Thursday, 30th January
Dear Grade Three and Four Parents of 2014,

Welcome back! It’s hard to believe that it’s that time of the year again - the beginning of a new school year. We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break and are ready for an exciting year in Grade Three and Four. All of us are looking forward to working with your child over the coming year.

In the Woollert (34A classroom, and 34A&B shared learning centre) and Djeri Djeri (34B classroom) areas, we have adopted a genuine ‘team teaching’ approach for many areas of the curriculum. This means that we plan, work together, interact with and teach all children in the area. This allows for us as teachers to recognise and utilise each other's strengths and provide our students with different perspectives and ways of thinking.

We believe good communication is the answer to running a successful classroom, particularly in a shared grade. All teachers in our area will plan together for the week and will be kept well informed of any issues, parent communication, changes to the program and student progress on a daily basis. All teachers in the area will be involved in assessing and reporting on student progress.

We encourage you to call or email us if you have any questions or concerns:
~ The Patch School - 9756 7463
~ Jennie Simpson’s email: simpson.jennie.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
~ Naomi Campbell’s email: campbell.naomi.c@edumail.vic.gov.au
~ Judy Peterson’s email: peterson.judy.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

We will do our best to get back to you as soon as we can. Please remember that we may not get to check our emails during the course of the day as we are working with the children. Do not rely on email as emergency or daily pick-up communication just in case we don’t get the message.

* A copy of this information will be stuck in the front of your child’s diary for use throughout the year.

The first couple of weeks will be devoted to settling in, establishing routines, our orderly environments and expected classroom behaviour. We endeavour to provide a smooth and fun transition into Grade 3/4. On the same day as the Year 5/6 Leadership Day in Week 4 Term 1, the Year threes and fours will be holding a “Launching into Leadership Day” at school. There will also be a ‘Getting to Know You’ social evening for parents during Week 4 and a formal Information Night held later in the term to provide you with more specific information about the year and answer any questions you might have.

We will send our class Newsletter each fortnight as a hard copy. This can also be accessed via The Patch School website: www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au.

We are very excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to getting to know you and your child.

The Grade 3/4 Team, Jennie, Naomi, Judy, Tricia, Nicola, Deb and Andrew.