

## Harmony Day Celebrations

### Important Dates

**Wednesday 28th March**  
**Junior Primary Sports Day**  
9am to 1pm

**Thursday 29th March**  
**Year 3 to 7**  
**Sports Day 9am to 3pm**  
BBQ and cake stall

**Friday 30th March**  
**Good Friday**

**Monday 2nd April**  
**Easter Monday**

**Tuesday 3rd April to**  
**Tuesday 10th April**  
**Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Tuesday 10th April**  
**Oakbank Athletics Day**

**Friday 13th April**  
**End of Term 1**  
**Assembly 1.45pm**  
**Early Dismissal 2.15pm**



Yesterday we celebrated 'Harmony Day' by participating in a range of multicultural performances.

These performances ranged from Hip Hop, Flamenco and Belly Dancing, to Gypsy inspired and Chinese Music. In the afternoon the whole school were entertained with a Middle Eastern Infusion Dance Experience.

It was wonderful to see the children experience so many rich cultural performances, and even learn three types of dances from other parts of the world. We all agreed it was a lovely way to celebrate Harmony Day.



Keira Trevorrow has written what Harmony Day means to her:

*Harmony is a day to celebrate and not be judged for who you are and just let go and be you. It's a day you don't feel different, you feel normal even though you have different colour skin or speak a different language. It's a day to unite as one and putting all your differences beside you to feel welcome.*

A big thank you to Ms Sarre for organising this 'Cultural Infusion'.

Next week we have our two Sports Days: Wednesday 28th March is the Junior Sports Day with events all happening in the morning, then Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March is the whole school Sports Day with tabloid events in the morning and sprints, including the whole school relay, in the afternoon.



Our Sports Day committee, led by Liz Murphy and Suyin McDonald have been working very hard to ensure everything goes smoothly on both days. I have heard that both days are great fun and very popular with parents. I look forward to experiencing my first Littlehampton Sports Day/s and seeing many of you next week.



# ICAS Competitions

Once again this year Littlehampton Primary will be offering our students a chance to take part in the ICAS Competitions. ICAS reports enable you to: Pinpoint your child's strengths, skills at which they excel and identify skill areas to be worked on, either for remediation or skill development. Please see below the list of subjects, costs of each competitions and closing date for payment as well as when the sitting date is due. **Please note we are unable to take any late payments as each paper has to be ordered from NSW.** If your child would like to take part in any of these competitions please collect a entry and payment form from Debbie at the front office.

Subject/Paper	Closing Date for Payment	Official Sitting Date	Year Levels for competition	Entry Fee including GST
Science	11 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 – 7	\$9.90
Spelling	8 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 – 7	\$13.20
Writing	8 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 – 7	\$19.80
English	18 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 2 – 7	\$9.90
Mathematics	18 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 2 – 7	\$9.90

## School Charges



2018 M&S fees were set at \$300.00 and invoices sent home 23/1/18 requesting payment in full by 26/2/18. A Payway option has been offered to families, which allows the school to set up regular monthly/fortnightly/weekly

payments. Payway application forms are available from the front office but need to be set up before the end of March. If paying under this system accounts must be paid in full before November 2018. Only Materials and Services fees can be processed using Payway.

It is important that all monies are paid by the due date. We need to receive payment a few days before the event so we know that all students have paid and returned consent forms etc. This is very important if paying by direct deposit as it takes a day or two to show on our bank statement. Also if paying by direct deposit please ensure you record your family code (eg DANO00) or child's name and what you are paying for. We have had some payments made with no indication of who has made the payment.

Statements are being sent home via your child this week requesting payment within 7 days. Please check these statements and arrange prompt payment. If you have any queries please contact Judi Daniel or Vanessa Williams, Finance Officers at the school.

Our \$100 or \$70 for approved school card families can be made at any time and amounts receipted prior to June 30 can be claimed in the 2017-18 tax year.

We rely on all families making this donation to help cover the costs of our loan repayments for the gym, which I am sure you will all agree is a wonderful facility for your children to use.

