prep 2016 information evening

next Tuesday evening at 7pm we will be holding our information evening for prospective parents of preps for 2016. this will be held in our early learning centre. if you know of any neighbours or friends that live in the local area who have a child due to start prep next year, please let them know and encourage them to attend. likewise if you have a child starting school next year and would like to attend you are more than welcome. child minding will be available.

pupil free day

please remember that next Tuesday, May 26th is a pupil free day where staff will be working on student leadership development and dyslexia awareness. students are not required at school on this day. if you require the services of our out of school hours care on Tuesday, please make sure you have registered this with matt prior to the day.

bullying and conflict

of all parent concerns for their children, bullying is probably one of the greatest. the word bullying, however, is much over used as it often simply refers to conflict.

bullying is repeated behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. it can be verbal, physical, social or psychological. cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies.

bullying can happen anywhere: at school, at work, within a family unit, in the local environment and in sporting clubs and other organisations

bullying behaviour can be:

- **verbal:** name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- **physical:** hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- **social:** ignoring, excluding, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- **psychological:** spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of ICT

whilst we do not have a high incidence of bullying behaviour at this school, we do have the occasional incidents that we need to deal with. bullying behaviour will never be tolerated at this school, and we have procedures in place to provide the opportunity for children to develop a greater level of understanding of the way in which bullying behaviour can affect others and hopefully to develop greater levels of empathy. empathy for others is the greatest deterrent of bullying behaviour. this is done through group and individual discussions and activities targeting the specific bullying issue. we need home and school to have the same values and give the same message to our students, that bullying will never be accepted.
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN’S ACHIEVEMENTS

Connor received his Fitness Club Award at assembly last Friday. Connor has completed 10 sessions. Well done Connor!!!

Annabelle shared her life saving medal with us at assembly last Friday. Well done Annabelle!!!

Some behaviours that occur at school, that are also unacceptable but which are not bullying, involve conflict or fights between equals and are one off or occasional incidents and are not based on one child having a higher level of power than the other. Bullying behaviour is not:

- children not getting along well
- a situation of mutual conflict
- single episodes of nastiness or random acts of aggression or intimidation.

This does not mean that we will not deal with these incidents. In these cases we come from a belief that we are educational providers and we need to teach and support children in developing conflict resolution skills. Once again we need home and school to have the same values and give the same message to our students.

The school has an Anti-bullying Policy, copies of which are available from the school office. I am always happy to talk to any parent regarding school discipline procedures or any other matter.

Regards
Michael

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K.I.D Fundraiser

Nepal Earthquake

On Thursday 28th of May the K.I.D representatives have organised a ‘Pyjama and Onesie day’ to raise funds for the victims of the Nepal earthquake. It would be great if each student could please donate a gold coin and join in the fun. The monies raised are going directly to ‘Trek Medic’. This organisation brings much needed health care, education and emergency aid to the area. This is a non for profit organisation.

Mrs Goode’s Farewell

We are hosting an open house afternoon at

Seaford Kindergarten

to give the community a chance to farewell Mrs Goode...

On: Tuesday 26th May 2015       Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

- Seaford United soccer club is looking for boys and girls to play soccer.
- Frankston Hockey Club. Training at Monash University.
- Frankston BMX Club—Come and try day Wednesday May 20th 5pm.—6 pm.
- Living Above The Line—Patterson Lakes Community Centre 17th June 7.30—9.00 p.m.
- Skyped for Sport Birthday Parties Frankston

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)
LEARN HOW TO ENCOURAGE KIDS TO TAKE MORE RISKS

By Michael Grose - 

Encouraging children to step out of their complacency zones to extend themselves and take risks is one of the great modern challenges of parenting. Toddlers seem to be risk-adverse and are not fazed by failure. However, something happens to kids as they get older and aware that others judge them according to how they perform, rather than how much they try. “If I don’t make an error my self-esteem stays in tact” is the attitude of many low risk-takers. This attitude prevents them from making the most of the opportunities that are presented to them inside and outside of school. There are two basic strategies you can use to encourage kids to take more risks:

Risk-encouraging strategy NO. 1: Help children experience success in activities that require a small risk

Kids will take risks if they think the chances of success are reasonable. This means adults need to be careful with their expectations and also structure activities so the likelihood of success is tipped in their favour, particularly early on in a learning process.

When kids experience success in small risk-taking activities they are more likely to take bigger risks next time. For example, a child may resist giving a talk in front of the whole school if he has little experience of speaking in front of groups. However, if he successfully gives some talks in front of smaller groups then he is more likely to take the risk of speaking in front of a large group. Small success breeds confidence. As parents we need to encourage kids to take small risks as much as possible.

Risk-encouraging strategy NO. 2: Give kids a pat on the back for taking risks

Kids get pats on the back for all types of behaviours these days including: behaving well- “Good to see you coming to the table the first time I call”, and satisfying basic human needs- “Look, he’s eating all his meal up. Good on you!”

BUT make sure you give kids a pat on the back for stepping out of their complacency zones and doing something that risks failure. Regardless of result, give kids a pat on the back for taking a risk, when failure or errors were likely.

Confidence and satisfaction come when challenges are met and overcome. Help kids develop real confidence that comes from doing activities when failure is a possibility. Don’t get too upset by their failure, otherwise they will learn to stick to safe options just to please you!

Schoolyard tip

If you feel threatened, tell someone that you trust such as a teacher, parent or friend.

Healthy lunch box tip

Growing vegetables can be even more rewarding for a child when they get to bring the vegetables to school for lunch.
One way to help us learn our Letterland characters, letter sounds and letter names is to sing songs about different characters. Below we have turned each letter in our name into the Letterland character. These are displayed in the main building near the office if you would like to have a closer look.