FROM REALITY WE GAIN UNDERSTANDING
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1ST November, 2012

Reminder: Pupil Free Day - Monday November 5th

From The Principal’s Desk.

Beliefs and values that students bring to school are strongly influenced by the beliefs and values of their parents. I am sure that there would not be one parent in our community who would not want the absolute best for their child in terms of educational outcomes. It is therefore essential that children see their parents as valuing education. One of the ways that this value can be demonstrated is that you instil in your child the practice of being at school prior to the bell and that they remain at school until the end of the school day. At the early stages of school children rely on their parents to get them to school on time and as they advance through the grades they gradually take on more responsibility for this themselves. At the other end of the day, as students are not released from school until 3.30 unless being picked up by a parent or designated adult, it is the parent that makes the decision as to whether or not their child will remain for the whole day.

Unfortunately, we have a large number of students who arrive after 9 o’clock each day and increasingly a number of students who are picked up early each day. Whilst it is understood that doctor and dentist appointments and other commitments may mean that on occasions children will arrive late or need to be picked up early, but this should be the exception rather than the rule. If it becomes a regular occurrence the message soon gets through to your child that you do not value their education. Please ensure that as much as possible your child is at school and ready to start the day by 9 o’clock and only pick them up early when it is absolutely necessary.

This week all students in years P – 4 would have received a notice regarding the swimming program which is due to commence on Monday, November 19th. This is an intensive, 8 session program that will build your child’s water confidence and swimming skills, and at $82 for the program, which includes small group tuition and transport, it represents good value for money. Please be aware, however, that these 8 sessions will not, in themselves, ensure that your child is a competent swimmer. At this age children should always be closely supervised in or near water, irrespective of how well they can swim. In the event that the cost of attending this program would prevent your child from being involved, please contact me so that we can develop a payment plan that suits your circumstances.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair this week. Commission that the school earns, which is calculated as 30% of all sales will be used to select a range of books which will be available for children to borrow and bring home. In next week’s newsletter I will be able to advise you of how much commission we were able to earn. Parents play a vital role in the development of reading skills by listening to a their child read, reading to their child and by discussing what has been read, or viewed in illustrations. This is particularly important until independent reading skills are acquired and for most children this is generally around the year 3 and 4 level. Once again it is often the parent that, through positive modelling, develops the beliefs and values that reading is important. It is also a great way to build strong relationships with your child by spending quality time together, but remember that it must be a positive experience, so make it fun.

Diary Dates
School Banking every Tuesday throughout the School Term
5th November
Pupil Free Day
6th November
Melbourne Cup Day
8th November
Prep/1 BBQ
9th November
Interschool Sport Years 5/6
13th November
Author visit Years 3-6
14th November
Bunnings—Parents
19th– 30th November
Prep—year 4 swimming program commences.
5th December
Christmas cooking with Wayan
7th December
Kids Carnival
10th December
Information Night 7.00 p.m.
11th December
School Transition Day
14th December
Gala Sports
19th December
Graduation—Year 6
20th December
Big Day Out—Year 6
21st December
Last day of term 4 and 2012
Last Thursday evening, after some fun activities and a barbecue dinner, our year 2 students spent the night sleeping at the school. The children had a great time, and most of them even got some sleep. On Friday they visited Myuna Farm in Noble Park where they were able to feed a variety of farm animals, learn how to milk a goat, how to hold baby rabbits and guinea pigs and were involved in an educational program about bees and honey. Thanks to Mrs Douglas, Ms Round and Mrs Waller for staying overnight to look after the children and for their organisation of a great experience.

Whilst the year 2’s were off at Myuna Farm, the preps and year 1’s had an equally valuable day with a visit from the people at Reptile Encounters and a trip to Mordialloc. As part of the school’s outdoor education program, (which includes our year 2 sleepover) the preps and year 1’s will be having their BBQ and activities evening, next Thursday, November 8th. Hopefully all year Prep and year 1 students will be able to participate in this.