If paying in person at the school office could you please do so in the mornings which will allow us time to receipt and process these transactions and bank before school finishes.

Payments currently due are Materials and Services charges, SAKG, Reading Eggs, Cultural Infusion, Choir, Recorders, and Canberra. Not all of these activities apply to all students. R-5 Swimming and 6/7 Aquatics invoices should all be paid.

## Principal's Awards

At our Week 6 Assembly the following students were awarded a Principal's Award for following our Super Seven Values:

**Being Trustworthy:** Alastair Snell, Elsie Blakemore, Daniel van der Merwe, Max Trojan.

**Respect:** Zoe Haylock, Dahlia Duigan, Carmen Bubner, Talon Mayfield, Evie Sward.

**A Positive Attitude:** Lily McDonald, Hamish Parry, Billy Badenoch, Bella Kumnick, Beau Riddle, Tyler Martin, Levi Walker, Wesley Bowden.

**Kindness:** Annabelle Boland, Mya Puiatti, Topaz Bakhuis-Smith, Abbey Gray, Liam Hawkins, Arizona Small, Lief Ryks, Sithuki Kalugala Hewage Don.



# Make a difference to your child's learning...

New research is showing that parents can make a huge difference to how well their children succeed at school. The Principals' Australia Institute (PAI) have highlighted four key things that parents can do to support their child's learning:

## 1. Having High Expectations

The research shows undeniably, that high parental expectations have the greatest impact on student achievement. Studies looking at the positive attitude parents have toward their child's education, teacher, and school, was significantly related to increased academic performance, measured by both a standardized achievement test and teacher ratings of the child's classroom academic performance. Interestingly, parent involvement was found to have a higher impact on student achievement and success than the impact of the child's intelligence (IQ).

## 2. Talking about school at home

Studies have shown that parents talking to their kids about school and school activities at home, had a greater impact than learning than monitoring homework, being home after school or limiting screen time. You might want to jump on our website to learn more about our Visible Learning focus, and then ask your children what they know about our Effective Learner Profile. Ask them whether they are being gritty, engaged, creative, self-aware, communicating and brave. Ask them to tell you their "Specks of Gold" for the day, or "Three Good Things", rather than just asking "How was your day?".

## 3. Helping students develop a positive attitude and good work habits

As students get older, the impact parents can have on their child's academic achievement decline. So the time to act is now! Parents can't teach their children everything they need to know (the same goes for schools), but the habits they encourage at an early age have long-lasting benefits, through to high school.

We recommend interacting with your children, and encouraging their independence in learning, rather than thinking you have to be fully involved in your children's homework or learning.

- Parents don't have to 'teach' their children. Teachers focus on content, and parents can assist by helping their child develop a sense of personal competence, encouraging persistence, showing them how to plan and manage their time, handle distractions, and ask for help when they need it.

## 4. Reading with children

Parents can make a **major** difference by reading and talking about books and stories with their kids, in any language. Reading skills can be taught at school, and parents can help build a crucial foundation for successful literacy through conversation and reading together, which develops the motivation to read, a greater level of comprehension, and strong oral language skills.

Our students are really lucky to have parents and families who work with us to help students have a positive attitude towards school and their learning.

## SAKG Fundraisers

**Card Fundraiser:** Lynne Asquith's class has been designing artwork with a garden theme, to help with our fundraising efforts for the Kitchen Garden program. Here Immy and Tyler are proudly showing us their designs. Some of the



students' designs will be chosen to go onto the next set of greeting cards to be sold as a fundraiser this year. Last year we raised over \$800 with this project and we are pleased to be offering the cards again this year. You can purchase cards at the front office of the school for \$10 for a pack of 5 cards and envelopes.

