We have had a great start to the 2016 school year. It was wonderful to see all the children enthusiastic and ready for learning.

We welcome Aymin Dib, who has settled in well already to Year 2 at Lowanna.

Classes for 2016

Thanks to the continuation of Gonski Funding for 2016, we are again able to have 3 classes at Lowanna.

Miss Pellegrino will be teaching K-2. Mrs Benfield and Mrs Quirk will be teaching Years 3/4. Mrs Benfield will be working Monday to Wednesday, and Mrs Quirk will be teaching Years 3/4 on Thursday, and Years 3-6 on Fridays.

We welcome Mr Luke Woods to our school. Mr Woods will be teaching RFF for all classes over Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The subjects he will be teaching are Personal Development/Physical Education and Music.

Student Leaders

Our Year 6 student Prime Ministers and Cabinet Ministers were elected and presented with their badges last year.

Last week, the leaders decided on their portfolios that they will be leading.

As well, children in Years 3-5 will be portfolio members, assisting the Ministers with the planning and implementation of our projects at school. They are:

Ministers for Technology: Tyson and Dallas.
Portfolio Members: Clarissa, Deacan and Ebony.

Ministers for the Environment: Amali and Chloe
Portfolio Members: Oak, Jalara and Bethany

Ministers for Social Justice: Shania and Kai
Portfolio Members: Carmelle, Chanelle and Natalia.

Ministers for Education: Joshua and Shai
Portfolio Members: Patrick, Seth and Kiara.

We are all confident that the leaders and their team will implement excellent initiatives this year at Lowanna.
Our Parliament will run on a similar structure to Federal Parliament and we will meet fortnightly for discussion and planning.

Facebook
Our school Facebook Page is up and running. We will be adding photos, information, reminders and any breaking news to our feed. Please make sure you check regularly. Social media can be a great communication tool.

Assemblies
Our school assemblies will be held at 2.25pm each Monday afternoon. Parents and community members are most welcome to attend.

Buddy bench
On Monday 8th February at 2pm a Bunnings representative will be presenting our school with a Buddy Bench. This has been donated by Bunnings for our participation in the Recycled Christmas Tree Competition last year.

All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend, as following the presentation, we will continue with our school assembly.

Start the new school year with Strategies for Academic Success
How you start the school year can determine how well the rest of the year will go. Here is how to make sure your child gets off to a great start this year:

- Review school safety. Talk to your child about the importance of following school rules. The Code of Conduct at Lowanna School is Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be a Learner. Ask your child to give an example of each Code of Conduct.
- Set goals. Students who do best in school have both short-and long-term goals. Whether it’s earning an A in math or preparing to become a veterinarian, your child needs goals to keep them on the right track.
- Settle into a routine. Kids thrive on predictability. Have a regular time for homework. Set and stick to a regular bedtime. Plan a morning routine that gets everyone out the door on time.
- Don’t over schedule your child. Give them time to unwind after school, especially during the first few weeks.
- Be genuinely interested in your child’s schoolwork. Ask them about school every day.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
- Nelson Mandela

Kind Regards,
Alison Hawken

Class News
Mrs Hawken
We had a great start to the 2016 school year, with everyone on task and working hard.

I was very impressed with Josh, who provided excellent answers to many questions. I think he may have even surprised himself with his knowledge! Well done, Josh.
On Thursday last week, we learnt about Australia Day, and also began our unit of work for Writing based on comics.

**Mrs Benfield**
Welcome back for another exciting and fun filled year at Lowanna Public School. I hope that you have all had a relaxing break.

Library day is on Friday, so please ensure that you have your library bag to be able to borrow.

Home work and home reading start this week please ensure readers are returned each day to be changed.

‘Looking forward to a great year!

**Miss Pellegrino**
I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer holiday. I am excited to have your child in my class this year.

All students have been assessed for reading, ready to begin learning at their level.

I have been busy planning a fun year full of learning and I’m looking forward to sharing it with you.

**Workbooks 2016**
Your 2016 workbook payment is due now. Workbook costs for 2016 remain at $30 per student. This is for all the books that your child writes or draws in during the school year.

**Lowanna P&C News**
Our AGM, followed by the first P&C general meeting for 2016, will be held on Friday the 26th of February from 9am.

All welcome. Please come along to our meeting to find out what is planned for the year ahead.