Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Merry Christmas to everyone. I hope you all have a safe and relaxing holiday. I look forward to working with you all next year. School resumes on Wednesday 28th January for all year 1-6 students. Kindergarten commence on Monday 2nd February.

**Student leaders:** Congratulations to the student leaders for 2015. **Captains:** Ryan and Brianna. **Vice Captains:** Nyah and Kyle. **Prefects:** Sophie and Eli. The SRC Ministers and House Captains will be announced early next year. All of these leadership positions will be celebrated at the induction assembly early in Term 1 2015.

**Staffing:** Congratulations to Miss Peace, who has successfully gained a permanent teaching position at Gwandalan Public school. We will definitely miss Miss Peace. I would like to thank her for all of her efforts and wish her all the best in her teaching career.

We also will farewell Miss McDonald who has gained a teaching position at the Hunter School of Performing Arts. I would also like to thank Miss McDonald for her efforts and dedication to Belmont Public this year.

The Assistant Principal position has not been filled and will be readvertised again next year.

**Year 6 Gift:** Thank you to the year 6 student for purchasing the school a new notice board for the back gate area. This will be erected at the beginning of next year.

**Party Days:** Students enjoyed a great day at Mingara last Thursday. All students were well behaved and had a fantastic time. On Monday the K-2 students enjoyed their water party day. The sun was out and there were lots of fun water activities for the children to experience.

**I-Pads:** As part of our 21st Century Learning Program we have recently purchased another 18 I-pads. These will be use in the classrooms next year.
2015 Starting dates: All students except for Kindergarten will commence school on Wednesday 28th January. Kindergarten students will have their best Start Assessments on Wednesday – Friday during an allocated time. Classes will hopefully be formed by the end of the first week.

Road Safety: Please be aware when dropping off students around the school area. Students are not to disembark cars that are not parked. Also the staff car park drive way and canteen drive ways are not areas that are safe to drop off or pick up students.

Classes 2015: Preparations are well underway for our 2015 classes. The class groupings are dictated by the staffing formula handed to us by the DEC and then marrying this allocation with the needs of all students across the school. When deciding on the classes for any year, we attempt to obtain as much information as possible to ensure that; given the resources of the school (number of teachers, classroom availability, number of children, etc.) we place children as best we can. With this in mind, we would like to know of any factors which may change our class numbers for next year.

Netball Uniforms: Could all senior and junior netball players please return the school netball dresses by Wednesday.

Kate Foley
Principal

Snack Shack
As Snack Shack helpers, we would like to thank everyone who purchased something at recess on Wednesdays. Our last Snack Shack day was a huge success and we raised close to $100. Our total profit was close to $700, we would all like to thank Janelle, Tammy, Mrs Williamson & Mr McIlvenie for giving us this opportunity every Wednesday for the last 3 months, it has been a great experience. As Snack Shack has been a success it will be continuing next year.

Uniform Shop: The Uniform shop will be open for two hours each morning from the 28th – 30th January from 9:00- 11:00am.

Magic reindeer food recipe
Guide Rudolph and his team this Christmas Eve with some magical reindeer food. Sprinkle the mix of oats, sparkles and glitter in the yard - the glimmer in the moonlight will light the way for Santa and his sleigh and the reindeer will have something to eat after all their hard work!

Ingredients:
1/2 cup porridge oats
1 tsp glitter
1 tsp sparkles

Method: Mix oats, sparkles and glitter in a small bowl until combined.

Spoon into a snack-size zip lock bag and seal carefully.
On Christmas Eve, sprinkle Magic reindeer food outside. Snuggle down in bed and listen out for sleigh bells!

Important dates:
17th December: Students last day for 2014
28th January: Students return to school - years 1-6
2nd February: Kindergarten students commence school