Regards
Michael

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

*Displayed on the Noticeboard in the front foyer of the Office.*

- Patterson River Fire Brigade open day Saturday 10th November 10a.m. to 3p.m.
- Happiness is a Dry Bed - Information session 13th November 7.30 - 9.30 Brighton Recreational Centre

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**PUPIL FREE DAY- REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY:**

Monday November 5th will be a Pupil Free Day at Seaford Primary School, with staff working on School Assessment and Reporting Requirements. This day has been approved by School Council. sKids will be providing a Child Care Service on this day commencing at 7 a.m and concluding at 6 p.m for students registered. Please advise Matt of your child’s attendance so he can ensure adequate supervision.

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**SEAFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR HELPING WITH OUR LEAP PROGRAM**

**netsetgo**

Junior netball
Frankston & District Netball Assoc. Inc.
Netsetgo! Junior skill Program
For boys & girls aged 6-11 years
Tuesdays 4.00 - 5.00pm
Patterson River SC Stadium
For information call FDNA 9776 5155

**SEAFORD DRAMA SCHOOL**

Sarah Bollenberg:
bollenberg@mac.com
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN’S ACHIEVEMENTS:

The above children received their “You Can Do It—Persistence” awards at assembly last Friday.

Mikayla, Maddi, Samuel, Jordan, Griffin and Seth all received sports awards for Interschool sport at assembly on Friday.

Brooke and Samantha each received a Dollarmites award from the Commonwealth Bank for depositing into their bank accounts.

Auben showed the assembly his medal and trophy he received at the Victorian Schools Cycling Championships. Congratulations Auben.

Erik, Lachlan, Indy, Georgia and Ben told the school assembly all about competing in the State Chess Championships.
CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is a form of bullying which we have seen in school for a few years now due to the rise in popularity and accessibility to social media sites. It means causing harm to another through email, text, chat room, mobile phone, camera, mobile camera or another form of technology.

Often someone will type a mean or abusive text, show it to others and then send it to the intended message receiver. The person receiving the message is often extremely hurt. This can be a mobile camera photo, a text message or an email.

Before long, more and more students are joining in the bullying and it has grown in size, often seeming to take on a life of its own.

The victim grows fearful of who is texting, what is being sent to them and even their inability to use their computer without being harassed. Their privacy is invaded, they may also be taunted by the bullies verbally and their happiness is greatly affected.

Some victims of this form of bullying do not report it to their parents, friends or teachers due to the embarrassment that they feel and how small they feel the problem may appear to others. But, to the victim it may seem overwhelming.

Class mates may use this form of bullying to begin voting on who is the worst child in the class or ‘chatting’ online to each other and using the ‘block’ button to exclude another classmate from joining in. This can be compared to a group of students who play together and exclude another in the schoolyard. It is hurtful, intentional bullying which affects the person being bullied in many ways.

WHAT TO DO

Some signs to watch for in a child who is being bullied are: Behaving differently, being shy, quiet, temperamental, being afraid to go to school, being afraid to use the computer or check mobile phone messages, depression and anxiety.

Encourage discussion about bullying in all forms and monitor a child’s internet use and mobile phone messages. Discussion in chat rooms is recorded in the computer and can be read at a later date. Websites visited can be viewed and mobile phone messages that are sent can be looked at also in most mobile phones.

Let your child know that they can talk to you about this issue and that you take it seriously. Ask to be shown any abusive or derogatory messages or photos sent to your child when they are received and know that the school and police do not take cyberbullying lightly.

Parents may need to monitor their child’s internet chat room usage as this is a very common place for guards to be let down and often swearing and put-downs occur in this place. Incidents of cyberbullying often end with a parent discovering that their child is using this time unsupervised to harass and swear at other students, believing that they are not going to be found out. This term the students at Seaford Primary School are being reminded of cyberbullying and their rights to not put up with this behaviour. They will also be aware of its serious nature and police attention that it can attract.

MOVEMBER

I thought I would write about something which I will be participating in this year (from today actually). Something which actually originated in Melbourne, believe it or not.

During November each year, Movember is responsible for the sprouting of moustaches on thousands of men’s faces in Australia and around the world. The aim of which is to raise vital funds and awareness for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer and male mental health.

After registering, guys then start Movember 1st with a clean-shaven face and then for the rest of the month, these Mo Bros, groom, trim and wax their mo into fine moustachery. Supported by the women in their lives, Mo Sistas, Movember Mo Bros raise funds by seeking out sponsorship for their Mo growing efforts.

