Principal’s Word

2015 NAPLAN Testing

The annual National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing for our Year 3 and 5 students will be held from Tuesday 12th May to Friday 15th May. All students (unless they have been formally exempt) will be assessed in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. The data from NAPLAN test results gives schools and systems the ability to compare their students’ achievements against national standards and with student achievement in other states and territories. It also allows the monitoring of student progress over time. All students in Years 3 and 5 will bring home a NAPLAN information brochure from their classroom this week. If you require any more information about NAPLAN tests after reading this brochure please feel free to talk to your child’s teacher or contact a member of the administration team.

School Council Meeting

Last week our initial School Council meeting was postponed and will now take place on Thursday 26th March at 3.30pm. Our School Council is an integral part of the decision making process that occurs at Safety Bay Primary School. Last year a decision was made to meet twice per term to support the governance of the school in the shaping and monitoring of our school plans, both Strategic and Operational. If you are interested in becoming a member of the School Council, please pick up a nomination form from the front office.

Student Attendance

At Safety Bay Primary School we closely monitor the attendance of all students. Our processes for doing this are guided by the Department’s Attendance Policy. Each day your child’s attendance is recorded on our Student Information System. If your child is away and you notify the school of the reason for the absence, this is also recorded on our system. The number of days each student is absent is communicated to you in the student reports sent home at the end of semester one and two each year.

Research clearly shows that if a student is away from school more than 10% of the time there can be a significant negative impact on that student’s ability to learn. Obviously there are often good reasons for children to be kept home from school. However, sometimes we find that students are absent each day for reasons that often do not warrant staying at home. Absences of a day here and a day there soon add up.

Please help your children get into good habits and encourage them to attend school each day unless there are genuine reasons preventing them from doing so.

Quote: Parents can only give good advice or put children on the right paths, but the final forming of a person’s character lies in their own hand. Anne Frank.

Wayne McKay
Principal
Please remember to check the Lost Property box located outside the staffroom for any lost belongings. It is also important to clearly label all uniforms, hats, lunch boxes, drink bottles and school equipment, so if misplaced they can be returned to the student.

Bernice Shepherd
P&C President

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**G R A D U A T I O N  U N I F O R M S**

We are sorry for the delay in receiving your Graduation Uniform orders. We have been advised by the manufacturing company that, the screen printer has broken his wrist, and they have had to employ someone else to complete jobs. As a result this means they are unfortunately behind schedule, however we are hoping that they will be delivered sometime this week.

Thank you for your patience.

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**P & C N E W S**

I would like to thank Jill Erikssen our Vice President for handling/leading the process of advertising the vacancy of the Canteen/Uniform Assistance. Not an easy task to take on, however very much appreciated.

I would like to wish all the applicants the best of luck.

To all our Parents...our Easter Raffle is coming up and your chocolate donations and support would be very much welcomed...there are boxes in their classrooms, front office and the canteen so you can drop off your yummy chocolates. Tickets will be issued to every student as well as raffle stands in the mornings just inside the school gates for families to purchase.

Bernice Shepherd
P&C President

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**N E W S  F R O M  P 9  A N D  P 1 0**

Last Wednesday afternoon, P9 and P10 invited our parents to come in and help their children construct a lighthouse based on a plan produced by them. We have included some photos of the amazing and incredibly diverse creations that were produced. We have been reading stories about lighthouses and in particular the “Lighthouse Girl”. This story is based on the true story of a young girl who farewelled the Australian and New Zealand troops as they left Albany in 1914 to go to war. This story will be re-enacted during our combined class assembly on Friday 27th March. All are welcome to attend.

Thankyou
Year 2
P9 & P10

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**M E R I T  C E R T I F I C A T E S**

Congratulations go to the following students, the latest recipients of our prestigious Merit Certificates. Well done!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W8</td>
<td>Pippa</td>
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<td>W5</td>
<td>Sampson</td>
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<td>W1</td>
<td>Kiara</td>
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<td>Sapphire</td>
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<td>S3</td>
<td>Zyanne</td>
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<td>P10</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
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<td>P9</td>
<td>Olivia</td>
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<td>S4</td>
<td>James</td>
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<td>C16</td>
<td>Zahra</td>
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<td>C17</td>
<td>Helina</td>
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<td>C18</td>
<td>Stephen</td>
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<td>Jameson P10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michael C. P10</td>
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<td>Michael L. S3</td>
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**A H O Y  T H E R E !**

As part of the Commemoration of the Centenary of ANZAC, I would like to set up a school display featuring various items, including photographs of family members or friends who have been in the armed services; Army Air force, Navy or Merchant Navy; Uniforms or anything military related.

