3rd November 2016

Last Friday it was a fantastic surprise for all teaching staff to be greeted with an “Apple for the Teacher,” toffee apple to commemorate International Teacher’s Day. We thought this was it, so we were further surprised to walk into a decorated staffroom at morning tea and see a feast of goodies before our eyes. Tracey Baldwin spoke on behalf of the ES staff and said …..

To our teaching staff
On behalf of the ES staff, students and parents we want to say “Happy Teachers” day.
We know at times teaching can be challenging and demanding but it can also be very satisfying and rewarding. It takes a huge heart to shape young minds. On a personal note from the education support team, thank you for guiding us, teaching us and embracing us in your classroom every day.

Thanks for everything.

The teaching staff were very grateful and were pleased to be acknowledged by the people who support us in our work with your children every day.

End of year procedures
We are already half way through Term 4, which is a bit scary! Part of our end of year procedure, and in preparation for next year, we need parents to confirm some information for us.

Therefore, this week each child will receive an envelope home which will contain:

- Student Details – these need to be correct and up-to-date
- Attendance Letter – the DET require all absences to be explained
- Outstanding Library Books – charges apply for unreturned books.
- IT Permission Form – we are required to have one for every child

It is not only school policy, but also the department of education policy that this is completed by all parents. We therefore appreciate you taking the time to do so.

Permission Notes & Payments Due Back
- Chocolate Money & Returned Chocolates - OVERDUE
- G5 Bendigo Excursion – due Wed 7th November
- Prep Aquarium Excursion – due Fri 4th November
- G3/4 Docklands Excursion – due Fri 25th November
- G6 Jacket – deposit due Mon 28th November

Thank you to all the parents who have already returned these.

Sunbury Downs Transition Day
Sunbury Downs College will hold another transition day on Tuesday 8th November for the Grade 6 students who will be transferring there in 2017. Details below:

What time…... 9.00am – 3.15pm
What to wear… Casual Clothes
What to bring… Snack / Lunch or money to purchase from the canteen and a pencil case.
**Chocolate Drive**

Please can I remind those who have not returned there chocolates or chocolate money they need to do so IMMEDIATELY.

We have 20 boxes outstanding, this equates to….

20 boxes @ $50 = $1000 OF SCHOOL FUNDS

Our P&F committee have worked extremely hard to run this fundraiser and it is hard for them to see us potentially lose out on $1000 if these are not returned.

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**Remembrance Day**

Poppies will be on sale at the school office from next week at a cost of $1, $2 or $5.

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**Drink Bottles:**

With the warmer weather creeping in we encourage students to stay hydrated and make sure they bring a water bottle to school for use within the classroom.

Individual teachers have classroom rules about whether bottles are on tables, on the sink or kept in a bag. We encourage you to send along water for your child to drink from during the day.

Students wanting to leave the classroom for a drink interrupt their own and their classmates learning.

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**Cyber Safety**

Please can I remind parents that a lot of trouble can come of antisocial behaviour on social media.

Please can you remind your child/ren of one simple rule…..

If they get a message or email that's threatening or rude, they should 'STOP, BLOCK, TELL'. First step is to tell your child to stop responding to the abuse and then block those people sending threatening or rude messages if they continue. Let your child know that if they are being bullied, or know someone else who is, they should tell a trusted adult.

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**Prep Science**

This week the preps were lucky enough to have a special visitor to science, Dr Amy Coetsee. Amy works with the Eastern Barbed Bandicoot at the Melbourne Zoo and is a parent of one our prep students Blake in Prep C. Amy gave a wonderful and insightful presentation on Victorian Endangered animals focusing on the way those animals move to tie in with what the preps are currently investigating in science. On behalf of the preps and myself, I would like to thank Amy for donating her time and coming to speak to the students.

Erica Andersen