**Entertainment Books:** To raise funds towards our SAKG program we will be running our Entertainment Book Fundraiser once again. For each book sold the school receives \$15 towards our fundraiser. There will be a letter going out shortly to all of our families giving them a chance to view an Entertainment book prior to purchase if you wish. Books are \$70 each this year, but well worth it as with the savings within the book outweigh very quickly the cost of the book. There will be a display book in the front office to look at.

## Parent/Teacher Interview Bookings

Please book your parent/teacher interview by going to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**Simply enter the code and press "Go".**

**Code - qct56**

**1. Enter your details**

**2. Select the teachers you wish to see**

**3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best**

Bookings close on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 6pm.**



# Library News

## Mystery Date with a Book

During February students from Years 3 – 7 classes were invited to participate in a “Mystery Date with a Book”. Carefully selected books from a wide range of popular genres were hand wrapped with some clues alluding to the secrets inside. The students had to commit to taking their book on a proper date and reading the whole book. They promised to “not judge a book by its cover”, get to know the characters, to try to understand the themes/messages contained within and provide feedback about their connection with the book by completing a review.

The response from students was fantastic with over 200 students participating in the experience and some going on two or three “Mystery Dates”. Many discovered some new authors and book titles in the process. The students’ book reviews are on display in the library so that others may read their feedback and be encouraged to try some new reading adventures. Below is a sample of the students’ reviews for you to enjoy:



***Alice and the Apple Blossom Fair*** by Darina Bell.

Review by Max Hartshorne Year 3

*Alice raises money for the soldiers who have gone to war at the Apple Blossom Fair. I thought this book was excellent and would recommend it to people who are interested in the olden days.*

***Daisy in the Mansion*** by Michelle Hamer.

Review by Cayleigh Timmons Year 5

*A girl goes to boarding school and helps her new Mum’s girl get better. I thought this book was excellent and would recommend it to anyone who likes action. It is a little cheeky and quite naughty.*

***Star Wars Jedi Academy*** by Jeffrey Brown. Review by Darcy Pallant Year 4

*The book is about Star Wars and a young kid called Roan who is rejected from pilot’s school and must try hard to be accepted into the Jedi Academy. I thought this book was excellent and would recommend it to anyone who likes Star Wars and grit.*

**Reading Rocks at Littlehampton** The Premier’s Reading Challenge is up and running. The reading incentive program requires students to read 12 books (8 from the PRC list and 4 other recommended titles). Many students are well underway.



**A special mention must go to Flynn Carmen from Year 1** who was the first person in the entire school to complete the Challenge!

Congratulations also to Jasper Szilassy, Grace Vanderbom, Mallee Duffield, Sanuka Waduge, Lucy Hong, Liam Hawkins, Warren Liu, Jessica Luxon, Rory Martin, Armani Herbig, Sebastian Gollan, Dahlia Duigan and Louisa Synwoldt, Flynn Carman, who have also demonstrated a positive and determined approach to achieving their reading goal. We are expecting all students to be involved and have even thrown the challenge out to the teachers. Stay tuned, as we will have one of the State’s Ambassadors, author Tania Ingram visiting on Tuesday 24 July.

## Year 3 Poetry.

Year 3 students have been studying poetry and were asked to write a poem about a day at the beach.

The poems below show some of their very creative work:

The sea is the colour of gemstone green  
The sea is where people play  
The sea looks like rocky road  
The sea smells like salty seaweed  
The sea sounds like waves washing  
The sea makes me happy **By Charlie**

The sea is the colour of glass  
The sea is where I swim  
The sea looks like melting ice cream  
The sea smells like fresh fish  
The sea sounds like big boulders bouncing  
The sea is where I love to go **By Lucas**

The sea is the colour of turquoise  
The sea is where I walk on the jetty  
The sea looks like glass  
The sea smells so salty and fresh  
The sea sounds like waves calmly crashing  
The sea is very graceful **By Soleil**

The sea is the colour of blazing blue  
The sea is where seagulls scavenge  
The sea looks shiny as a shell  
The smells like salty summertime  
The sea sounds like birds breezing by  
The sea is beautiful **By Kealy**