12th May 2016

May

Thurs 26th | CASUAL CLOTHES DAY – Class Projects
Wed 25th | SPECIAL ‘Sausage Sizzle’ LUNCH
Fri 27th | Winter Sports – Weather Permitting
Mon 30th | School Dental – Phase 2

June

Wed 1st | Division Cross Country
Wed 15th | Region Cross Country
Thurs 16th | Curriculum Day – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tues 21st | Parent Teacher Conferences – more details to follow
            1.30pm Dismissal for Students
Wed 22nd | G5/6 Excursion – Song Room @ The Arts Centre
Fri 24th | CASUAL CLOTHES DAY – School Orchard
          Last Day of Term – Early Dismissal

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Prep / Foundation Information Sessions – New Preps for 2017

This week, we held our day session for the families of our 2017 Preps. The session was well attended and it was terrific to have the opportunity to chat about our school programs with parents new to the school as well as those returning for the second, third or even fourth time! Thank you to our Prep teachers who organised their teaching timetable so that prospective families could see a reading, writing and maths lesson in operation. Feedback about this aspect was extremely positive as parents really liked the opportunity to see the “big kids at work.” Thank you to Jo in the office for preparing our new Foundation Information Book. The book shares many details about School life in the Early Years and also provides some helpful hints as to how to prepare your pre-schooler for Foundation. People who missed out on the session will have another opportunity Tuesday 17 at 6.30pm.

MYCAL

It was very exciting for me to be able to tell our school councillors on Monday evening about a Middle Years Applied Learning Project that we will be piloting along with Sunbury Downs Secondary College. If students in Sunbury are having trouble in transitioning into the mainstream secondary classroom and there is a chance of them being disengaged, there is nowhere for them to go. Kyneton Secondary College is the closest school that offers an alternate program for students in the early years of secondary schooling. Last year Sunbury Downs Secondary College and Sunbury College were successful in obtaining a grant from Dianella Health to pilot a MYCAL Program. The program is for students in years 7 and 8 who will experience an applied learning environment, to then transitioning into mainstream learning. Sunbury Downs Secondary College Principal, Maria Oddo has approached me to run the program in the Hub portable with a qualified staff member for four days a week. The teacher who will accompany the students will be Christian Brink. The program will cater for ten students who are currently undertaking a rigorous application process. There also needs to be a supportive parent / carer base to enable the student to participate. Students will begin school at ten and have breaks that align with their own school. We want the pilot to be successful so that as a network of school we can lobby the Government for a much needed permanent facility in Sunbury. The pilot has support of all Principals in Sunbury and SMRSC is hoping to use some of their recent funding to assist its development.

District Cross Country

PERSISTENCE is one of the five Keys to Success which we focus on at Sunbury Heights. Persistence is the ability to keep going when things aren’t easy and it is equally important in both academic and sporting activities. Our students showed great persistence during their inter-school cross country events on Friday – it was exhausting just watching them run!

We are always proud to take our students to events such as this, as their behaviour is fantastic. It was a pleasure to hear feedback from parents and staff at the event and see our children in Heights uniforms waiting patiently for their events, chatting quietly, encouraging each other and offering advice to team-mates. In any sporting situation, only one person wins and it is most important that children learn to win with grace and lose with dignity. These skills were displayed by our students after their events through smiles, handshakes and expressions of contentment with a job well done.

Zoe Ryan will now go on to the next competition and we wish her all the best as face even tougher competition.
Student Reports & Achievement and Learning Conferences

Over the next few weeks our teachers will be very busy working on student reports. Reports will go home on Friday 17 June.

To follow up the information presented in the student report, Student Achievement and Learning Conferences will be held on Tuesday 21 June. It is important that all children attend this conference for two main reasons. Firstly, the conference is about them and their learning and secondly, all students from foundation to year six will be preparing to discuss their achievements and learning with you.

After the interview:
- Keep in regular contact with the teacher to follow up on a mutually agreed plan
- Talk together with your child about what you have discussed and how you can work together to improve their learning

If you have issues you believe need to be discussed without your child present, please make a time to see your child’s class teacher as soon as possible. You are not expected to wait for the scheduled interview time to discuss such matters. Information on how to book on line for your conference will be sent home in the next few weeks.

