Eye on Seaford

From Reality We Gain Understanding.
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7th February, 2013

**From The Principal’s Desk**

I am pleased to report that the start of our new school year has gone very smoothly, with all students settling in well. Our new preps all started last Friday and it was difficult to judge whether they or their parents were the most excited. Usually our preps spend most of their play time in the little adventure playground for the first week or so, but after just three days it was evident on Tuesday that most were ready to explore the rest of the school grounds. Our older students have done a great job in making sure that they were all well supported in the yard during this time.

The school has adopted five values which it considers to be of paramount importance in developing a sense of community. We see these values as something that everyone in the community – students, parents and staff - should all try to uphold. Each of these values has inherent in it, expected attitudes and codes of behaviour. I would like to think that everyone connected with the school will have these values in the forefront of their mind when interacting with other members of the community as this makes our school a welcoming, positive environment that we are all proud to be a part of.

Our five values are:

- **Integrity:**
  - Truthful, sincere and honest

- **Respect:**
  - Treat others and their property with consideration

- **Excellence:**
  - Strive to achieve success and to accomplish something worthy and admirable

- **Responsibility:**
  - Responsible for and take ownership of belongings, behaviour, and the school environment

- **Tolerance:**
  - Patience, consideration and awareness of others and their rights and acceptance that everyone is different.

Could I also remind all parents, that the staff car park is reserved for staff and official visitors to the school and should not be used to drop off or pick up students. As many of our aides arrive close to 9 a.m and leave just after 3.30 the staff car park is not a place we want to see our students because of the risk posed by vehicles coming in and out. The exception being that we do have one designated Disabled Parking Space for any parent or visitor to the school who has a permit to access these spaces.

We have made some changes to the structure of the school’s specialist program this year – Mrs Giles will take all grades for Visual Arts and Mr Hayes will do the same for Physical Education. Sue Weigall will take Performing Arts as an additional specialist program with the students in the Early Learning Centre. Wayan Felberg will continue in her role as Indonesian Teacher.
Mr Hayes, Mrs Weigall and I will also provide additional support to class teachers during the literacy block this year with all classes having at least two days of the week when this additional support will be provided.

On Monday of this week I attended a meeting, along with a number of other local principals, with representatives from the City of Frankston to discuss the decision by VicRoads to cut subsidies for 13 school crossings across the municipality. It was clear that all of the principals along with council have serious concerns regarding the impact this will have on student safety at each of these crossings, should the subsidy cuts lead to the removal of crossing supervisors. It was determined that each of the principals raise the issue with their respective school councils and that a further meeting be convened in March for the group to consider what action can be taken to urge VicRoads to reconsider its position. It will be at that time that we may ask for your support in writing letters to VicRoads, the media, local state politicians and local councillors. I will keep you fully informed of this after our next meeting.

Please keep Tuesday February 19th free in your diaries. We are planning a Family Activities and Picnic evening at the school from 5pm – 7 pm on this day. This gives us all the opportunity to get together as a school community and celebrate the start of another school year. We will also be presenting first day photos and certificates of welcome to all of our new preps. Further details will be provided in next week’s newsletter.

I have been notified by our architect that the department has now approved our tender documents and that a number of companies have been invited to tender for the school’s building program. Tenders will close on March 7th and a decision as to which company has been successful will be known shortly afterwards.

Regards
Michael

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### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**BY MICHAEL WOOLSEY, School Community Liaison Officer**

**CANTEEN**

The canteen operates Fridays during the term beginning this **Friday 8th February**.

This is a great way for the new Prep parents and other new families to be involved in the school and make their child’s day when they show mum or dad off to their friends. Please do not hesitate to let Erica or myself know if you would like to assist in the canteen at some point- whether weekly, fortnightly or monthly as we sometimes struggle for volunteers and the more helpers there are, the more fun it is for everyone.

The menu for the term is attached to this newsletter.

**Whole school family picnic**

The annual family picnic is coming up again. On Tuesday 19th February all families are invited to attend Seaford Primary School from 5pm – 7.30pm for a picnic where the new Prep students are all welcomed to their new school and we all mingle and have fun.

