

# Newsletter

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Principal:** Alex Artavilla

**School Council President:** Kylie Barker

**School Supervision Times:**

8.45am - 9.00am

3.15pm - 3.30pm

**Uniform Shop Hours:**

Tuesday & Thursday

8.45am - 9.15am / 3.00pm - 3.30pm



Newsletter will be available online & will be Tiqbized each week.

## Key reminders:

- Reminder to return Big School Survey another one sent home today – Yellow Notice 2 day extension
- Return Twilight School Day notices – supervision and food order - Purple Notice

## Dates to remember 2017:

### Term 2

9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May  
NAPLAN

### Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Mothers' Day Breakfast  
8.00am - 9.00am in the Gym

### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Twilight School 1.00pm –  
7.15pm

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Curriculum Day – No Student  
at School

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June

Parent Teacher Interviews

### Term 3

Dates to remember

### Term 4

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Curriculum Day – No Student  
at School

## Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week students in Years 3 and 5 will be completing the NAPLAN test from Tuesday to Thursday. The NAPLAN test is a national assessment completed by all students in Australia.

### Twilight School Day

It's not long until our Twilight School Day! Thank you to the parents that have returned the supervision notice and food order notice. As mentioned last week, we have added a bit of a Spanish theme to the day with 'Paella' for lunch (I mean dinner) and Colombian dancing for some of the classes to enjoy (with a Colombian outdoor dance party at lunchtime (I mean dinnertime play!). However, the most important part about the 'Twilight School Day' is that we are hoping that as many parents as possible get to see their child in action during a normal school day.

### Building on from what we have already achieved...

As mentioned in previous newsletters, this year we will be reviewing what we have achieved over the past four years to set up a new four-year school strategic plan. Last week I sent home two notices that are part of the review process which included the 'Big School Survey' and the 'Parent Forums'. The review process will also include a number of conversations with the staff and students, as we want to ensure that we conduct a thorough analysis of our current reality and continually raise our expectations and challenge our thinking.

As the parent community, you need to be super proud of the staff as they are always willing to continually push themselves and try new things for the benefit of the students. This has included the team leaders taking on the responsibility of working together to support their teams in enhancing the way we monitor and track student-learning developments. I am excited about what actions will come from the review process because of the culture that we



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have created which includes ensuring students are at the centre of every decision.

Over the holidays I prepared myself for the review process by challenging myself to take on an experience that involved heights and animals – two areas that rate very low on my confidence scale. This is because I wasn't offered the gift of height and I grew up in an animal free home.

Anyway, over the school holidays my family convinced me to join them for our first ever horse riding experience (it was actually part of a gift that we gave to my eldest daughter for her birthday in June last year that needed to be used within a 12-month period - nearly opps).

So on a beautiful day over the break, we all headed past Geelong to Airleys Inlet to fulfil a dream for both of my animal loving children (you can add my wife into this as well).

My experience of horse riding was pretty much from TV. They gallop, sometimes ride off really fast without listening to their rider, and can throw you off because frankly they are stronger – and when they throw you off it usually takes the person a very long time to get up – unless you're the star of the show.

So on our way to the horse stable, all I could think about was developing a plan of how I should throw myself off a horse and land safely if I ended up in a situation with one that preferred to hang out in the yard eating grass, rather than carrying a non-horse loving human. In the one and half hour drive all I came up with if I was thrown off was to make sure I let go of the reins. This is because I've seen a rider try to hold onto the reins when they were thrown off on a movie once and it didn't end up pretty.

Feeling much more confident that I had trained my brain to not hold the reins if I fell from the horse, things took a turn for the worse when we arrived at the stables and the largest sign in the place read 'HORSE RIDING IS A DANGEROUS ACTIVITY'. Not only was it the biggest sign, it was also written on a fluorescent orange board in capital letters! It might as well have said 'WELCOME BEFORE YOU START RIDING, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SAY GOODBYE AS IT'S UNLIKELY THAT YOU WILL SURVIVE.' Why beat around the bush!

So, the sign was the first thing I saw. The second thing that caught my eye was the height of one of the horses compared to the others. It was the type of horse that they would have been used in the olden days to pull down buildings. My wife and daughters laughed when they saw it, and said that they bet I would have to ride that one. Well, they guessed right! The saddle was taller than me! I needed a five-step ladder to get on board! Reminding the instructor that it was my first time and that the horse that I was sitting on provided better views than

the Eureka Towers, he gave me a 3-minute lesson on how to control the beast and what to do if it started to run too fast! 3 minutes! I thought we'd at least get a PowerPoint presentation, some handouts and an eject button with a parachute! I completely forgot I had my children with me and whether or not they were going ok! All I could think about was not upsetting 'Trojan'! Thinking that he'd prefer to hang out in the stable area, the instructor decided to take us through the bush – where there were no fences! All I could think about was what happens if Trojan senses freedom while we're out in the bush and decides to make a run for it! There would be no way that the instructors 'pony sized' horse could catch him!

Fortunately for me, Trojan proved to be a gentle giant and we all had a great time! It took me half the ride to settle down. After that I felt like a real cowboy – although I didn't have a cowboy hat – or cowboy boots – or a weapon – or a badge – or a cowboy voice. Although I tried to start singing a cowboy tune which my daughters quickly ended as we had others in our group.

All in all it was a great experience which has me all set for our school review! Note that the instructors were brilliant!

Looking forward to chatting to as many people as possible as we build on what we have already achieved to make Sunshine Heights Primary School an even more amazing place to learn and play.

Hope everyone has had a great week.

Alex Artavilla  
Principal

Don't forget our Mothers' Day  
Competition

Sign up to QKR and purchase your  
own personalised book for the  
chance to win a family movie pass!!

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**Student of the week:**  
Will be awarded at assembly

**PREP**

- A Clio Pasquier
- B Aarza Ahir
- C Madison Todorovski

**ONE**

- A Yasmin Jaber
- B Claudia Nguyen
- C Riyadh Mousa
- D Ivy McNamee-Rabbitt

**TWO**

- A TBA
- B Hafsa Mahamed
- C Sina Soli

**THREE**

- A Arethya-Lee Talagi-Monomai
- B Hamdi Mahamed

3/4A Say Lay

**FOUR**

- A Lily Tran
- B Saw Gay Thaw

**FIVE**

- A Alexander Stelco
- B Mahamed Agan

**SIX**

- A Josefa Do Rosario Aleixo
- B TBA

- Multimedia: Grainne Corcoran Taylor
- Art: Liam Rosado
- Sport: Marilyn Weston Barbuto
- Spanish: Belinda Vu
- Science: Joseph Slade

**Congratulations Everyone  
Great Achievement**

**Book Packs**

**Reminder that book packs (\$160.00) are now due to be paid, these can be paid via QKR, EFTPOS or at the office. Your earliest attention would be greatly appreciated. Thank you**

**Fundraising**

<b>Pop Up Book Store</b>	<b>\$4,757.88</b>
<b>Easter Raffle</b>	<b>\$ 928.00</b>

**Interschool Sport Draw for Summer Sport 2017**

Friday the 5th of May away against St Pauls' – Travelling by foot  
Friday the 12th of May away against Ardeer South- Travelling by Bus  
Friday the 19th of May home against Sunshine Harvester  
Friday the 26th of May away against Sunshine North – Travelling by Bus  
Friday the 2nd of June home against Albion North  
Friday the 9th of June away against Our Lady's – Travelling by Bus

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Save the Date...

Parent Teacher Interviews 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Please note 1B & 1C's interviews will likely occur on the 15<sup>th</sup> June. TBA soon.

Information to book online will be sent home soon.