

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Thursday Island

30/03/2017

Dear Parents and Students,

Earlier this week we forwarded a letter to say that Mrs Briohny Jones would be taking the position of Year 4/5 teacher on Thursday Island Campus due to Mr Peter Shorthouse returning to his family in Victoria.

This has opened a position for a classroom teacher to be placed on Hammond Island to assist Mrs Davi with supporting the students from Prep – Year 3 on Hammond Island with providing quality learning and wellbeing for all.

Mrs Annette Whitton has offered to teach on Hammond Island as part of our school community and to provide continuity from our staff at the school. As a multi age classroom of 4 different levels, I felt this would be difficult to fill the position and have appointed Annette to the position to provide consistency for the commencement of next term.

Many parents have spoken this year to me about the quality learning environment that Ms Annette was creating in the Year 2/3 classroom and I am aware that parents and students will be disappointed by this change.

Ms Annette has worked across a variety of settings and has a high level of expertise in the teaching and learning of language in addition to classroom teaching of the Australian Curriculum.

Ms Briohny Jones, Ms Annette and Ms Davi have been planning together this term with the other Prep and Year 1 teachers, working in professional learning communities together throughout Term 1. They already work collaboratively together and I feel that this will assist with the smooth transition.

While Ms Annette is still very much a part of the school and will be seeing the children in Year 2/3 for celebrations and events and when they come over to Thursday Island Campus, we will still need to advertise for the position of Year 2/3. This will be a lot easier to find a successful applicant as it is a classroom teacher for a multi age class of 2 levels.

Our aim is to appoint a teacher by the commencement of the term and I will communicate our progress to parents. If we are unable to do this by Tuesday of Week 1, Ms Annette will stay with the Year 2/3 class for the minimal time to provide support and consistency.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I thank you for your understanding in our process of maintaining an expert teaching team at our school and providing quality learning and wellbeing for all.

Take care, Sharon County Principal

Normanby Street, PO Box 544 Thursday Island, Q 4875 Phone: (07) 4069 2203 Fax (07) 4069 1645 Secretary.ti@cns.catholic.edu.au



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