We welcome Mrs. Merriman to our staff and the return of Mrs. Connell.

We have formed three classes:

**Ms. Strang – K White**

**Mrs. Tagaroulias – 1 Red** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

**Mrs. Merriman – 1 Red** Thursday, Friday

**Mrs. Collier – 2 Green**

Mrs. Connell (Tuesday) and Mrs. Merriman (Wednesday) will also be assisting with Release from Face to Face teaching on these days.

**Newsletters**

Newsletters will be sent out fortnightly and also posted to our school website.

Some quick reminders of events are also written up on the whiteboard on the external verandah wall.

**School returns**

A big welcome to all our new kindergarten students and their families. It was also lovely to re-acquaint myself with returning students and families. It has been great to come back to Nillo after my 2010 secondment. Mrs. Hooson and the staff have done a mighty job despite many difficult times.

The Best Start assessment conducted by Ms. Strang enabled her to have some quality time with the new Kinders. It was interesting to spend that time with them in a quiet environment and see what strategies they were using to decode, comprehend and problem solve. Parent feedback letters will soon be available.

The new kinders have settled well and are being ably assisted by their Yr 2 buddies. Well done everyone. For the first week or two the new Kinder parents may like to meet their son/daughter inside the fence area.

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### Upcoming Events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>Every Thursday 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Every Thursday 2.30pm from next week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Lessons with Dr. David Banney</td>
<td>Every Friday 9.30am from next week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 9th February 7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Information Evening</td>
<td>Wednesday 16 February (See inside for times)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroon Day (Gold coin donation)</td>
<td>Thursday 17th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Club orders</td>
<td>Due back to the office by 17th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Recess</td>
<td>Wednesday 2nd March 11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
<td>Wednesday 9th March 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maitland Library visit</td>
<td>Friday 11th March 11.30am</td>
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Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy
As we are an infants school and have no dedicated school bus route, all our families are eligible for the PVC subsidy if they regularly drive their child to and from school. If you feel you are eligible please see Mrs. Mortimer in the office for the paperwork.

Class information evening
Your child’s teacher will be holding a parent information evening. This is a time when the class teacher will outline some class expectations and learning plans as well as specific class information. It is also a chance for you to visit your child's classroom, and have any general questions answered. These meetings will be held in the classrooms on Wednesday 16th February for approx half an hour.
1 Red 5.15pm (Mrs Tag/Mrs Merriman)
K White 5.45pm (Ms. Strang)
2 Green 6.15pm (Mrs. Collier)

Peanut Butter
In keeping with many schools in NSW, Nillo Infants School is a peanut butter free school. This also includes nutella spread. If you could refrain from sending food with these products in them it could literally save a life.

Whole school Assemblies
We hold a weekly whole school assembly in the library. This year it will remain on a Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm. You and family members are cordially invited to attend this event. We do ask though, if you have pre schoolers, could you try and keep them with you as the students get rather distracted otherwise. Year 2 will be the Assembly leaders and they will all have turns during the year.
Our first assembly for the week will be next Thursday 10th February at 2.30pm.

PE
In keeping with our commitment of ‘Good for Kids Good for Life’, we will be doing PE at 9.00am-9.20am. The children will then have a drink and their fruit (crunch and sip) 9.20am-9.30am. A small amount of fresh fruit or vegetable (or dried fruit) already cut up into bite size pieces is ideal.
It will commence on Monday with the bell going at 8.55am. Initially we will be doing PE on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and the classes will have a turn at different skills.

Voluntary contributions
We do not have school fees as such however we do ask that parents contribute $20.00 per family to cover such consumables as paper, paper towels, soap products and other incidentals.

Book Club
There are 8 book club orders per year (2 per term). Buying books from the Scholastic book clubs is purely voluntary. Mrs. Mortimer does an amazing job collating all the orders and the school does receive some bonus books for our library.
Brochures for Busy Bee, Wombat, Lucky and a special book club were sent home this week. If you wish to order please fill out the order form attached to the brochure and return it with the money to the office by 17th February.

P&C
We are extremely fortunate at Nillo to have keen and committed parents who support our school. P&C meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the Library area.
Our first meeting will be next Wednesday 9th February. Some of the issues to be discussed will be the need for shade, playground organization due to the school receiving more government funding for playground improvements and other matters that parents may want to bring to the table. An open meeting is a good forum as healthy discussion can lead to the achievement of mutually satisfying results. The P&C needs to have a quorum at the meetings so decisions can be made accordingly and minuted as legally required. The AGM will be held in March and there are a number of vacancies. The beauty of Nillo P&C is that you can only be in a position for a maximum of two years! (See also the P&C note attached)

Canteen
is run by the P&C every Friday. Our first canteen day will be next Friday 11th February. The canteen price list is attached. Please have your orders in to the box in the office by Wednesday afternoon. For our new families, there are lunch order bags for your use in the office or you can send in the order written on the outside of any paper lunch bags you have at home. Please send in the correct money or you may have to wait for change. The canteen coordinator is Alison Coffey.
Uniform sales are run by the P&C on Fridays from 8.45am to 9.15am. Coordinator is Alison Marshall.

Special Recess

The first Wednesday of each month in each school term at Nillo Infants School is Special Recess Day. 50c will buy your child a tasty treat provided by generous volunteer parents and distributed by the teachers. Funds raised from these sales are used towards purchases by the P&C for the school and the children’s benefit.

