School Council

Recently I called for nominations to fill the three parent vacancies on the 2013/14 School Council. I would like to announce that we received three nominations by the closing date and therefore I can confirm that the following parents have been elected to our School Council for the next two years:

Tammy Chamberlain
Paul Singh
Thu Tran

Senka King and Anne Thorp have been elected as DEECD employee members.

The first meeting of the 2013/2014 School Council was held last Tuesday 19th February. One aspect of this meeting is to Co-opt a community member and elect Office Bearers. I am pleased to confirm that Tracy Nero was co-opted back onto the school council.

In addition to this we also elected our Office Bearers. I am pleased to announce that the following parent, community and staff members make up the St. Albans East Primary School Council:

President Mr. Wally Gatt
Vice President Tracy Nero
Secretary Anne Thorp
Ass. Secretary Mrs. Senka King
Members:
Mrs. Tammy Chamberlain
Mr. Ian North-Coombes
Mrs. Thu Tran
Mrs. Sharon Rogers
Ms Anne Thorp
Mr Paul Singh
Mr. Roy Leutenmayr
Mrs Suzie Grujevski
Co-opted Members Ms Tracy Nero
Mr Wally Gatt
Executive Officer Mrs. Anne-Marie Kliman

Team Leaders

The following staff have been selected as team leaders for the 2013 school year:

Prep Team Ashlea Potter
Grade 1/2 Team Stella Pisera
Grade 3/4 Team Sophie Stefanidis
Grade 5/6 Team Antoinette Gatto
Deaf Facility Team Laureen Thompson

Personal Goods Brought to School at Owner’s Risk

The Department of Education & Early Childhood Development recently sent schools a Memorandum outlining the following:

The Department of Education & Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will not pay for any loss to personal or damaged property.

Therefore families need to be aware that the school and the Department will not be held responsible for any loss or damage to personal property brought to school by students such as: mobile phones, toys, sporting equipment, Ipods etc...

We strongly discourage any valuable items being brought to school.

(Continued on page 2)
Mobile Phones
The School has a mobile phone policy that has been attached to the newsletter. Any student who brings a mobile phone to school must give it to their teacher or the school office to be locked away for the day. No child is allowed to have a mobile phone on them during school hours. Please refer to the policy.

STUDENT ABSENCES – ‘It’s Not OK to be Away’!
You may have heard in the media last week that the government is planning to crack down on student absences from the start of 2014. One of their strategies is to give schools the power to fine parents who have not given a valid reason for a student absence.

Our staff plan and implement exciting and challenging learning programs at school that caters for all children. Unfortunately, some of our children miss these valuable learning programs during the year because of frequent or long absences from school.

Whilst we understand that there are times when children are away from school due to illness or medical appointments, other absences and lengthy periods away from school are not acceptable. It is part of the initiative ‘It’s Not OK to be Away’ which promotes two key messages:
1. Student attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community (parents, teachers, and students)
2. Schools will monitor student attendance to ensure it is regular, in order to improve student learning.

If your child has missed school, please notify the school either in writing or via the phone, with an explanation for the absence. A medical certificate should be presented for any absence longer than 3 days. We look forward to the support of our parents with this important initiative.

School Visitors
In order to maintain a safe environment for all, I would like to remind parents of the arrangements that exist for all visitors to the school.

All visitors (parents, family members, contractors, volunteers, members of the public) are asked to report to the School Office and gain permission to visit by signing the Visitor’s Book and being issued with an identification badge. Before leaving, all visitors are asked to sign out at the School Office and return their Badge.

Meet the Teacher Nights
A note has gone home about meet the teacher nights. Please place the 26th and 27th February in your diary.

School Arrival Time
No student should be at school (unless an arrangement has been made with the principal) before 8:45. We are noticing that children are arriving as early as 8am in the morning. The school does not provide supervision before 8:45am.

Website
Have you had a chance to visit our new website: www.saeps.vic.edu.au
This site is updated regularly and will include all school notices, copies of newsletters and up to date information of what’s happening in the school. Please visit regularly to touch base with the school.

Parking and Driving Around our School
Believe it or not we are one of the lucky schools to have a significant amount of street parking around our school. However it seems that parents only want to park right out the front. Unfortunately we cannot all get a front spot and some of us will need to walk a few metres….. just like we do when we park in a shopping centre car park.

We have already had parent complaints about the unsafe parking and driving around the school and therefore the council has been contacted and will be issuing fines to parents who do the wrong thing in relation to parking and driving around the school. Let’s all be responsible so that ALL OUR CHILDREN ARRIVE AT SCHOOL SAFELY EVERY DAY.

