Principal's message

Swim school is well underway and the children are coping well with the changes. Congratulations to the children who have so far not lost too many items of clothing! I hope that parents are planning to follow up the lessons at home over the holidays. It is important for the children to consolidate skills learnt and newfound confidence in the water.

Reports

These will be going home next Monday. It is important for parents to read these reports WITH their children and to discuss them. The reports show a number of things, and are slightly different to previous ones. For each subject area there is a statement about what has been taught during terms 3 and 4. The grade - A-E for years 1-6, and working above, at or below for Kindergarten, refers to level at which your child has achieved this work. Remember, C is the expectation, and it has nothing to do with how well they did or did not do in the first half of the year. Then for English and mathematics there is a teacher comment. This comment will tell you what your child has done particularly well at, and also what they can do to improve and move to the next level. Even the most able child can make improvements, and the child who struggles has made great achievements too.

For children who receive support from the ESL teachers, there will be a comment from them too. Students who are newly arrived at the school will not receive a complete report. If parents have questions or concerns about their child's report, they should make an appointment to speak with the teacher.

I read a good article this week that seems appropriate for parents (and teachers). I have often written about what you should talk about with your children when they come home from school, and I have told the children that they should be telling you what they have learnt. Here are some more ways to get the conversation started. With reports about to some home, the questions listed below could be adapted to the year rather than the day.

1. When did you notice yourself most interested and curious today?
2. Was there a time today when you were especially confused? How did you respond?
3. What is one thing that was hard to believe? Not confusing, but surprising?
4. If you were more _____ today, how would it have impacted the day?
5. When were you most creative today?
6. Tell me one fun thing you learned, one useful thing you learned, and one extraordinary thing you learned.
7. What does a successful day at school look like to you? Feel like?
8. What sort of different reasons do your friends go to school?
9. Who worked harder today, the teacher or the students?
10. How else could you have learned what the teacher taught?
11. How do your teachers show they care?
12. What do you know, and how do you know it?
13. What would you like to know more about?
14. What is the most important thing you learned today? The least?
15. Tell me one chance you took today, and how it ended up.
16. What is one thing you learned from a book?
17. What is one thing you learned from a friend?
18. What is one thing you learned from a teacher?
19. What still confuses you?
20. What is something you say or heard that stuck with you for some reason?
21. Based on what you learned today in ______ class, what do you think you'll learn tomorrow?
22. Tell me three facts, two opinions, and one idea you heard today.
23. What should you do with what you've learned?
24. When did you surprise yourself today?
25. What's stopping you from being an (even more) amazing learner?

The Big Night Out - Wednesday December 10th

There are still tickets available for this fabulous concert, so bring your friends along. The children have worked hard and there are many future stars performing.

Presentation day

Don't forget to put this on the calendar - Next Tuesday, 9.30 for K-2 and 11.30 for 3-6.

Extended Holidays

If you are planning to go away over the holidays and will be late back next year, please don't forget to let us know so that we hold a place for your child in a class - we are extremely full and are having to turn people away.

Have a good week,
Anthea Donaldson
Principal
Class Awards

2/3R  Jessie  3J  Sean
3/4C  Liam  4A  Diyar
4S  Phoenix  5/6B  Lena
5/6E  Jiawei  5/6H  Abdul
5/6J  Harrison  5/6N  Zashaal
3-6K  Damon

Stage News

Kindergarten

We had a great first week at Swim School this week and are all ready for a second week of swimming. Please make sure that your child comes to school everyday with their swimmers underneath the uniform and their towel, thongs, underwear and goggles in their bag. It would also be a good idea to apply sunscreen before school.

Thank you to all of those parents who have volunteered to bake some cakes or cookies for our cake stall next Monday. Please continue to bring in the slips this week to let us know what yummy treat you will be baking and don't forget to bring it in next Monday morning along with some money to spend!

This week’s topic talk is ‘My Teacher’. Students are sharing their favourite memories of Kindergarten with their teacher. They may also like to discuss their memories with other teachers who have taught them this year in other parts of the school day.

Have an excellent week!
Miss Stuart & Mrs Rhodes

Stage One (Year 1 and Year 2)

There are only 2 and a half weeks left of school - can you believe it? Swim School finishes on Friday and I hope the students going to swimming have learnt lots of great skills that we need to stay safe and swim in the water.

Topic Talks this week are about a persuasive poster. Students need to try and persuade the class to buy their product. Homework will continue this week and is due on Thursday. This week classes will start planning for our Stage 1 picnic in week 10. Students will be forming small groups and deciding what food or other items they might want to bring to the picnic. Students will only need to bring enough food for their small group, not the whole class.

Don't forget to return home readers and library books as soon as possible!

Have a great week everyone!
Miss Langhans

Stage Two (Year 3 and Year 4)

Swim Scheme
A reminder about the swimming scheme continues this week. We had a great week swimming last week and all the children have been well behaved and organised.

Russ the Bus
A note seeking permission for children to be involved in a promotional video was sent home by Mrs Sell last week. Could these notes please be returned to Mr Clarke as soon as possible.

Enjoy the week,
Mr Clarke

Stage Three (Year 5 and Year 6)

Swim school will continue this week. Students are thoroughly enjoying this program and are learning vital water safety and swimming skills which are extremely important when living in Australia. Just a reminder to make sure they are packing everything into their bags each day. Enjoy the last week of swimming!!

Last Wednesday, 23 exceptional Year Five students presented their leadership speeches to Years 2-6 in the hope of becoming a Captain or Leader for 2015. They did a superb job and all speeches were very interesting and unique. It was a tough decision for everyone to only be able to pick five boys and five girls. The Captains and Leaders for 2015 will be announced at our Presentation Day assembly next week on Tuesday. So a massive thank you to all who applied and I know you will be looking forward to the results next week. Don’t forget if you do miss out there are plenty of other leadership positions next year.

Important notes went home last week regarding the Year 6 Farewell. This note had an attachment with three permission slips. The first was a confirmation indicating that your child will or will not be attending their farewell. All students need to return this section. The second section is permission to travel on a bus for a rehearsal on the day (Thursday 11th December) and the final note is permission to leave early on the day if you wish them to. Please ensure your child has returned these notes to me ASAP and that the $5 bus money is paid to the office. We are all looking forward to seeing them showcase their amazing dances and song!

Presentation Day for Years 3-6 will be held next Tuesday the 9th of December. Notes will be going home this week to invite the parents to attend if their child is receiving an award. Stage Three teachers are extremely proud of the students and their achievements this year and we would love you to come and celebrate their successes with us!

The Sports Presentation will be held on Friday the 12th of December (also next week). Invitations to parents will be sent home this week if your child is receiving an award. Again we would love you to join us to celebrate a wonderful year of
Excellent academic and support programs

sporting achievements and personal bests.

Lastly don’t forget to purchase your ‘Big Night Out’ tickets before school in the morning. We are all looking forward to watching Grease and the other talented students in our school perform next Wednesday the 10th of December.

Not long now until the holidays! We are really looking forward to all of the end of year celebrations and activities. Have a wonderful week 9!

Mrs Heifetz

Sports News

Congratulations to all the teams that played in the finals last week. All the teams represented our school with distinction. I would like to thank the coaches, Mrs Harris, Mr Roux, Mr Budden and Mr Dawson for their efforts in coaching the teams.

T-Ball
Boys: won  Girls: lost

Softball
Boys: lost  Girls won

Cricket
Juniors won

Giving Tree

At the end of each year, school community members are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items, toiletries and new toys for the less fortunate. These items are placed under our Christmas tree (arriving this week) in the front office and passed on to a local charity.

Your kind donations are much appreciated.