Welcome to the new school year, we are looking forward to working with parents and the community to ensure that students at Boddington District High School flourish in 2017. We welcome four new teachers this year, Mrs Valerie MacDonald in Year 5/6, Ms Rachel Gaff in Year 6, Ms Evie Hooper in Year 5 and Ms Ashleigh Brennan in Year 2/3. Welcome back to Mrs Sharon Johnstone who has been on extended leave.

Students have settled in well to their new classes and are off to a flying start. Teachers will hold class meetings after school over the next two weeks, providing an overview of teaching programs and their expectations of students. Successful learners grow and our aim is for every student to be engaged in their learning, making good progress and surpassing the expected standards. In 2017 we will focus on improving attendance so that every student attends regularly, maintaining the continuity in their learning, every day counts.

The Parents and Citizens Association is an important link between the school and the community and it was pleasing to see a good turnout for the annual general meeting. Emma Knox was elected P&C president for 2017 and Sharyn Dunham was elected treasurer, the secretary and vice president are still to be appointed. The P&C is asking for parents to act as classroom representatives to gather parent views on how the P&C funds can be best spent to improve the schools facilities and resources.

The School Council works closely with the Principal to provide community input into school planning and in the evaluation of the schools performance. To achieve Independent Public School status, giving greater autonomy to the school, the school council will need to demonstrate the willingness and capacity of the council to take greater responsibility for the school's performance and community support for it to do so. The School Council parent and community members for 2017 are Cindy Mulcahy, Sandra Brady, Veronica Metcalf, Ros Berry and Seetharamaraja Sekar.

The school swimming carnival will be held on Friday, February 24 with time trials this Wednesday. Unfortunately swimming lessons were again cancelled due to a lack of staff. School swimming across the state relies heavily on university students looking for vacation work, this year our regular instructors were unavailable and sufficient replacements could not be sourced. The education department recognises only one qualification which has excluded local instructors with alternative qualifications. This is being challenged and may change in the future, in the meantime the school will continue to investigate alternative dates and support for local instructors to be accredited.
Scitech High School Visit

Scitech visited Boddington District High School last week to present “Beyond the Beaker” a scientific look at careers in mathematics and science for secondary students. This visit was part of the secondary careers program, building purpose into student learning by providing them with opportunities to reflect on their career path. Thank you to Scitech and Chevron for providing this opportunity for our students.

Request for Musical Instruments

Some classes will be learning about the orchestra this term. We have many pictures of instruments at school, but real instruments would be great. If you have an orchestral musical instrument and would be happy to lend it to the school for a short time please deliver to the front office. Please note that it would only be used for viewing, not playing. Thank you - Lynne Hoffman, Music Teacher

Swimming Carnival - volunteers required

We are seeking volunteers to assist with timing during the Year 3-6 time trials on 15 February, from 1pm to 3pm.

For the Faction Carnival on 24 February, we will need volunteers to assist with:

- judging 3rd and 4th place
- lane timers (2 per lane)
- a stroke judge.

If you can help with any of these jobs please let the front office staff know.

The P&C will also require assistance in the canteen for carnival day.