

Friday October 20, 2012

Dear Parents / Guardians

This is to kindly inform you that teachers in the Junior School will shortly begin the process of class formations for 2013. We very much recognise the significance of organising classes with the best interests and needs of all of our students in mind, and so will undertake this process in a detailed and professional way in order to ensure the very best learning environment occurs in 2013 for all of our children.

At Arndell Anglican Junior School, class placements are organised primarily from information gathered by those teaching staff who know the students best in their present learning environment, and who have specific insight into the pastoral character of each child and of the individual measure and style of their approach to learning. We are set to invest a significant amount of time, thought and professional dialogue into this process, as we look to achieve the best result in support of each of our children's flourishing and learning.

For 2013, the Junior School will continue to organise each year group within a mixed ability / parallel class framework, with two classes per year cohort, K – 5. To continue to pro-actively support increased enrolments, the Junior School will be instituting a Year 5 / 6 Enrichment Class in 2013. This initiative, as developing from the success of our present Year 6 Enrichment Class, will continue to enable the Junior School to maximise learning opportunity for all Stage 3 Students, with the desired intent that student numbers be maintained at a level designed to enable quality learning for all Stage 3 Students and each child be accorded the benefits of closely focused teacher / student interaction. The Stage 3 Cohort will function as an integrated Stage 3 and Year 5 / Year 6 Group, with each class' core learning program being the NSW Board of Studies Curriculum. As indicated, provision has also been planned for Class 5 / 6 White to access an approach informed by an expectation of extended achievement. Students will be placed in Class 5 / 6 White with reference to an explicit set of assessment criteria indicating areas of proven academic acumen.

Once all class groups for 2013 are finalised, there will be a comprehensive face – to – face handover of knowledge between teaching staff, to ensure that all class teachers are equipped with detailed information re: each student. The Class Lists for 2013 will be made publicly available in each Stage Area, on the first day of the Summer Term, 2013.

Whilst the Junior School is intent on maintaining a principle of stability in class organisation for 2013, this process, at present, is still at a formative stage. Please also be kindly aware that whilst the Junior School is certainly very open to receive notice of genuine concerns, or of any new or significant factors or questions about any of its students, it is not possible to guarantee a particular teacher for any student; the prospect of any such guarantee would resume a precedence that is simply not sustainable or equitable. One of the wonderful things about Arndell Anglican College Junior School is that we have a high quality staff, all with their own strengths. In this, doesn't

School operate much like life; with each teacher adding to the learning experience of each child from their own unique measure of gifting, insight and expertise? It is surely excellent to always anticipate success and growth, and to affirm the prospect of wonderful opportunities ahead for all students, in all of our classes, at the beginning of a new year.

I do hope that this summary clarifies the detailed process that we will follow re: Junior Class Placements 2013, as amidst all the busyness and celebration at the end of a considerable year of achievement and expansion for the Junior School in 2012, we continue to purposefully and thoughtfully prepare for 2013.

My grateful perception throughout 2012 has been of the students, families and staff of Arndell Anglican College Junior School continuing to grow together as a very supportive community, and I certainly look forward to this positive expression of partnership continuing to flourish within a very positive start to 2013.

Every blessing!

Yours sincerely

Revd Keith Peterson

Head of Junior School

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