Thank you for 2016

With the end of another school year, we come to those significant moments in life when we must confront the inevitable. Things are going to change. Some of us are changing schools, changing classes, changing teachers, changing work colleagues, changing friendship groups. Any big change is a mix of excitement and anticipation, tinged with a trace of sorrow for what we leave behind and possibly even a little trepidation as we face the unknown and unfamiliar.

The year 6 class of 2016 will finish their primary schooling and will move to the adventure of secondary school. I am sure that you join with me in wishing them all the very best and thanking them for their contribution to Carlton Gardens PS. I trust that they will each remember their primary school years fondly and are well prepared for the life journey that lies before them.

I would like to say farewell to all of the families who will not be returning to Carlton Gardens Primary School in 2017. Thank you for your support during your time at the school, and we wish you every success and happiness in the future.

I believe that it is vital that we highlight and celebrate our achievements for the 2016 year. Carlton Gardens Primary School is demonstrating outstanding improvements in teaching and learning. For this reason the profile of the school has grown. Its innovative practices and its well-developed curriculum is being shared and sourced across the network and beyond. On behalf of the leadership team, I would like to thank our highly skilled and professional teaching, administration and ES staff, who work diligently to ensure that student learning and wellbeing is at the crux of their daily practice; this has been established through a culture of collaboration, learning and high expectations.
**JSC Fundraiser**

**North Melbourne Police Christmas Appeal**
Carlton Gardens Junior School Council are collecting donations for the North Melbourne Police Christmas Appeal. We would like to ask you for support, to help those less fortunate than us, at this time of the year.

We will be placing a box in our school foyer for donations, such as:

* NEW items (no 2nd hand items), still in packaging that can be given as a present at Christmas time, and
* Non-perishable food e.g. cans, cartons.

Thank you for your support,

Junior School Council

**School Books**

We would like to ask families to check for school books at home. Could they be returned to the classroom asap.

**Compass**

Please ensure that your contact details on Compass are up to date. You can not reset your password if Compass does not have your current mobile phone number or email address. When using an email address to reset your password it must be the email address of the first parent on the enrolment form. Compass only allows parent number 1 to change the password.

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**Staffing for 2017**

Next year we will be welcoming back to CGPS, Fleur Thompson and Margaret Corzo from maternity leave as well as welcoming new teachers to our school community: Lara Cram, William Nevill, Laura Walsh, Isabella Giurina, Michael Todd, Kelly Sydenham, Alice Turner and Brighde Keating.

It’s always a pleasure to be able to welcome new members of staff to CGPS but this generally means that we are also having to farewell existing members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shelley and Megan for their outstanding contribution to the CGPS community in 2016. Both teachers have had an amazing impact in the time they have been with us and we will be sadly missed. Both Shelley and Megan have been offered and accepted ongoing positions at other schools and will be a wonderful addition to their new school community.

We also wish Tessa and Jessica all the very best. Both will be travelling in 2017.

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**School Structure 2017**

In 2017 there will be 19 classes or as they are often referred to "communities of learners". These groups have been determined after significant consideration by teachers. We expect that the students will work together, forge new friendships, challenge and ‘stretch’ each other and grow together.

No combination of students in any one year will be perfect in the sense of “the whole team played well” everyday however the combinations of personalities and the challenges of the day to day for a Prep - Year 6 students should ensure growth, development and an increase in that vital personal resource of resilience.

19 class groups

- there are classes at each of the 7 levels of primary school Prep – Year 6
- these classes are not in 2017 a combination of levels e.g. 1/2 or, what we might refer to as composite classes except for 5/6
- children present with a range of prior knowledge, ability and capacity
- every teacher is required to differentiate the instruction and provision for each child related to their continuum of learning

So, for our expected 370 students for 2017 this is the model that has been determined to best provide for the enrolment we have at each of the 7 levels.