Photocopies of photographs are preferable or I will photocopy them and return to you. Any items loaned need to be clearly labelled to ensure they can be returned.

Where possible could all photographs have the following details on the back; Name, rank, age and where the photo was taken.

If you have any questions you can reach me at school on 95283680 or via email debra.batey@education.wa.edu.au

Please remember to check the Lost Property box located outside the staffroom for any lost belongings.
Everyone Needs Friends

Children’s friendships often have their ups and downs. When friendships are going well they support children’s emotional wellbeing and confidence, as well as providing someone to play with. Positive friendships help children have fun, and also help them cope during periods of stress and change. This is why having friends at school is so important for children.

Helping kids with the ups and downs of friendships

It is not always easy for children to know how to manage friendships. Problems with friends can affect how children feel about themselves and their enthusiasm for activities that involve others. Parents and carers can help children learn the kinds of friendship skills they will need as they grow and develop.

Learning how to make and keep friends involves a number of skills. Children learn more and more complex social skills from those around them as they develop.

Home life has an effect on the development of social skills. A child who has an adoring little sister is likely to have more skills of leadership. A child who is the little sister may be more used to fitting in with what others want to do. These children are likely to react differently when they go to school and meet other children with different life experiences and different social skills.

Friendship skills for children include

- **Cooperation**
  - How to share, how to take turns, how to work together towards a common goal.

- **Communication**
  - Using words to explain what you want and listening to others respectfully
  - Paying attention to body language, e.g., making eye contact, smiling and being able to read others’ nonverbal reactions.

- **Understanding and managing feelings**
  - Being able to express feelings in ways that help others understand you.
  - Recognising and responding to others’ feelings.

- **Accepting and including others**
  - Recognising others’ needs for respect and friendship.

Solving friendship problems

Children develop friendship skills through playing with other children. Because they are learning, they are sure to have times when things do not go as they would like. Sometimes they blame themselves for what has happened.

They may say: “Nobody likes me ‘coz I can’t run as fast as they can.” Sometimes they blame everyone else for the problem and say: “The kids are all mean to me.” Even though they blame the other kids they may still think of it as a problem they cannot change.

How parents and carers can help

First and foremost you can help children by listening to them talk about the everyday joys and troubles that arise out of their friendships. Asking what might have led to others’ reactions can help the child, with your assistance, to think of possible solutions.

KidsMatter continued…. Try a problem solving approach

When problems arise in friendships it is important not to blame children but to show them how to find a solution. A problem solving approach is often helpful.

1. Encourage the child to describe what has happened.
2. Ask about how they felt.
3. Ask them how they think the other person might see it and how they might be feeling.
4. Get them to think of ways they could do things differently next time.
5. Encourage them to try the new approach – get them to practise with you so they feel more confident.
6. Check back with your child to see how things turned out.

The following web pages may also be of interest:


Be the reason someone smiles today.

SURVEY FOR PARENTS AND KIDS

Researchers at the University of Western Australia are looking for parents with children or teens between the ages of 8 and 16 to help us find out more about the relationship between the personality trait, narcissism, and children’s emerging understanding of who they are (their sense of self and self-esteem).

The survey can be done over the internet and at home, and it takes about twenty minutes of your time (10 mins parents, 15 mins children). Parents are given the opportunity to enter a draw to win one of twenty $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myer.

To participate go to: [www.tinyurl.com/SSBParents](http://www.tinyurl.com/SSBParents)

For more information please contact Kate Derry at 6488 3259.
Do you have children 7 to 13 years old? Are you worried about their weight? The Better Health Program runs for 10 weeks during school term at various locations across Perth. Sessions are run twice a week for two hours after school.

FREE fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier

Registrations for the next school term are now open. To find out more phone:

Call 1300 822 953

SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back or visit betterhealthprogram.org
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Ph: 9527 2374

Contact Di Tindale  
P 9528 3680  
E diana.tindale@education.wa.edu.au

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**PRIMARY AGE YOUTH GROUP**

Come along to Youth Group on Friday nights!  
Enjoy games, make friends, learn Scripture, eat supper.  
(Planned and supervised)

**Who:** Years 1–6  
**When:** Friday nights, 6–7:30pm (school terms)  
**Cost:** $2 donation p/child (or $4 p/family)  
**Dress standard:** Casual (neat and respectable)  
**Where:** Rockingham Church of Christ,  
cnr Rae Rd & Frederick St, Safety Bay  
Ph 9592 2495  
www.rockinghamcofc.org.au

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**SAFETY BAY NEWSAGENCY**

ONE STOP FOR ALL NEWSAGENCY LINES  
Shop 7, Bayside Shopping Centre  
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Sun CLOSED  
Public Hol 9:00am to 12 noon

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