Mo Bros effectively become walking, talking billboards for the 30 days of November and through their actions and words raise awareness by prompting private and public conversation around the often ignored issue of men’s health.

At the end of the month, Mo Bros and their Mo Sistas celebrate by throwing their own Movember party or attending one of the infamous Gala Parties held around the world by Movember, for Movember.

The funds raised in Australia support equally the two biggest health issues men face – prostate cancer and male mental health. The funds raised are directed to programs run directly by Movember and men’s health partners, the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia and beyondblue: the national depression initiative. Together, the three channels work together to ensure that Movember funds are supporting a broad range of innovative, world-class programs.

MOVEMBER - A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

Since its humble beginnings in Melbourne, Australia, Movember has grown to become a truly global movement inspiring more than 1.9 Million Mo Bros and Mo Sistas to participate in Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada, the UK, South Africa, Ireland, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Belgium and the Czech Republic. In addition, Movember is aware of Mo Bros and Mo Sistas supporting the men’s health cause across the globe, from Russia to Dubai, Hong Kong to Antarctica, Rio de Janeiro to Mumbai, and everywhere in between.

No matter the country or city, Movember will continue to work to change established habits and attitudes men have about their health, to educate men about the health risks they face, and to act on that knowledge, thereby increasing the chances of early detection, diagnosis and effective treatment.

In 2011, over 854,000 Mo Bros and Mo Sistas around the world got on board, raising AUD 124 million.

More information at:  http://au.movember.com
Year 2 Sleepover
The Language Unit students have been looking at Information Texts. They have all completed their own about Australia. We have listed some of the interesting information we discovered about Australia and are now using our iPads to design Information Texts around maps.

⇒ Tasmania is named after Abel Tasman.
⇒ James Cook was born 27th October 1728 and died 14th February 1779. His ship was called the *Endeavour*.
⇒ Cook was a British explorer and Captain in the Royal Navy. He mapped a lot of the eastern parts of Australia.
⇒ Matthew Flinders met George Bass, a ship’s doctor, when they were both sailing to Australia.
⇒ Flinders went all around Australia by boat – so Flinders proved that Australia was a big island. It was Flinders who suggested the name Australia.
⇒ Bass and Flinders sailed the *Norfolk* through Bass Strait and around Tasmania proving that it was an island.
⇒ Flinders was captured by the French on the island of Mauritius in 1803 until 1810. They thought he was a spy but he wasn’t. Then they let him go and he went back to England. When he got back he was 39. He was not healthy. While ill, he made a book of his travels and called it *A Voyage to Terra Australis*. He died on the day his book was published. He proved that Australia was one island and his book was used for many years.
⇒ The current population of Australia is around 22,700,000.
⇒ Australia’s capital city is Canberra.
⇒ Australia means ‘southern land’.
⇒ It is the 6th largest country and smallest continent.
⇒ It has 6 states and 2 territories.
⇒ Australian animals include the kangaroo, koala, emu, wombat, platypus.
⇒ Alice Springs is the geographical centre of Australia and was discovered by John Stuart.
⇒ Aboriginal people lived in Australia over 40,000 years ago.
⇒ We enjoyed learning about Australia and the explorers – James Cook, Matthew Flinders, George Bass, Burke and Wills, John Stuart and Hume.
THIS YEAR’S KIDS CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 7TH BEGINNING AT 1.30PM.

CHILDREN CHANGE MONEY INTO SEAHORSE DOLLARS AND EITHER PURCHASE GOODS OR USE THEIR TOKENS TO PLAY GAMES FOR PRIZES.

ACTIVITIES SUCH AS JUMPING CASTLE, LUCKY STRAWS, FUNNY FACE BISCUITS, FACE PAINTING, TRASH & TREASURE, BOOKS AND TOYS, LUCKY BALLOONS, CAKES/SWEETS ETC ARE OFFERED.

AT THIS STAGE WE WOULD LIKE ANY DONATIONS OF BOOKS, TOYS, GAMES, PUZZLES IN GOOD CONDITION FOR OUR TRASH & TREASURE STALL. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE PRIZES FOR ACTIVITIES - THAT WOULD ALSO BE GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED.

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT HOME CLOSER TO THE DAY, BUT FOR NOW……..BE PREPARED FOR A GREAT AFTERNOON OF FUN AND GAMES.