**Prep** x 3 groups
**Year 1** x 3 groups
**Year 2** x 3 groups
**Year 3** x 3 groups
**Year 4** x 3 groups
**Year 5/6** x4 groups
2017 Staffing Profile

Leadership
Principal – Tina McDougall
Leading Teacher – Hollie Winfield
Leading Teacher – Andrew Bloomfield

Classroom Teachers
Prep Team – Sarah Moon, Rachel Cross, Laura Walsh
Grade 1 Team – Nicolle Brown, Margaret Corzo, Isabella Giurina
Grade 2 Team – Monika Planinic, Georgia Bonetti, Brighde Keating
Grade 3 Team – Julia Woods, William Nevill, Lara Cram
Grade 4 Team – Maire Clapham, Alice Turner, Michael Todd,
Grade 5/6 Team – Melanie Lazaroo, Alex Biaggini, Tom Kearney, Kelly Sydenham

Specialists
Music – Steven Veale
Art – Genevieve Davey
Chinese – Jolie Lin (3 days) and Kay Markiewicz (2 days)
Physical Education – TBA

Intervention
EAL – Daniella Tripodi
Tier 2 and 3 support – Jenna Skinner, Fleur Thompson

Education Support
Business Manager – Joy Meredith
Office assistants – Kathie Asomatianos, Iona Hayes
Integration Aide –
Psychologist - Suzi
Speech Therapist - Eva

2017 Student Free Days

The first day of Term One is a student-free day in all Victorian Government Schools. This allows for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. Each year Victorian Government Schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. If required, OSHClub does offer an Out of School Program. The three remaining student free days are:

• Monday February 20, 2017
• Monday April 24, 2017
• Monday July 24, 2017
**Early Finish Tuesday 20th December**

This is a reminder that on Tuesday 20 December, students will be dismissed at 1.30pm. There will be no assembly on this day. I would like to remind parents that **children who are not collected by 1.45 pm on that day will be taken to the After School Care Program (OSHClub).**

This has been the practice for late pickups and will be strictly applied to the last day. **This is to ensure appropriate supervision of children after the completion of yard duty by staff.** It will be a very busy time in the office and we are unable to supervise children for you. If you know that you will be late please make other arrangements. Thank you for your assistance.

**After School Chinese Program**

This week is the last week of After School Chinese Program in 2016. Classes will again commence on 7 February 2017 (Tuesday).

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**Students and Social Media**

At Carlton Gardens we believe that our students should not be using social media. Musically, Instagram, Facebook, twitter and Snapchat all state inter terms and conditions that users need to be older than 13. Therefore social media use is not allowed at school. We understand that students can place a lot of pressure on parents to use social media. The following is an article about ensuring safe social media use if you decide to let your child access social media.

With new social media platforms launching every day, Kids Helpline (KHL) has issued a timely reminder to parents to ‘check- in’ on their children’s social media use these holidays.

KHL has issued the reminder amid recent reports referred to police of multiple cases of child grooming across Australia via social media platforms including the app ‘Yellow’.

According to acting KHL CEO Geoff Walshaw, social media use by children and young people can increase over holiday periods but some parents have little or no knowledge of what platforms their children use and how often they access them.

“Although there are real benefits to children’s use of social media unfortunately, there can be some very serious downsides. It’s important that parents have an understanding of their child’s social media use,” Mr Walshaw said.

“If they’re online, they’re connected, which also means there is the possibility of exposure to inappropriate content, cyber bullying and predatory behaviour.”

A report of KHL contacts between July and December 2015 revealed 95 were about sexting. Of these, 38 per cent discussed significant coercion associated with sexting.

“Perhaps most worrying is that the average age of those contacting about this issue was only 13 years.” Mr Walshaw said.

Mr Walshaw said that knowing what your child was doing online at all times was difficult, but there were some key things parents could do to help ensure their child’s safety.

“It’s important to build trust and have regular conversations with your child about their use of social media but also to show you understand why their use of social media is important,” he said.

Kids Helpline recommends that parents also take a moment to:

- Educate themselves about social media platforms their children may be using
- Talk with their children about what they may be sharing online and check privacy settings are set to the strictest levels. Not only does this help protect them from unknown exposure to predators but also to viruses and scams.
- Teach children about the permanence of the internet. Ensure your children understand that whatever is posted online creates a digital footprint and can remain there long after they have moved on.

