Dear Parents/Guardians

Christmas is almost upon us. How quickly the year has flown! As we finish the year, reviewing how we have gone and what we have done, we see that we have had many new experiences and new learnings. I would like to personally thank the Alpha School community for making me feel welcome. We are looking forward to another great year next year.

Our school runs with the help of many people: our staff, our parents, our community and even our students. I would like to thank every single person that has made the effort this year to help us to make learning better for all students. One person can make a huge difference in a child’s life but a team of people working together to support our children can have even more impact. Our goal is to be able to support every young person in our care.

Classes for 2020
Our school is working to make the teaching of curriculum the best it can be. Next year we will have the following classes:

**PREP** - Mrs Tamekah Russell  - (in the current PREP/1 classroom)

**1/2** –Ms Kylie Jones – (in the current Art room)

When joined together they will be in the PREP classroom.

This class will operate in the following ways:

Monday to Friday – Approx from 9:00-12:00 – PREP class – Mrs Russell and 1/2 class Ms Jones

From 12:00–3:00 – P/1/2 class – Mrs Russell (while Ms Jones is the Students with Disabilities/Learning Support teacher)

**Mrs Russell** will teach English and Maths for PREP.

**Ms Jones** will teach English and Maths for 1/2.

**Mrs Russell** will teach the other subject areas with the PREP/1/2 class together. Further information will come out to parents about the details of this arrangement.

**Year 3/4** – Mr Andrew Chou – (in Miss Hutson’s current room)
Andrew comes to us from Mistake Creek SS. We look forward to having a new teacher in the primary school.

**Year 5/6** – Miss Hutson – (in Ms Jones’ current room)
Our high school teachers may change some of their subjects, as we are still waiting on a Head of Curriculum to be appointed for 2020.

**Mr Nicol** – Maths, Science and Ag.

**Miss Leahy** – Primary Science, Health and PE, and High School Music
Mr Kamlesh Lal – English, Economics and Business and Global Literacy, Geography, Health and PE

Miss Lacey – French, Careers and Wellbeing, Media Arts, Hospitality, History, Geography and Foundation Skills

Our HOC – Digital Technology, Engineering and Materials [ITD], Global Literacy, Work Placement and Work Experience

In 2020, our high school is offering the chance for students in Years 9 and 10 the option to have electives: Digital Technology, Economics and Business, Work Placement, Engineering and Materials (ITD) the old Manual Arts, Hospitality, Music, Media Arts and Ag.

The Hospitality subject in Year 10 will allow students to complete a Certificate I Hospitality. Students will also have the opportunity to get a Certificate II FSK (Foundation Skills – Literacy and Numeracy), which is a great one to get in school preparing students for the workforce or an apprenticeship.

Global Literacy is a course for Years 7-10, which provides opportunities for students to learn real-world numeracy and literacy skills within a simulated community. Some examples of learnings will be completing rental and bank application forms; managing a weekly budget; learning how to apply for jobs and completing job interviews.

We are endeavouring to have more pathways for students who attend our high school. If you want to go down the university pathway, the training pathway or the workforce pathway, we have these options available for your child.

Staff
Congratulations to Mrs Jenni Lund for securing an acting principal position at Mt Fox. We wish her all the best for the future.

Announcements of the teacher aide and the School Officer Grounds position will occur in 2020.

Thank you to all those people who applied.

Events over the last fortnight
Speech Night
Congratulations to all the awards winners of 2019. Hard work pays off. We hope that all students will continue to do their best so that they can be eligible for awards in 2020. We were so proud of the students in their performances. Despite some nerves, they made us laugh and smile for the end of the year. Thank-you to the P&C for providing the BBQ and thank-you to all the staff for making it a great night for all.

Graduation Night
It was wonderful to see our 3 boys and their families join in the celebrations with us on Thursday night. All had a great night. Thank-you Jenny Thorn for helping with the decorations.

Swimming Carnival
Thank you to all the families that were able to come along and watch their children swim. A huge thank you to Erin Leahy, Henry, and Danielle for organising a great event. Thank you to the parents and staff who stood out in the sun and did the timekeeping; that is always an important job.

As with any events at school we work to improve them every year, so if you have any feedback for myself and my team please let me know, so that we can make these events better next year. Please email me at principal@alphass.eq.edu.au.

Hospital Morning Tea
We had the Hospital Morning Tea at school on Monday due to some water problems. It was lovely to see everyone and we hope you enjoyed our students entertainment items. I believe fun was had by one and all. Thank you to Chappy for organising this event and thank you to teachers for preparing the children.
Volunteers Morning Tea
On Wednesday, we will be thanking our volunteers for volunteering their time to come along every week and assist our students. Volunteers add another wonderful dimension to our school. We welcome any community and parents who feel they have something to offer our students. It takes dedication to come along most weeks. I know our students, parents and staff appreciate the assistance. I hope that many of the volunteers will come along in 2020 as well. Thank-you to Mrs Hafey and Miss Hutson for organising this event. Thank-you to the staff for providing the morning tea for everyone.

Friday – Break-up day
We will be starting our day at the school and then heading down to the pool after first break. Please ensure that your child has their togs, sunsafe shirt, sunscreen and towel.

First day of school is Tuesday January 28th 2020.
The school office will be open during the week before school starts- January 20th to January 24th. Please contact the office if you wish to see any staff, as they will be in meetings all week. The office will organise a time that is suitable.

I would like to wish all families a happy Christmas and a fun-filled New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2020.

Ms Fiona Clein

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SWIMMING/GRADUATION/HOSPITAL MORNING TEA