Leadership is a term we often hear used in a whole range of contexts. But what is “Leadership?”

Leadership is about building relationships, it is about inspiring people, it is about building teams and it is about setting directions. It is about being proactive and taking initiative.

Most schools provide opportunities for students to take on positions where they will build leadership skills, but often the selected students represent only a few of the total student population. At Seaford we believe that all children should be given the opportunity to take on leadership roles and develop leadership skills, and we are currently looking at ways that we can best do this.

In the newsletter of April 30th I briefly touched on leadership when the year 5 and 6 students were visited by Mr Bruce Billson, our local federal member of parliament and in this newsletter I included a quote from a publication entitled, “The Leader In Me”. This book outlines a student leadership program based on the 7 Habits Of Highly Effective People developed by Stephen Covey. This program commenced in the United States in 1999 and is now operating in schools in many countries throughout the world including some schools in Australia.

At Seaford we are keen to explore how we can best use the philosophies and strategies of this program to suit the needs of all of our students. Whilst it has the development of leadership skills in students at its core, the program is also about the changing of culture and the development of a shared language. One of the first schools to implement the Leader In Me in Australia was Parktone Primary School in 2010. Principal George Danson is coming to Seaford to speak to our staff in the first session of our pupil free day on Tuesday May 26th. He will be sharing with us his school’s journey which we hope will provide us with a starting point for our own.

We are mindful not to rush into this program as we will only have one chance to “get it right” so our progress will be deliberately slow. As we progress we will keep you informed through the school newsletter. We also hope that your children will be so excited and motivated about what we are doing that they will share this with you at home.

In the second and third sessions of our pupil free day we are fortunate to have Karen Starkiss from the organisation SPELD (Specific Learning Difficulties) working with our staff to develop a better understanding of Dyslexia, how to identify students that may be dyslexic and what approaches to teaching and learning will best support them. Building teacher capacity in all our teaching and education support staff to support students with a specific learning difficulty will, in the end, build their capacity to support all students in their learning. In the newsletter after Karen’s visit I will give a detailed overview to you based on her presentation, and will make available to you any relevant handouts that she provides to us.

With NAPLAN now out of the way for another year we focus our attention on two events that are coming up next week. The first of these is Education Week which spans the whole of the week. We have some special events planned including Wednesday’s dress up (along the themes of “Cracking the Code”, “Kings Queens and Castles” or “Star Wars”), and a multi age grouping day and Thursday morning’s open day where members of our community can come in to see the school in operation from 9.30 to 11.00. For parents dropping off their children at or before 9 am, please remember that the book fair is open from 9.00 – 9.30 for parents/grandparents and that tea and coffee will be available in the parent drop in centre from 9 am. At 11 o’clock all visitors are invited to join the staff in the staff room for morning tea. You should already have received a flier detailing these events along with an order form for a special pie and tart morning tea.

The second event is our Book Fair. All classes will visit the book fair on Monday and children may fill in a wish list so you are aware of the titles they are interested in. This will help you with your discussion on Monday night with your child as to what they may or may not be able to buy. Budgeting is another important skill for children to develop, so if they know what their financial limit is, they then need to make a choice. Please do not feel any pressure to make any purchase at the Book Fair – there is absolutely no obligation and to have children understand the meaning of “no” is also an important skill!!

Sales times for children at the Book Fair will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8.30 – 9.00 and 3.30 – 4.00. As previously mentioned it will also be open for sales for adults only on Thursday from 9.00 – 9.30.

Regards

Michael.
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN’S ACHIEVEMENTS

Briley, Emily, Ben, Jack, Peter, Jude, Luke, Lila, Dale, Molly and Brooke received their sports awards at assembly last Friday.

Beau, Crystal, Blake and Jack shared their Karate medals with us. They received them for attaining their yellow belts. Well done!!

Lucy and Caiden received their Fitness Club awards at assembly last Friday.

Education Week 2015

Party Pie and Tart Pack—Play Lunch
Wednesday 20th May
Don’t forget to order your party pie and tart pack for play lunch
2x party pies and 1 jam tart $2.00
(one order per child with No Variation)

Orders must be returned to your teacher with the money in an envelope by Monday 18th May.
(No late orders please)

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

- It’s not too late to change your smoke alarm batteries.
- Seaford United soccer club is looking for boys and girls to play soccer.
- Frankston Hockey Club. Training at Monash University.

PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE QKR APP FOR YOUR SMART PHONES CAN BE USED TO PAY FOR ALL ITEMS AT SEAFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL.
(Ask at the Office)
Thanks to all that attended the Mothers’ Day Breakfast last Friday and the helpers who made it such a success.

There was frozen yoghurt (vanilla, strawberry and mango–thanks Matt for the delicious yoghurt) with berries, mango and muesli as well as chocolates for the mothers.

Not a bad start to a weekend of pampering!!!
**EDUCATION WEEK 18-22 May**

‘Cracking the Code with Maths’
Kings, Queen’s and Castles Book Fair

**Monday:** Book Fair begins – children look at available material. School Council meeting 5.30pm.

**Tuesday:** Book Fair sales before and after school.

**Wednesday:** Book Fair sales before and after school. Dress up day! Come dressed around the themes of ‘Kings, Queens and Castles’, ‘Star Wars’ or ‘Cracking the Code with Maths’ eg spies. Multi-age rotation mathematics activities 9.00-11.00. 2 Party Pies and 1 Jam Tart Play Lunch Pack – this is optional and if children do not like this please make sure they have a play lunch they are happy to eat. There will be no other orders on this day.

**Thursday:** Open Morning for parents/grandparents 9.00 – 11.00 followed by a cup of tea/coffee. Please come and visit your child in their classroom and spend some time chatting about the work they are proud of. Last day to purchase from Book Fair.

**Friday:** District Cross Country. Assembly at 2.50pm.

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**MOTHERS’ DAY STALL—THANK YOU**

This year’s Mothers’ Day stall held on Thursday 7th of May was once again a great success raising $541, with every child that attended school going home with something special for mum.

I would like to say thank you to all the mums, grandmothers and godmothers that helped out on the day. April, Nancey, Amber, Leonie, Heather, Jodie, Alexis, Sylvia, Narelle, Kathleen and Margaret.

I would also like to thank the children that helped carry plants and other items from my car to the library. These children are: Peter, Emily, Skye, Dalani, Bridget, Max, Connor and Chloe.

It wouldn’t be Mothers’ Day without the plants so I would also like to say a huge thank you to Peter Douglas for the fantastic donation of plants and also Gil from Florist@Seaford for the donation of paper to wrap all the gifts in.

Without the help of all these people the stall would not have been so successful.

Regards
Sheila
Fundraising Committee

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**THANK YOU**

Seaford Primary School Community would like to thank Steve Stones for the very kind donation of crushed rock for our landscaping projects.