If you would like to contribute to the next Special Recess on Wednesday 2nd March please fill in the attached boomerang blue and return it to the school office. We need 3 contributors for each special recess donating approximately 20 goodies/pieces i.e. muffins, cookies, sliced cake, fairy bread or the like in a plastic container, delivered in the morning to the school office.

Please remember that our school is a peanut-free zone and ensure your donation doesn’t contain this product or any derivatives of it.

Mathletics

As far as I am aware Mathletics should still be available for Years One and Two until the end of the month. In the past, the P&C have contributed to half the cost of the licence (approx $600). Please have a think whether this program should still be supported.

Maroon for a Day

The NSW DET has asked all schools to hold a mufti day on Thursday 17th February to support the victims of the recent disasters in QLD. Children are invited to come to school out of uniform, preferably wearing something maroon if they have anything of that colour, for a gold coin donation.

Late Arrival at school & Absences

If for some reason you are late to school or need to pick up your child early, please call into the office and complete a pink form and take that to the class teacher. Likewise if your child is away from school for any reason, please write a short note to the class teacher explaining the circumstances as soon as possible after the absence or in some cases before the absence.

Scripture Classes

The Dept. of Education and Training allows ½ an hour per week for the religious community to come into the school for religious instruction, called Scripture classes at Nillo. The school breaks into 3 groups – Roman Catholic with Mrs. Baptista, Ecumenical with Mrs. Hemsworth and Mr. Stevenson and Non-Scripture (supervised by a teacher). Students in the Non-Scripture group will have a “zero period” where they are expected to have quiet time where they can read or finish work or homework etc.

Scripture will commence for 2011 on Thursday 24th February at 10.30am.

Music lessons

We are again fortunate to have the services of Dr. David Banney to conduct music lessons for the whole school. The cost of these lessons is covered by the school. These lessons will resume next Friday morning.

Before and After School Care

Any families wishing to book children into Before and After School Care are asked to please see Janine (the coordinator) for information and enrolment forms. Several sessions are currently booked out so will need to go on a waiting list if you require those particular sessions.
**Canteen Price List**

**Term 1 2011**

**Cold Food**
Container of fresh salad $2.40
Please choose from the following: lettuce, carrot sticks, beetroot, pineapple, tomato, cucumber, boiled egg or ALL
Container of fresh seasonal fruit salad $2.20
Tub of vanilla yoghurt $1.20
Tub of chocolate dairy snack i.e. Yogo/Milo $1.00

**Sandwiches or Wraps**
*(Please indicate your preference for white or wholemeal bread)*
Egg, ham or salad $2.00
Cheese or vegemite $1.20
Extras: toasted, cheese, pineapple, beetroot, carrot, cucumber, lettuce, onion, tomato $0.30
Salad $1.00

**Hot Food**
Lite party pie $0.80
Lite sausage roll (full size) $1.20
Chicken burger with lettuce and mayonnaise $2.00
Supreme or Hawaiian pizza $1.70
Packet of 4 fish fingers $1.20
Packet of 4 chicken fingers $1.20
Packet of 6 chicken fingers $1.80

**Cold Drinks**
Milk $1.00
Please choose from the following: plain, low fat chocolate, low fat strawberry or low fat banana
Pop Top 100% Juice (apple or orange) $0.90

**Ice Blocks**
99% Juice Ice Blocks $0.30

All orders are supplied with appropriate cutlery, serviette and drinking straw.

Please write your child’s name, class and order on the lunch bag and include the money in the bag. (Correct change is appreciated. 5c is considered a donation unless you indicate otherwise.) Place in the P&C mailbox in the school office by Wednesday afternoon for the Friday lunch. If your child is absent on the Friday, the order carries over to the next week.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NILLO INFANTS SCHOOL P & C ASSOC’N
PERMISSION NOTE – LOCAL WALKING EXCURSIONS

There are occasions when we will leave the school grounds for class or school walking excursions such as visits to the Maitland Library and activities at Lorn Park oval.

I give / do not give permission for my child/ren ____________________________ to participate in class and school walking excursions in 2011.

I understand that all students participating in these local excursions will be under teacher supervision.

SIGNED: _______________________________ DATED: _______________

PERMISSION NOTE – WORK SAMPLES

Work samples may include items such as written work, art work, photography or models. These may be included in newsletters which will be uploaded to the Internet through our school website. Other instances could be school promotional material, external competitions and contributions to the Board of Studies Assessment website.

I give / do not give permission for my child/ren ____________________________’s work samples to be collected and used for the above purpose.

SIGNED: _______________________________ DATED: _______________

PERMISSION NOTE – USE OF NILLO INFANTS SCHOOL LIBRARY

Students at Nillo use the school library every week for a library lesson and have the opportunity to borrow books.

I give / do not give permission for my child/ren ____________________________ to borrow books from Nillo Infants School library in 2011.

I agree to pay for or replace any books lost or damaged by my child.

SIGNED: _______________________________ DATED: _______________
**SPECIAL RECESS CONTRIBUTOR**

I would like to contribute 20 x ‘something yummy’ for the Special Recess to be held on Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2011.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CHILD’S NAME/CLASS</th>
<th>BEST CONTACT NO</th>
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Parents please note that there will be further opportunities to assist during the year. A further request for Terms 2, 3 and 4 will be forthcoming.

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEER ROSTER**

A volunteer is required every Friday for canteen from 12.30-1.15pm to assist the coordinator with canteen duties.

If you can help, please fill in the blanks below. Alison Coffey will let you know when you are on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CHILD’S NAME</th>
<th>CONTACT No</th>
<th>DATE TO WORK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alison Marshall</td>
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