Dear Parents,

NAPLAN TESTS

NAPLAN tests are being held this week. On **Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 May**, students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, or NAPLAN, as it is commonly known. Skills that will be tested include: reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. These tests are done here at school and are considered just another part of the curriculum. It is important for you and your child to know that NAPLAN is not a pass/fail test. It simply looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against National Standards and compared with student peers throughout Australia.

NAPLAN cannot be studied for and students are not expected to do so. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that it is just a routine part of their school program, and to urge them to do the best they can on the day. All students in Years 3, 5 and 7 are expected to participate in NAPLAN testing. Parents have the right to exempt their child from the tests. Later in the year we will send parents an individual student NAPLAN report that you can use to view and monitor how your child is progressing. More information is available on the NAP website.

If you have any queries, please give me a call.

Tests will be held in the mornings on each of the days. All the testing will be held in the Year 4-7 classroom.

Mother’s Day Stall

Our annual Mother’s Day Stall will be held tomorrow morning allowing children to buy Mum a small gift which will be gift wrapped, labelled and ready for the big day. Gifts range from $1-$6 and thankyou to the parent volunteers for organising the stall.

Staffing

We welcome Emma Grossman back in a new role, taking on the finance / admin position left by Pauleen Thomas. Emma was formerly working in the IT support area. Bern Geddes increases her time in office admin (released from class duties) and will continue managing the library. We welcome Charlotte Burmester working one day per week in IT support, replacing Emma. We also welcome Karen Atkinson, working one day per week replacing Bern’s classroom duties. Penny McCulloch (Reception) will be staying for another term due to Lyn Moore’s absence.

On Monday, we welcome Rachel Yates (4th Year Student Teacher) who will be working in the Reception class for the next month. This week we enjoyed having a former student, Nicole Cowin, on work experience with the Reception class.

Year 7 Transition to Gladstone High School

The transition program for Year 7’s commences on Wednesday 14th May at 2pm or 5pm with a tour of Gladstone High School followed by an information session for both students and parents/caregivers. Information packs were sent home during the week.

Mark Shadiac
Principal

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**Calendar Dates**

- Fri. 9th May – Assembly 3pm
- Mon. 13th – 15th May – NAPLAN testing
- Wed. 14th May – Year 7 Transition Information Day
- Tues. 20th May – Computer Competition
- Fri. 23rd May – Walk Safely to School Day
- Wed. 4th June – Science Competition
- Fri. 6th June – Student Free Day
- Mon. 9th June – Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
- Mon. 16th June – Writing Competition
- Tues. 17th June – Spelling Competition
- Fri. 4th July – Last day of term – early dismissal

**WANTED ART/TECH SUPPLIES**

We are in urgent need of any boxes and supplies for our Art Room e.g. cereal, muesli bar boxes. These can be left in the front office or children can deliver them to the Art Room. Thankyou

Also if anyone has any spare eggs Helen could use a few extra for Café cooking. Thankyou
On Tuesday we had our first café for this year. We would like to thank, Lyn Zanker for her help in assisting students with food preparation. Eight students planned and prepared a menu of mini pizzas, scones and a chocolate slice. It was great to welcome parents and grandparents along and to chat about times when they went to school. The next group of students who will be preparing their Café will have a notice in their diary today for the Café to be held on Tuesday 20th May. If you would like to check the roster it is in the multi-purpose room on the kitchen notice board. The roster is not sent out as it changes depending upon prior commitments and suitability. Please contact me as soon as you can if you receive your notice and your turn does not suit, so that I can swap your name around on the roster.

Helen Wurst

SALE!

The 4/5/6/7 Class have Worm Juice For sale. This is a great natural fertilizer for your plants and is sold for only $1 per litre. There are 2 and 3 litre bottles available. Please see Sharni in the 4/5/6/7 class for all your Worm Juice needs.
STUDENTS HAVING FUN IN THEIR NEW CLASSES!

1/2/3 Class working hard on spelling!

Year 4’s enjoying the music lessons!
NACYAC are pleased and excited to share the success of this year's National Youth Week Celebration. This year the event was held at the Jamestown Racecourse and called ‘NACYAC’s Colour Dash & Dance’. Over 60 youth from across the Northern Areas Council celebrated the final day of term one and the 2014 National Youth Week by decorating themselves in all the colours of the rainbow.

Participants ran, walked and skipped their way through six different colour stations along the 2km race track. Plumes of colour and screams of laughter filled the racecourse, confirming this event to be extraordinary fun and a monumental success.

The NACYAC Colour Dash and Dance, held in partnership with The Office for Youth, NACYAC, the OPAL program and other local service providers was a smash hit with the kids and a very unique event for the mid north region.

If you wish to become a NACYAC Member and get involved in more events like this or wish to find out more about NACYAC please contact Anna Bottrall on anna.bottrall@nacouncil.sa.gov.au or 8664 1139.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

G A R A G E   S A L E

WHEN:  Friday 9th and Saturday 10th May, 9am-1pm daily
WHERE:  8 Whyte Street, Laura
WHAT:  Furniture, Tools, Whitegoods and Household goods.

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SA Dental Service

The Port Pirie West School Dental Clinic is currently closed while the building is being refurbished.

Routine care during this period will be reduced. If you require Emergency care during the usual clinic hours please contact the Port Pirie Community Dental Clinic on 08 8638 4426.

The Staff apologise for any delay in treatment or inconvenience during this closure period. We anticipate the clinic will reopen in early August 2014.