Goals
Among our goals this year, is the active encouragement of the student to take a greater responsibility for their own learning. The teachers will certainly assist the students but we would like to see the students developing independence, respecting people and property, using initiative, showing responsibility and developing time management skills in preparation for secondary school. We look forward to continuing the partnership between school and home this year.

Homework
The purpose of homework in year five is to reinforce what we have been learning in the classroom and to develop independent, organisational and research skills.

Weekly homework will include the following:
- Spelling words to learn and practise
- Tables to learn and practise
- Take-Home Books
- Finishing off work not yet completed in class
- Research -Students may need to find facts and information about a particular theme
- Take-Home Maths Card or Open-ended Maths Task

There will be occasions when no specific homework is set. However, students can at these times read, learn tables or spelling words or carry out research or book reviews.

It is essential that students are encouraged to read on a daily basis, for short periods (15 – 20 minutes) at home. Reading daily newspapers, magazines, comics or books helps to develop reading skills and encourages the habit of reading. Reading in bed at night is a good idea. Ask your child to read aloud to you. Praise him / her for their efforts.

Integrated Studies
The units of work we will be covering this year as follows:
- Term One: People and Places
- Term Two: Gold
- Term Three: Space
- Term Four: Human Body – Life Education Van

Visiting Artists
- Term One: Aladdin (1st March)
- Term Two: Bully No More (3rd May)
- Term Three: Making the Impossible Possible (17th Aug)

Camp
The grades 4/5/6 camp this year will be at Echuca. The camp dates are the Wednesday 27th October to Friday 29th October 2010. Further information will be sent home in term three.

Swimming
Swimming will be held at the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre from 23rd August to 3rd September 2010.
**Sport**
Interschool Sport will again take place on Friday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00am. Students are asked to provide an orange cut up into eight segments for all home games. Physical education has also been timetabled into the weekly program. Sport will consist of Summer and Winter Interschool Sport, Athletics and Cross-Country. It would be appreciated if students could be suitably dressed with appropriate footwear to gain full advantage of these programs. Students with Asthma must take their asthma puffer medication to all sports activities.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**
Regular Parent Teacher contacts will be maintained and encouraged throughout the year.
Term One: Parent Information Bulletin
Term Three: Parent Teacher Interview and written report
Term Four: Written Report with optional interview

**Transition**
The student will be attending different secondary schools in preparation for transition throughout the year. On these days the students will participate in fun activities and be given information about the school that will assist in choosing a school for your child to attend in year seven.

**Medication**
Parents are required to complete the Student Medication form (located in the school office) for their child to receive any medication during school hours. These were handed out in the first few weeks of this year.

**Asthma Medication**
It is very important that all children with asthma have their medication (puffer and spacer) in their bags EVERY day, even if they are not having an attack or feeling ill. Asthma attacks can occur without warning and can be life threatening, so your child will need to have medication on hand at all times. Please remember to check the expiry dates on medications from time to time. You will also need to complete an Asthma Medication Management Plan at the beginning of the year and again if your child’s treatment changes.

**Attendance Times**
Teachers do not commence yard duty until 8.30am each school day. We therefore encourage students not to arrive at school before this time. School programs begin promptly at 8.45am. Please ensure that your child is at school on time. Parents are encouraged to farewell their children in the school yard, not in the corridor at 8.45am. If you have any problems or concerns relating to your child’s progress, please contact the school office to arrange a suitable time for discussion with the classroom teacher.

**Leaving School Grounds Early**
To minimise classroom disruptions to classes, it is requested that all adults collecting students during school hours report to the General Office. The staff in the office will then contact the teacher via the internal telephone system. Please remember that a suitable adult must accompany and sign out the students.
**Student Absences**
All student absences require either a note, telephone call or parent contact before or after by way of explanation. Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated.

**School Uniform**
Students in grade five and six are viewed as our student school leaders and as such the wearing of the compulsory school uniform is appreciated. Items of school uniform can be purchased from the office during the last two weeks of each term. **Students’ names and grades should be clearly marked on each item of clothing.** A special Year six windcheater with the names of all grade six students will be available for sale.

**Collections**
To assist with the smooth running of the school and security and to lessen the burden on teaching and office staff, it is requested that correct money be sent for visiting artists and excursions in the mornings. Prompt return of signed notes would also greatly assist in the organisation of the school.

**Notices**
Notices are sent home on a regular basis to inform parents and sometimes to request information. Please check your child’s bag each night to ensure you are receiving all notices and assist your child to promptly return any required forms.

**Teachers**
*Mr A. McMahon*
*Ms M. Mizzi*