A Message from Mrs Bonello
We are having another fabulous start to the year here at Bankstown West. Welcome again to all our new families. I am sure you have come to realise what a warm and caring school we are. Our new Kindergarten students are off to a mostly settled start, largely thanks to our comprehensive transition program, and teachers are reporting this is looking like it's going to be a great year.

The formation of classes can seem like a very simple process but nothing could be further from the truth. Here at Bankstown West we are deeply committed to ensuring each child's individual needs are well catered for. When it comes to forming classes that means considering academic requirements, support needs, peer groups, learning style, relationships... the list goes on. And then we have to manage all this within the framework imposed on us by the Department of Education's staffing and enrolment formula. In a school our size that means careful consideration of how to form composite classes. This is a huge undertaking and each year different factors come into play. For example, a class may have the same name as a class from last year but the composition and the decisions behind that composition will be very different. Please bear in mind, our commitment and professionalism mean we will always do the very best we can for your child.

If you haven't yet met your child's teachers they are more than happy to set aside time to speak to you – please just make an appointment first. Formal interviews regarding your child's progress are scheduled for the end of Semester One for all families.

Our class teachers are: Mrs Benson KB; Mrs Griffin KG; Mrs Karagounis IK; Ms Cooney 1C; Mrs Kotsaris 2K; Mrs Hone 3/2H; Mr Dippert 3D; Mrs Rahel 4/3R; Mr Anasta 5/4A; Miss Goodman 6/5G; Mr Brannigan 6/5B. Support teachers are Mr MacDougal, Mrs Floyd, Mrs Tomazos, Ms Webster, Miss Karagounis, Mrs Hofmeier, Mrs Hone 3/2H; Mr Dippert 3D; Mrs Rahel 4/3R; Mr Anasta 5/4A; Miss Goodman 6/5G; Mr Brannigan 6/5B.

School Readiness Playgroup operates on Fridays with Mrs Hofmeier from 9am to 11am in the art room. All welcome! This is of particular importance if your young child doesn't attend preschool.

P&C (Parents and Citizens) News
On the second Wednesday of every month the P&C holds their meeting. This is a chance for parents to learn more about the life of the school. It is a friendly and relaxed environment, and our community language teachers (Vietnamese and Arabic) can be available to attend to help as required. Please join us. The next meeting will be held on March 11. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks, or see our website.

Keep our kids safe!
The safety of our students is of the greatest concern to us all. Picking up and dropping off children are times we should all be particularly vigilant and considerate. By parking just that little further away and walking you are not only teaching your children good habits, you are also keep our neighbours happy. Council rangers regularly patrol the area and you will face substantial fines if you don't follow signposted restrictions. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

You must surely have noticed the wonderful additions to our playground of late. Thank you for supporting our P&C fundraising which has contributed to this work.

Calendar – The weeks ahead
Term 1 Week 4
Wed 18 Feb Y6 Technology Day at Condell Park High School

Term 1 Week 5
Be prepared for the swimming carnival in week 6.