Most parents would be aware that the school curriculum in Australia has been under review and is soon to change. Many changes are subtle and not obvious to parents but we will be informing parents of the changes as the different syllabuses are introduced.

A national organisation called ACARA, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, was commissioned with the task of producing a National Curriculum. One of the main aims of this redevelopment is to provide a curriculum for all states and territories that will provide some consistency across Australia. It will mean that parents can move their children between education systems with confidence that their child’s education will not be delayed or inhibited.

In New South Wales, the Board of Studies (BOS) is responsible for the implementation of the new National Curriculum across all state, catholic and independent schools. Over the past few years the BOS has rewritten the NSW curriculum to incorporate the new Australian Curriculum Outcomes for students. I would encourage you to have a look at the NSW Board of Studies website (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au). This site provides a vast amount of information about the NSW Curriculum for both teachers and parents.

The Junior School will be implementing the new syllabuses in the recommended time frame as detailed by the Board of Studies.

**Timeline for Implementation of new National Curriculum**

**2014:** All schools will teach the new English syllabus.

**2015:** All schools will teach the new Mathematics and Science and Technology syllabuses.

**2016:** All schools will teach the new History syllabus.

There is obviously a great deal of professional development needed for teachers if they are to implement the new National Curriculum most effectively. You will have noticed teachers in the Junior School this year have attended a number of these professional development courses and will continue to do so over the next couple of years. It is important that we equip our teachers with the knowledge and skills to ensure that what goes on in their classroom is most up-to-date and best practice.

**“It will mean that parents can move their children between education systems with confidence that their child’s education will not be delayed or inhibited.”**

Mr Christopher Jackman