Term 3 Week 6

Important dates to put in your calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24/8/2015</td>
<td>Book Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/8/2015</td>
<td>Primary Disco K-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/8/2015</td>
<td>Primary Book Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9/2015</td>
<td>Fathers Day stall Primary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9/2015</td>
<td>Fathers Day Breakie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Principal Report

Learning is First and Foremost

We are very excited to have our new library furniture. The new style furniture provides new opportunities for the library learning space to be utilised for both independent and collaborative learning.


**NAPLAN**

Families will receive copies of individual student NAPLAN results this week. It was great to see some excellent progress in our overall results compared to our benchmark data, particularly in Year 7 and 9. This included:

- Halving the gap between School All and State All for the top two skills bands for writing (Y9)
- Closing the gap between School All and State All by at least 5 percentage points for the top two skills bands for reading (Y7); writing (Y5, Y7); numeracy (Y7, Y9)
- Halving the gap between School All and State All for the top three skills bands for writing (Y9); numeracy (Y7)
- Closing the gap between School All and State All by at least 5 percentage points for the top three skills bands for reading (Y7); writing (Y7); numeracy (Y9)
- Percentage of students achieving expected growth exceeded state performance for numeracy (Y9) and was similar to state average for reading (Y9); writing (Y7, Y9); numeracy (Y7).

**The Partners in Learning parent feedback survey**

Our school is again participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help us understand parents’ and carers’ perspectives on your child’s experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school’s support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help us make practical improvements and build on advice provided last year that was incorporated into our school plan.

The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated.

The survey details are:

- Link [https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm](https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm)
- User name: parent16793
- Password: Wad8278

The Year of Light

Last week we hosted Year 6 students from the local partner schools for Science Week. Dr Sophie Parks also visited as part of our ongoing partnership with CSIRO focussing on real science lessons.

This week is Book Week. In her book *Reading in the Wild*, Donalyn Miller identifies five characteristics of successful readers for pleasure:

1. They make time to read and dedicate part of each day to doing so
2. They have the confidence, experience and skills to self-select reading materials
3. They share their books and reading experiences with other readers
4. They have a reading plan - they know what they will read next
5. They show and share preferences for particular authors, genres and topics.

Both Science Week and Book Week take up themes related to the Year of light.

*Mr Jason McGrath*

*Principal*
New Books in the Library...

New book ‘blurb’ or book summary available via Oliver and the student portal. Also have a read of the online reviews e.g., http://www.goodreads.com/ and contact us on 4392-5000 or use the school email address to tell us of any books that you would like to have in the library collection.

The Library welcomes your suggestion!

The Children’s Book Council of Australia has announced the shortlisted titles up for awards this year. You can find reviews at this link http://cbca.org.au/ShortList-2015.htm
Considering Nippers this Summer?

Soldiers Beach SLSC

Registration days for 2015
- Sunday 30 August 9 - 12pm
- Saturday 5 September 9 - 12pm
- Sunday 13 September 9 - 12pm

New and returning members can.....

- REGISTER ONLINE  follow the links from the club’s website
- REGISTER IN PERSON  at the club on the above dates
  (Soldiers Point Drive, Norah Head)

www.soldiersbeachsurfclub.com.au