Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I wish to extend a warm welcome back to all returning families and a very big welcome to all new families to Drouin South Primary School for the 2016 school year. The beginning of a new school year is an exciting time for students, parents and teachers as we set our sights on all the possibilities for the year ahead.

I feel extremely privileged to be writing this week’s newsletter, my first as Principal at Drouin South Primary School. I have heard many great things about DSPS and this is what led me to apply for the position. For the last 5 and a half years I have been the Principal at Garfield Primary School and enjoyed that role and the community very much. We achieved some amazing things as a school community during that time and I look forward to working together with staff, students and parents to strive to make Drouin South PS the best we can possibly be over the coming years.

My first task at Drouin South PS will be getting to know the students, staff and parents. I believe that strong relationships are the key to success and that as a whole school community we need to work together to ensure that each and every student achieves learning success. I have been made to feel very welcome this week and look forward to the year ahead. Please feel free to come and introduce yourself when you next visit the school.

Michael Smith (Principal)
**Information**
Information from each class will come home with your student, outlining what happens in each classroom in relation to daily routines and homework. Please read these notes and keep them so as you are fully informed about your child’s education.

**Car Parking**
Please remember to be very cautious in the two car parks.
Please ensure that you do not walk through the bus loop or staff car park. I cannot stress enough the importance of the safety of our school community and being mindful when cars are moving within the car parks. Children can sometimes do unexpected things when moving around cars. The two places to wait for your children safely are the rotunda at the front of the school and the hall car park.

*Please do not enter the school through the bus loop or the staff car park.*

**School Zone Speed Limits**
A reminder to everyone that school speed limit zones have commenced throughout Victoria for 2016. These speed zones are in place during the hours of 8:00 – 9:30am and 2:30– 4:00pm. Drouin South Primary School has a speed limit of 60km/h during these times.

**Assembly and Newsletter**
We will hold our weekly assembly at 2.45pm each Thursday. Each week the newsletter will come out on a Friday. The newsletter will be distributed in a paper copy to the oldest member of each family. If you would like a copy emailed to you please send your email address to the office.

**Next Week**
Next week’s newsletter will be a full newsletter. This will contain some information about Drouin South Primary School including the 2016 staffing and grades, OSHC, Book Club, class page and Ficifolia Parade.
**Important Notices**

**Library**

The library is open every lunch time for quiet board games, reading and relaxing.

Each grade has a formal literacy enhancement session each Friday and during this time they are able to borrow books. Books are to be returned the following Friday or at any other time through the slot outside the library.

Please remember library bags to ensure our books are cared for when being taken home.

There are some bags available from the Library (children please ask during your library session if you require one).

We have a huge selection of beautiful books for all children to enjoy and share with their parents at story time.

**Art Room**

Thank you to all those parents who save their recyclables for our art room. We are able to make good use of almost anything. If you are able to save sets of 25 of the one thing that is even better as a whole class will be able to make something amazing each. For example 25 baby food tins, yogurt tubs, plastic bottles, egg cartons etc. You will be amazed at how creative the students at DSPS are!

**Crunchas for Sale**

Crunchas and Zoopa Doopas will again be on sale for this year. They will be sold in the 5/6B room at 1:40pm each day. Crunchas are $1.20 and Zoopa Doopas are 50c.
After School Pick-Ups

Attention all parents and guardians,
To improve the safety of students at Drouin South Primary School, some slight changes have been made to the pick-up process.
From next week, parents and guardians picking up students from the basketball/tennis court must meet their child/ren at the rear gate. Last year children were leaving the fenced area when their parent or guardian entered the car park, however this will no longer be allowed. Children are not allowed to leave the fenced area until a parent or guardian is at the gate.
Children being picked up from the front of the school are reminded to wait inside the gate until a parent or guardian meets them at the front of the school. A reminder that no cars are allowed in the bus loop and please keep the bus loop entry and exit clear at all times.
Once the bell rings at 3:30, students who have not been picked up must make their way to the office where they can wait.

Michael Smith - Principal