Dyslexia: Yesterday, Karen Starkiss provided four hours of presentations to all of our staff around the topic of Dyslexia. Karen is the director of Learning and Development at SPEDT an organisation dedicated to research, development and education of Specific Learning Difficulties, and she has established the Dyslexia Support Services. The word Dyslexia simply means “Difficulty with Language” and people that suffer from dyslexia can have varying degrees of difficulty. Whilst there is no cure as such for dyslexia, there are many strategies that can be put in place to support children who are dyslexic and these strategies can also assist other non-dyslexic students as well. Karen provided us with lots of practical suggestions as to how to make our classes more dyslexia friendly, and from the very first session today (Wednesday) there was evidence that some of these had already been adopted in classrooms across the school. It was a highly valuable day for us all.

There is a website that has been developed by Karen that you might like to visit to find out more about dyslexia. It can be located at http://dyslexiasupportservices.com.au and is well worth visiting. It also includes tips for parents of children with dyslexia.

New Department APP: The Department of Education and Training has released an app which is designed to help you better understand the curriculum we use to teach your children every day. The app, called SchoolMate, is available for free download now in the App Store for iPhones and iPads and in Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year. Educators from across the state from Victoria’s various teaching associations have worked with the Department to provide practical tips about what you can do at home to best support what your children are learning. Those teaching experts have also suggested books you may like to read with your child or that they may read themselves, and apps you can download that are related to what your child is learning.

Our school, like all other government schools in Victoria, uses AusVELS – the Australian Curriculum in Victoria – as the basis for the learning programs we run at school every day. Our teachers adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our students and community, for example, designing learning programs around what your children are interested in, or around days or celebrations that are important to our community. SchoolMate is designed to give you an overview of what children are expected to learn in Victorian government schools across every subject from Prep to Year 10.

I encourage you to download SchoolMate and to please talk with your teacher or myself if you are interested to find out more about how our school teaches the curriculum. As SchoolMate is the first app of its kind, the Department would love to hear any feedback you have, and you can send this to online.comms.unit@edumail.vic.gov.au. Feedback from parents and schools will inform any future updates to SchoolMate, so please get in touch if you have the time.
Waiting for children after school: As I am sure you understand, both buildings become very crowded and congested at the end of the day when the school bell rings. With 80 or more children all leaving at the same time it becomes even more congested if we have parents inside the building at this time. I am therefore asking that you arrange to meet your child outside of the buildings at 3.30. In the event of rain, both buildings have an undercover area either attached to or nearby that you can use to shelter from the elements.

Cross Country: Last week 38 of our students represented the school at the Chelsea District Sports Association Cross Country Championships. We have 6 of our students who finished in the top ten of their event who will now represent the district at the zone cross country to be held at Cornish College next Wednesday. They are Jena, Alyssa, Ollie K, Andy, Annika and Bridget. Congratulations to all who competed last week and good luck to those going on. We will hear in next week’s newsletter how they all went.

Congratulations: On Tuesday evening we held our Prep Information evening. I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate our two school captains, Balin and Molly who presented to the audience their thoughts and perceptions of Seaford Primary School. Their presentation was very confident and informative. Everyone in attendance was very impressed!

Regards,
Michael

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CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Caiden and Seth shared their trophies and medal with us at assembly last Friday. Caiden got a trophy for BMX and a medal for life saving. Seth got a trophy for BMX. Congratulations, well done boys!!!!!!!
Pancake Play Lunch Day  
Wednesday 3rd June 9-11.30am

Wednesday 3rd June will be the second pancake play lunch day for the year. 
This is an event that happens every term where batter is made up the day before and parents assist me in cooking the pancakes up for the children. 
It is a chance to come and meet other parents and help to give the children a good fun morning tea. 
Any parent who is free to make the batter on Tuesday 2nd June or to cook the pancakes up on the Wednesday from 9-11.30am or some part of that, please let Erica or myself know.

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. 
- Skyed for Sport Birthday Parties Frankston

Do you live, work or study in Seaford?

If the answer is YES then we would like to ask you three simple questions: What do you like about living/working/studying in Seaford? What do you like least about living/working/studying in Seaford? In 10 years where do you see your area? What needs to be done to get there? 
We're interested in your ideas and will use your answers to develop a new Local Community Plan that will guide Council's decision making in your area for the next four years.