Grade 5/6 Flexible Learning Space

At Carlton Gardens Primary School our goal is to instruct, encourage, engage and inspire your children in teaching and learning environments that are dynamic and meet our student's individual needs. We want our students to be independent, responsible, inquisitive and skilled lifelong learners. To help us achieve these goals we have decided to create a flexible learning space for our Grade 5/6 students in our new building. All our Grade 5/6 students will be in one learning space with four teachers. We understand you have many questions about the space and how it will benefit your child's education. We hope this information will address any concerns and give clarity about the way the space is used and why.

Why are flexible learning environments valuable?
In recent years, there has been a push for students to learn in flexible learning environments in Victorian schools. The choice to use flexible learning environments reflects current DET research and knowledge on 21st century teaching and learning practices which help to prepare students for the skills they will need in the future such as; collaboration, communication, critical thinking, problem solving, sense of citizenship and creativity. These attributes are fundamental to their development as learners and as individuals. The overall aim and purpose of using a flexible learning space is to improve student learning outcomes.

In 2017, our flexible environment for Year 5/6s will include 4 teachers and approximately 70 students. This will provide great opportunities for us to further identify, target, support and extend the learning of all students in a collaborative and supportive environment.

How do students learn in flexible learning environments?
It is important for our students to understand themselves as learners and have control and responsibility over where they learn. In flexible environments, students build independent learning behaviours and develop a strong understanding of how they learn. Our students will be given the opportunity to take advantage of both indoor and outdoor learning environments and these spaces will enable students to work in a variety of ways and areas. Students will be able to move around, work at tables, on the floor, in small groups, on stools as well as standing. We will be working with all our students to help them build their skills in independence as well as helping them understand how they learn best.

What is the space and how is it used?
Flexible learning areas can be arranged and rearranged to create distinct learning areas utilising retractable walls and quiet withdrawal spaces both inside and outside. Students will be encouraged and supported to select areas and seating arrangements where they feel most comfortable. These zones will be used in a variety of ways, both student and teacher led.

The space can be used to vary our instruction and learning activities based on the needs of our students and the content being covered. Students will not be required to sit on the floor any more than in any class within the school. We aim to keep our ‘mini lesson’ explicit instruction time to a maximum of 10 minutes as research shows this is optimal timing for instruction.

As part of our school's instructional model, all students participate in a ‘mini lesson,’ they then move to working spaces that suit them and their learning styles to complete tasks and participate in focused small group activities. After students have completed their learning activity or task they will return to the floor to reflect on their learning.
Students will regularly participate in individual and small group conferences to discuss their learning goals and style. We understand that our students will be new to flexible learning and our 5/6 team will work together to alter and adapt our programs to suit our students and their learning needs.

What will a typical day look like in a ‘flexible learning’ environment?

Homegroup

Every day begins in classroom groups with designated teachers (except when they have specialists first session). This ‘home group time’ is when rolls are marked and students and teachers touch base. Students are given designated teachers but they will be working with all the teachers within the learning space. This allows our students to work with multiple teachers just like they will in secondary school.

An example of the main way we will use the space:

Whole group instruction and ‘proximal development’ zones

Students will sit in the viewing area to receive their ‘mini lesson’ and more explicit skill-based instruction with modelling. Once a concept or skill has been taught or shown, students can then decide independently or with teacher support where the best place for them to complete the learning activity.

For example:

**Zone 1** if they feel they need more help with explicit small group instruction, **Zone 2** if they feel confident but may need to ask some questions and **Zone 3** if the student feels very confident and would like to be challenged further. Teachers will guide and encourage students towards changing zones if we feel they are struggling or not being extended. This ‘zoning’ ties in with our goal to build independent learning behaviours and have students understand themselves as learners and build their capacity to recognise areas of need.

Will there be enough desks and chairs for all students?

We will ensure there is a range of seating options available to students, however in flexible learning spaces students decide to work in ways that best suit them and they usually choose areas other than tables and chairs.

