8 April
Term 2 28 April to 1 July
Term 3 19 July to 23 September
Term 4 10 October to 16 December

TWEED HEADS PUBLIC SCHOOL

WELCOME TO STAGE ONE 2011

Welcome to Parents and Students of Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) We hope that you are looking forward to the year as much as we are. The purpose of this brochure is to inform you of some of the anticipated activities, organisation and requirements for the year. If at any time you should have further questions or require further information please make an appointment through the School Office for an interview. We are unable to speak to parents during teaching time.