The engagement team are going to be at the following venues on these days and times. So drop in at our marquees and have your say:

- Ritchie's Seaford 290 Seaford Rd Seaford Victoria 3198 (Ph Ref 100 A3) Thursday 18th June 3.30pm – 5.00pm
- Seaford Junior Football Club 151 East Rd Seaford Victoria 3198 (Ph Ref 100 A4) Sunday 14th June 10.30am – 10.00pm
- Seaford Farmers Market 17 Station St Seaford Victoria 3198 (Ph Ref 59 ED) Sunday 21st June 8.00am – 10.00pm

If you are unable to make it to one of our listening posts above but would like to have your say, please contact Cindy Rowan, Community Engagement Officer on 5784 1035 or via email cindy.rowan@hrshistoric.gov.au.

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)
Jemma, Isabella, Peter and Heidi presented some of their work on the topic of Natural Disasters at assembly on Friday.
Well done 5/6S your work looks amazing!!!!!
May 28th 2015

Dear parents,

You may have noticed that additional landscaping works have been completed around the year 3 to 6 building with the placement of a large quantity of honeycomb rocks around the garden area. This certainly enhances the look of the school and we have had many positive comments from both within our school community and from local neighbours all commenting on how good it looks. Thanks to parent, Steve Stones, who organised the donation of these rocks through his work.

Meandering through some of these rocks we intend to lay our Centenary Path, many of you having ordered pavers for inclusion, and we will be planting additional grasses and shrubs which the school will shortly receive as a donation from the City of Frankston.

We have had delivered a large quantity of Weathertech Boards which we will use to build around each of the vegetable gardens. These will be painted and then trimmed with decking edging to provide that finishing touch.

Also courtesy of Steve Stones we have taken delivery of some crushed rock which has been spread between the netball courts and the art room. It is here that we plan to create a sensory garden and we have been successful in a grant application to the Victorian School Garden Association and will receive $500 worth of plants for this project.

It is also our intention to remove the structure adjacent to the storage shed and replace it with an outdoor theatre where children will be able to perform plays etc. This will be a small low deck of about 2.5m by 8m.

In order for us to get as much of this work done as possible, the school council has organised a working bee to be held on Saturday June 13th and the morning of Sunday June 14th. Details are provided on the accompanying flier.

We would hope that all families would be able to commit to an hour or two’s work on one of these days. If everyone gets on board I am confident that all tasks will be completed and that at the end of the weekend the grounds will look stunning.

To help us organise and prioritise the work, it would be helpful if you could fill in the flier and return to school as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Building and Grounds Committee.
Seaford Primary School

To all our families-

It is our intention to have a major Working Bee on Saturday June 13\textsuperscript{th} and the morning of Sunday June 14\textsuperscript{th} in order to complete a number of tasks around the school. It is planned to complete the following works:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Saturday-}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Preparation of the Centenary Path
      \end{itemize}
  \item Placement of edging and spreading of crushed rock/soil/mulch in area between the art room and netball courts.
  \item Repairs to vegetable garden boxes.
  \item Building of outdoor stage (decking) next to garden shed near adventure playground.
  \end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Sunday}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Laying of pavers on Centenary Path.
      \item Completion of any of the above works not finished on Saturday.
      \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}

\textit{Whilst the school does have some tools, if you could bring a wheelbarrow, shovel, rake etc, that would be helpful}

Please tick those tasks above that you would like to be involved in and below the time(s) that you could give to the school

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Saturday}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item 9 - 10
      \item 10 - 11
      \item 11 - 12
      \item 12 - 1
      \item LUNCH 2 - 3
      \item 3 - 4
      \end{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Sunday}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item 9 - 10
      \item 10 - 11
      \item 11 - 12
      \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}

Morning tea will be provided both days and lunch on Saturday

Name ___________________________ Contact Number ___________________
May 29th 2015

RE: National Consistent Collection Of Data on School Students with Disability

Dear parents,

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic Schools, will participate in the National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year.

The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. Data will be de-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. Through this process, no student will be able to be identified individually.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

For Seaford Primary School this means that we will be collecting data from classroom teachers for each child who has some level of adjustment to his or her education program and that this adjustment has been in place for a minimum of 10 weeks in the previous 12 month period. This will include students who are funded on the Program for Students with Disabilities, who access the Language Unit, who have been on the Additional Assistance Program and/or Speech Therapy Assistance Program, who have an Individual Learning Plan, or who have activities in the classroom regularly modified to meet their individual needs.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 97861357 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on 96513621.

Yours sincerely

Michael Browne
(Principal)