Information Night

We will be giving parents an opportunity to visit this flexible classroom and talk to teachers and leadership about how students will use this space on the 21st February. **If you have any pressing concerns please contact Andrew, Tina or Hollie to organise a time to discuss these before the end of 2016.**

Research and resources

Please find below a link to the DET research on flexible learning spaces.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRSJrN1h3as
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uCAoqurko0
Come and donate a toy or non perishable food item for those less fortunate.
Melbourne North Police in conjunction with the Melbourne North Police Community Consultative Committee are holding a Christmas Toy/Food Drive.

Drop any new toys, non perishable food items or other groceries into one of the local businesses listed below, or into the Melbourne North Police Station (36 Wreckyn St Nth Melb) by the 18th of December 2016 and they will be distributed to those in need.
Help put a smile on someone’s face this Christmas!

All enquires to Leading Senior Constable Nick Parissis at Melbourne North Police Station 83790800
Thank you, and Merry Christmas!

Collection Points:

**CARLTON:**
Bank of Melbourne - 310 Lygon St Carlton
Bendigo Bank - 186 Lygon St Carlton
Kathleen Syme Community Centre, 251 Faraday St Carlton
Commonwealth Bank - 259 Lygon St Carlton

**KENSINGTON:**
Newtons Pharmacy - 477 Macaulay Rd Kensington

**NORTH MELBOURNE**
Commonwealth Bank - 53 Errol St Nth Melb
Westpac - 55 Errol St Nth Melbourne

**DOCKLANDS:**
The Knowledge Market - Shop 8-10, 892 Bourke Street, Docklands
Kung Fu For Children! First Class Free!

Benefits:
- Get fit and have fun
- Improve your hand and eye co-ordination
- Improve your confidence
- Improve your concentration and awareness
- Meet other kids
- Learn a Self Defence skill in a safe Environment

Help give your child the skills necessary to deal with bullying that is all too common and disruptive in a child’s learning pattern and environment.

Train 1 class per week (you may also train up to 3 classes if you wish)

Only $30.00 monthly payment (Direct debit only).

Ten lesson pre-paid card. $100.00

Kids Class timetable:

Saturday 10:00am-10:50am

Mon-Thurs 4:10pm-4:55pm

*Please note the new and easier start time. No need to rush at pick up:)

Location: Level 4/252 Swanston St

Melbourne CBD 3000

www.wingchunbingfa.com

Wing Chun Bing Fa Kung Fu Academy is on Facebook

Public Transport or walking distance.

Option 1)

250/251/253 Garden City travels a long Rathdowne st. You will need to get off on the corner of Lonsdale st/ Swanston st.

Option 2)

Any tram running a long Swanston St.

Option 3) A brisk walk.

Contact: 0421 809 462 or 9650 8280

wingchunbingfa@gmail.com

Location: Level 4/252 Swanston st (Cookie restaurant below/Rooftop bar and cinema on top).
## Top Ten Tips

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Create an ‘Acceptable Use Agreement’ for your families using the 3Cs to facilitate conversation – contact, content, conduct. Ensure that children are involved with this process.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Set up safe search &amp; security controls with a platform (such as OpenDNS, NetNanny, K9) or speak with your internet service provider (such as Telstra, Optus, Vodafone, Dodo, etc).</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Agree on where computers, laptops &amp; mobile devices can be used in the home (such as in bedrooms, lounge rooms, etc).</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Lights out = wifi off.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Agree on screen time use; decide on ‘screen free’ times during the day and night.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Get involved – show an interest in what your child is doing online.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Talk to your child’s teacher/s and school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>If your child reports an issue to you, don’t threaten to take away their device – this may force them to become secretive.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Learn how various social network/game services work. Use websites such as the ‘Games, Apps &amp; Social Networking’ from the eSafety Office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tell children not to respond to any cyberbullying threats or comments online. Do not delete any of the messages – take screen shots as evidence &amp; keep records to verify and prove there is cyberbullying.</td>
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