Dear Parents and Carers,

If we have not met, my name is John Spurr. I am very excited to be teaching your child this year.

I live in Aberfoyle Park, with my wife Alison and three children, Ned (14), Bridget (17) and Abbey (19). All of my children were Craigburn students, so I have been associated with the school, as either a parent or teacher, for over 14 years.

My background in teaching is in secondary science and mathematics, but I am passionate about all areas of learning.

For the Year 6 students, this is a big year. They will be stepping up the to the Middle School Unit and the extra organisation, personal responsibility and self-management that will be built up over the year, in preparation for Year 7. For the Year 7 students, I look forward to guiding them through an amazing final year of primary education, and having them in great shape to begin their secondary schooling.

I’m sure you will agree, that one of the keys to your child’s success this year will be the teamwork and communication between all of us.

School based communication will be via paper notices as required and the school blog, Craigburn Connections (<http://blogs.craigburn.sa.edu.au/>). The Weekly Wrap is posted on this blog and is vital reading if you want to keep up with school based events. Please subscribe to this blog, so that you receive emails linking you to the latest posts.

Class based communication will be through student diaries, Seesaw (for sharing work and learning activities) and a class blog (watch this space!). Personal communication through email, telephone and face-to-face is always welcome. For important, time critical messages, regarding changes to end of day plans etc., it is best to phone the school, as I do not often have the opportunity to check my email until after school.

Please don’t feel you need to book face-to-face meetings days in advance. I am normally at school, and available for a chat, until 5pm, except Tuesday afternoons when we have staff meetings. So if you have a concern, or just find you have an unexpected opportunity, just give the office a call to check that I am available and come on in.

It will be a busy week, getting everything up and running. Here are some organisational details in point form.

* Please find Seesaw log in details attached
* Don’t forget payments and canteen orders can be made through QKR
* Please complete the forms in the Take Home Packs and return as soon as possible
* Formal homework will not begin until Week 3
* Diaries are to be signed over the weekend for checking on Monday mornings
* Donations of tissue boxes are gratefully received
* The **Middle School Team Bonding beach day** is next **Friday 8/2** - we are looking for parent volunteers - more information to follow
* **Acquaintance Night** is on **Tuesday 12/2** (Week 2)
* There will be a **Student Free Day on Friday 8/3** (Week 6)
* **Sports Day** will be on **Friday 22/3** (Week 8)

Finally, can I ask that you send me an email. Just write ‘Hello’ if you’re a bit pushed for time - I will understand. I would like to get all parent and carer emails together by the end of the week.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,

John Spurr

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