Mark this date down in your diaries. More information to be sent home soon.
Keeping focus on the 2013 school year

As the kids settle into the new school year, did you remember to tick off ‘see the optometrist’ on your ‘back to school’ list? Many young people experience undetected vision problems as they often assume that how they see is normal.

It is estimated that 80% of learning is experienced through vision and so children with undetected vision problems can have trouble keeping up and as a consequence might become impatient, lose focus and start misbehaving or not enjoying school.

The most frequent vision problems experienced by children are those affecting the ability to see clearly and sharply. These include short-sightedness (blurred distance vision), long-sightedness (difficulty focusing up close) and astigmatism (the distortion of vision due to the irregular shape of the eye). These conditions can be very easy to correct, with a simple measure: glasses. Other vision problems need to be detected and addressed early to reduce risk of long-term vision concerns such as a turned eye (strabismus), or a so-called lazy eye (amblyopia). These conditions require management by an eye health professional, such as an optometrist. Untreated amblyopia can even lead to permanently reduced vision in the affected eye.

Incorporating regular eye examinations with an optometrist into your child’s health routine can give peace of mind and the best start to the school year – you don’t need a referral from a doctor and most consultations attract a Medicare rebate. For more information or to find an optometrist in your local area, visit www.optometrists.asn.au/victoria.

5 interesting facts about your eyes:

Your eyes are made up of more than 2 million working parts.
The human eye will focus on about 50 things per second.
Your eyes actually ‘see’ images upside down and then they send these images to the brain where they are flipped around correctly for us.
The human eye can distinguish about 2.7 million different colours and 500 shades of grey.
The human eye can process 36,000 pieces of information every hour.

### COMMUNITY NEWS
Displayed on the Noticeboard in the front foyer of the Office.

- The Performance Factory. Drama classes at the Seaford Hall
- Skye United Football Club—Registration Day Saturday 9th February 10 a.m.—3 p.m.
- Cameo Tigers Netball Club—Registration day Saturday 9th February 9 a.m.—11 a.m.
- Miss Karla's School of Ballet
- Adult dance classes—St Chads church hall Chelsea
- Big Ben’s Boxing—Youth boxing classes ages 8—14
- Stingrays Hockey Club—Free Hockey Clinic Thursday 14th 21st and 28th February 6p.m.-7pm.
- Children Performing Company of Australia
- margosPT—personal training
- Rowellyn Park nab AFL Auskick 2013

### Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

A reminder that anyone with a current pension or health care card is eligible to apply for EMA. These applications have to be in by 28/02/2013. Parents who were eligible last year **do have to re-apply this year**. Please see the School Office for forms and information.
# SEAFORD CAFÉ LUNCHEONTIME MENU

**TERM 1 2013**  
**SANDWICH BAR**

**HOT FOOD**
- Plain chicken burger  
  (Mayo optional +free)  
  $2.30
- Tomato, cheese,  
  lettuce  
  ea $0.10
- Hot Dogs (plain)  
  $2.00
- With cheese/mustard  
  $2.20
- 1 / 2 Hot Dog  
  $1.00
- Mrs Mac party pies  
  $0.80
- Chicken Nuggets  
  $0.60 ea

**SANDWICH BAR**
- Vegemite or cheese  
  (lettuce, tomato  
  Or cheese)  
  $0.80 $0.30 ea
- Ham or chicken  
  $1.30

**SNACKS**
- Frozen yoghurt  
  $1.40
- fruit and jelly cup  
  $1.20
- Popcorn  
  $0.80

**DRINKS**
- Hot chocolate (cup)  
  $0.70
- Flavoured milk  
  $1.50
- Hot Chicken Soup  
  $1.00
- Prima 100%  
  (orange, app, trop, app/ blk)  
  $1.20

- Salt + vin or BBQ vege  
  chips or Arnotts shapes  
  $0.60
- Frozen fruit or  
  Yoghurt tubes  
  $0.60
- Seasonal fruit  
  $0.20
- Licorice  
  $0.20

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****Snacks are only available at lunchtime.  **Paper bag $0.10**