The students, staff and I have had an amazing start to 2013 school year. We are looking forward to a busy and productive year. We are very grateful to be working with some wonderful little people.

We have had several new students join Abergowrie and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome to our school, Simon, Tassi, Isabella, David, Jack and their families. They are all a wonderful new addition to our school.

I encourage all parents to approach me with any questions or concerns, no matter how big or how small, as I will be happy to arrange a time to meet with you. Alternatively, feel free to email me on ljami32@eq.edu.au.

Kind regards

Lydia Jamieson
Principal

The first P&C meeting for this year will be held on Wednesday 13th of February in the Early Education Centre. The meeting will begin at 2:45pm.

With lots of new families this year it is a great opportunity for active engagement within our school and a great place to meet new people.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

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To begin the school year with fun and excitement there was a request from the former students to have a shared lunch for Valentine’s Day like last year. I thought this would be a nice way to reward the students for their hard work and efforts this term. In the spirit of the day it is asked that the children would bring food items (preferably healthy) that are red, pink, purple or white and the lunch would formally be known as a ‘Love Lunch’.

If you would like to send along a plate of coloured food on Thursday 14th February it would be greatly appreciated.

We would also like to invite all parents to join our ‘Love Lunch’ as it would be a lovely way to meet all of our new families.

I have also agreed to allow the students to wear ‘free dress’ clothes in these colours on this day as well.

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The Australian Curriculum: History was introduced this year. It emphasises a skills and enquiry based model of teaching. We will use a range of approaches such as the use of artefacts, museums, historical sites and hands on activities. The curriculum focuses on a range of topics determined by year levels:

**Prep to Year Two**—Awareness of personal and family history.

**Year Three to Six**—State or Territory and national history and the relationships between past and present.

**Year Seven to Ten**—Australia and world history, the analysis and use of sources and historical interpretation.

We have asked if the Prep to Year 2 students could bring to school: a family photo, a baby photo, a photo from a special event and a photo of a loved pet. These will join the student display where they have already created their family portrait as well as a significant person in their lives.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

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This term Abergowrie State School is scheduled for their QSR (Quadrennial School Review) I am required to put together a QSR Committee. This committee will be made of parents, staff and community members. It is used as a resource to collect data about the school as well as a focus of direction for the future.

Information from these meetings, the students themselves, school based data and the teaching and learning audit recommendations are used to develop our school plan for the next four years. These priorities and school direction (school plan) are presented to the Assistant Regional Director on Monday 25th March (week 9).

I am looking at the first meeting being as soon as possible, perhaps after the P&C on Wednesday 13th February. I encourage you all to attend as your involvement will ensure that the school is heading in the best possible direction for all students.

If you are interested in being on the QSR Committee could you please notify me either by phone 4777 4672 or by email ljami32@eq.edu.au.