For your planning purposes

School will conclude for the day at 1.30pm for all students. Students may be:
- dismissed
- attend after school care
- supervised by specialised teaching staff if it is impossible for you to make alternate arrangements

NAPLAN

Our Grade 3 and 5 students completed NAPLAN testing this week. The students took this test in their stride, showed great resilience and told us that it was just like another normal day at school. We would like to thank all the students for taking the tests and for the parents help and support in having students organised, in attendance and ready for school in time.

Playground Safety

When supervising students in our playgrounds we constantly confirm that students are not to run up and down slides, or play chasing games on the equipment or paths. Please can I remind parents that our playground is not supervised until 8.40am therefore students should not arrive at school prior to this time, with the exception of Thursday when students can attend breakfast club in the Hub from 8.15am.

Weather

Term Two is renowned as the term when inclement weather sets in and is vital that all children are well protected from the cold and wet. It would be great to see the number of children with rain / spray jackets and umbrellas increase. Many students especially children who walked or rode to school definitely needed these during Tuesday morning’s downpour. All parents are reminded that on days of inclement weather we do our best to ensure that when students venture outside they go out wearing something warm and dry. On wet or wildly windy days the students are kept inside during the recess breaks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>STUDENT</th>
<th>REASON</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep K</td>
<td>Xander Pittam</td>
<td>for making good choices so he can learn as much as possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Marley Oliver</td>
<td>for his enthusiasm learning about the farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Noah Stick</td>
<td>for writing an interesting sentence about sheep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2H</td>
<td>Mia-Rose Bennett</td>
<td>for her enthusiasm for learning and her kindness to others</td>
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<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Rani Prajapati</td>
<td>for outstanding demonstration of reading skills and correctly spelling the first 100 most used words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3J</td>
<td>Luke Grose</td>
<td>for being resilient and having a go during writing NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K</td>
<td>Josh Killeen</td>
<td>for an extraordinary improvement in his home learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5P</td>
<td>Aaron Sapac</td>
<td>for showing empathy, compassion and understanding toward his peers</td>
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<tr>
<td>6PA</td>
<td>Spencer Hardstaff</td>
<td>for preserving with learning to tell the time</td>
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<tr>
<td>6K</td>
<td>Chloe Morgan</td>
<td>for being a great help to Miss Koller in the classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>5K</td>
<td>for excellent questions when doing our experiment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Dexter</td>
<td>Koby Collier</td>
<td>for a huge improvement in throwing and catching</td>
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Grade 6 to Grade 7 Transition
The Year 6 – Year 7 Transition Form which has been sent home needs to be completed and returned by Friday 13th May. Please can I remind you that it is extremely important that we receive this form so we can apply for placement at your child’s preferred secondary school. Should you have any issues or concerns, please contact Donna Payton as soon as possible.

Seasons For Growth, Grief and Loss program
Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At Sunbury Heights Primary School we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore offering a very successful education program called ‘Seasons for Growth’. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practice new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

Seasons for Growth will run for eight weeks and each weekly session is 40-50 minutes. The program will conclude with a ‘Celebration’ session, then later in the year, each group will have the opportunity to meet for two further sessions to build on their earlier learning. Seasons for Growth will commence soon and if you feel your child/ren would benefit from this program please complete and return the form below or contact me on a Monday or Wednesday for further information.

Michael Wanyama
School Chaplain

Yes, I  _____________________________________________, would like my child/ren to participate in the Seasons For Growth, Grief and Loss program with the Chaplain Michael Wanyama.

Name of child/ren.----------------------------------------------------------------------------------- Grade ________________________________

Parent Signature----------------------------------------------------------------------------------- Date -------------------------------
FREE BUDGETING WORKSHOP

In this workshop you will learn:

- Planning and Budgeting
- How to set and achieve saving goals
- How to spend and save wisely

- This program provides you with all you need to know about everyday money matters

WHERE: SUNBURY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY HUB
DATE: WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY
TIME: 10:00am - 12:00pm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
SHARON RAMUNNO ON 9744 3377