FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

3rd November, 2016

A reminder that tomorrow, Friday November 4th is a pupil free day, so children are not required at school.

Everyone likes to feel that they belong. Whether it be as part of a family, a group of friends, a sporting team or similar organisation. I believe that everyone also likes to feel they belong as part of their work place, or for children, their school.

So what are the things that need to be in place so that we, our staff and our students, have that sense of belonging? It was with this in mind that I spoke to a number of students and staff this week and asked that very same thing - What is it that makes you feel that you belong at this school? .....and here are some of the responses:

Staff- Camaraderie with colleagues; I get paid; years of service; it's a small school and we all know each other, being part of a community, the staff all support each other, connecting with students, its rewarding, all working towards the same goals.

Students- Everyone treats me right, I feel safe, lots of things to do, all of the teachers help me, because I live nearby, because I feel happy, I have lots of friends; lots of people care about me, I feel happy, safe and calm; I have lots of friends to play with.

It was interesting doing this survey as for most, even though they agreed that they did feel a sense of belonging, it was difficult to put into words- a sense of belonging is something that is not tangible, it’s a feeling – we know when we belong and when we don’t. I would hope that everyone who comes to this school as either a student, a staff member or a parent, feels this sense even if they can’t put this feeling into words. This would be a good conversation starter at home asking your child what it is that makes them feel that they belong to the school. I would love you to share the responses with me and we can put them in a future newsletter.

Participation goes a long way in developing that sense of belonging, and I found that for both staff and students, those that actively participated to a higher level were more readily able to articulate why it was that they felt they belonged. Hopefully in reading this you also have a sense of belonging, but if not then I would encourage you to firstly talk to me about what you are feeling, but also to look at ways in which you can participate in the life of the school.

Regards
Michael
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN’S ACHIEVEMENTS

Victor, Campbell, Rami, Crystal, Lachlan, Chelsea, Ella, Cameron, and Jessie received Interschool Sport Awards at assembly last Friday.

Christian, Cameron and Renee shared their sporting trophies with us at assembly last Friday. Congratulations

COMMUNITY NEWS

Displayed on the Noticeboard in the corridor outside the Office.

- Seaford Girl Guides
- 1st Seaford Scout Group—Joey Scouts are looking for new members.
- Abs-olute Muscle Tone and Fitness—Personal Training
- Rugby Star Academy
- Girl Guides Car boot Sale 19th November 2016
**SWIMMING PROGRAM**

**PREP—YEAR 4**

28th November—8th December

(except Fridays)

A reminder that the Prep—Year 4 swimming program is starting in November at a cost of $82.00. (This can be taken from CSEF or SSF for those who qualify)

Please make sure you get your forms into your teacher if you want your child to participate in this activity.

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**GRAVITY ZONE OFFER**

For your upcoming Curriculum Day this Friday November 4th we would like to offer all parents the following.

If any of your students/parents simply mention the name of the school to our staff, we are happy to offer them the super special price of $16 for the day jumping or $25 for unlimited jumping and laser tag!! So students from Seaford PS can have five hours (10am – 3pm) for the one low price!