SunSmart
As a SunSmart school, we require all students to wear hats. We have a ‘no hat, play in the shade’ policy. Hats can be purchased from our uniform committee; ask at the front office. We require a broad brimmed hat or a bucket hat, as caps are not appropriate for school. SunSmart means that we meet the SunSmart requirements from the Cancer council and continue to provide an environment that is sun aware. We provide sunscreen in classrooms for students to have access to, but we do not apply it to children. We try to provide shade around the school for students to access and choose our outside play time wisely. This does not mean that we do not go out in the sun or play outside in the afternoons. Our school uniform material is also SunSmart aware. This means the thickness of the material and the type of clothing style.

Communication
I would like to highlight the importance of communication in our home/school partnership. The School Board discussed the issue of clear communication paths in 2011 and established that it is best if parents/carers have a clearly outlined order of who to approach if they have an issue. Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher about any issues. The class teacher is the first point of call. It is important that the class teacher is given an opportunity to assist you with any concerns before you take an issue to the executive teacher, Deputy or Principal. Trust your child’s teacher’s feedback. They are very concerned about your child’s welfare and education and are approachable.

Meet the Teacher
Information Evening
Friday the 17th February

A flyer is going out to you today to notify you about our parent information evening and ‘Meet the Teacher’. This is an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and hear about the year ahead. We will commence in the school hall where the Principal and Deputy will briefly outline the 2012 school vision and staff will introduce themselves; outlining their roles. Then we will head off to classes for the ‘Class Information Session’. There will be two sessions that repeat the information. This will allow for parents/carers who have children in different year levels to attend their child’s class. Teachers can be contacted by calling the front office and leaving a message or through emailing them. Please be mindful that it may take a day or so for a teacher to get back to you. They don’t read emails everyday – they teach every day.

Book Packs
This year we have trialled the company ‘Chalk Education’ for book packs. We have had very good feedback about them, their prices and their service. As they are an expanding company they have fed back to us that they will be able to accommodate our school even better next year. If you have not yet purchased your child’s book pack and need the list of supplies, please contact Anita in the front office. Chalk Education will be making regular deliveries to the school for packs ordered after the 2011 deadline. Book packs are supported by the school board as they establish consistency in resources across the school. Thank you for your support.

Each week you will get a newsletter on a Thursday. The odd weeks of school are usually our smaller newsletters and the more detailed newsletter is on even weeks.

If you would like your newsletter emailed to you to save on paper, then please contact Anita in the front office.

Keep having a great week and rest up this week end.

Melissa Travers
Principal

“Today is good. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another one.” Dr Seuss
Dear Parents/Carers

Hello to all in the Palmerston School community. Welcome to new families and welcome back to our returning families. I hope you all had a great summer holiday. School has commenced this year with wonderful cool weather. There is a buzz about this place. Learning is everywhere and classes are very settled. As I walk around I have seen very settled students in classes and very happy teachers.

I would like to especially welcome the new Kindergarten and Preschool families to Palmerston. There were a few tears from students and some parents on Monday and Wednesday, but all are settling into a school routine. It is so exciting to watch our younger students grow in confidence at school and develop into bigger children who become our school leaders.

School Vision

Palmerston District Primary School strives to promote a quality learning program which recognises the uniqueness of each child. We support and challenge our students to achieve to the best of their ability and we foster a passion for life-long learning.

Our purpose is to develop the skills, talents and knowledge of our students in a caring and supportive learning community.

It is to work in partnership with our school community to understand, work towards and value the importance of creating and belonging to a quality school.

Our educational focus is raising literacy and numeracy across the school. Our social focus is being a KidsMatter school and singing for all.

Senior students

This year we will have our senior students lead through peer support programs, as library monitors and as playground buddies. Our first leadership opportunity will be Sports Leaders. Our seniors have the opportunity to wear a senior student shirt and this is available to order from the front office.

Allergies

I would like to point out that our school is allergy friendly. If your child has an allergy, then please inform the front office and your child’s teacher. We require a photo of your child and a doctor’s form to be filled in so we can best support them. Call Anita in the front office for more information. As we have a few children at Palmerston who have severe allergic reactions to nuts and nut products, we encourage you to be considerate to these children and be mindful of what you pack in school lunches.