Have a great week!!
Anne– Maree Kliman, Principal

REMINDER – MEET THE TEACHER
This is an opportunity for you to:
meet this year’s teacher
hear important information about programs, homework and other school matters
have a guided tour of your child’s classroom by your child informal conversation with teacher

It is too early for teachers to report specific progress for your child. If you would like to know more about your child please make an appointment with the teacher for later in the term. If teachers have any concerns they will also contact you.

TUESDAY 26th February
5:30-6:30 1/2 Team
6:30-7:30 5/6 Team

WEDNESDAY 27th February
5:30-6:30 Prep Team
6:30-7:30 3/4 Team

SCHOOL NURSE
Each year the school nurse comes to our school to screen Prep students. She will probably be here at the end of this term. They may also check any students that they are monitoring in other grade levels. If you are a parent of a prep child please make sure that when you receive your forms that you complete them and return to school straight away.

Senka King (Assistant Principal)
Prep Enrolment
If you have a child who turns 5 years old by April 30th 2014, it is time to enrol your child for school NOW.
To enrol, parents will need:
- Birth Certificate or passport
- Immunisation Certificate
- Medicare number
- Family doctor details
- Contact details
- Emergency details
Please contact Mrs Kliman or Mrs King for more information on 9366 2071.

Vietnamese Martial Arts
St Albans East Primary School
Lester Street, St Albans, 3021
Time: 3.30 pm—5.30 pm each Sunday
Instructor: Thy Ly
Mobile: 0421 339 240

LOST PROPERTY
Lost property items with names on them, will be returned to students weekly.
Items with no names will be sold for $2 each, after assembly, in the hall, every Friday.

Crystal Clear – Speech Pathology
This year at St Albans East Primary we have hired the services of Crystal Clear Speech Pathology to work with students in developing their speech and language skills. We have 3 Speech Pathologists who will be working over the 5 days of the week.
They are:
Crystal Len – Monday & Tuesday
Alice Wright – Wednesday & Thursday
Tennille Loxton – Friday
The Speech Pathologists have already been busy working with various students and are still waiting for some parent permission forms to be returned.
If you have received a letter with a parent permission form please return it as soon as possible.
If you have any questions or queries please come and see one of the Speech Pathologists or Ricky Potter.
Exciting News:

MATHLETICS is back!

What is Mathletics?
Mathletics is an Australian program which aims to help every student improve their own math skills and knowledge. It is an online, interactive, e-learning resource that allows the students to practice skills at their own level and their own pace. Mathletics challenges students in all areas of math through a game environment and allows them to select the level of difficulty of the tasks.

Students can personalise their own profile within the program, monitor the number of activities completed and see the ones that they have yet to master. Efforts of the students are recognised and rewarded through online certificates and credits.

Classroom teachers are able to manage the content and monitor the progress of all the students within their own class. They can use this information to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each of their students.

How much does this cost?
The school has covered the cost of Mathletics for all students at SAEPS to use which means that there is no additional cost to families. Mathletics can be accessed both at home and at school through the use of an individual login that each of the students has been given.

Where do I find Mathletics?
www.mathletics.com.au
Use the user name and password that the student has been given.
Have fun with math!

If you have any questions/comments regarding Mathletics, please speak to your child’s classroom teacher.

Along with families, we are looking forward to celebrating the successes of all our Mathematicians.

Sharon Rogers & Anne Thorp-Numeracy Coaches
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM</th>
<th>PUPIL’S NAME</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
<th>VALUES DISPLAYED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>For a great start to 2013.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lazar Markovic</td>
<td>For making others feel included and settling into his new school</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Room 7</td>
<td>For a wonderful start to the school year.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kelly Ma</td>
<td>For showing pride in her written work.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Room 9</td>
<td>For a wonderful start to school at SAEPS</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Charli Jovanovski</td>
<td>For a great start to Year 1 and having a great work attitude-displaying all school values</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>For a wonderful start to school at SAEPS</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Christopher Le</td>
<td>For his great explanation of what the “5 finger Test” is when choosing a just right book.</td>
<td>Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tin Le</td>
<td>For going out of his way to help other students</td>
<td>Learning, Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Room 15</td>
<td>For quickly settling into morning routines and maintaining a clean and organized classroom</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mekides Kesegne</td>
<td>For being a SUPER worker and helping other students finish their work</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Shalom Saitaua</td>
<td>For settling into her new class extremely well and contributing effectively to class Code of Cooperation</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gloria Christopher</td>
<td>For sharing her ideas when working on our class Code of Cooperation</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Daniel McColley</td>
<td>For working well in class and on his Kidspiration work.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Emanuuel Maric</td>
<td>For a great start to a new year of learning</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Julia Ngoc Nhu Huynh Le</td>
<td>For working well with others and doing so with a smile</td>
<td>Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.E. Chris-Tai Bland Levi</td>
<td>For working hard to improve his running skills</td>
<td>Learning, Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multi Media Ken Mai</td>
<td>For trying his hardest and contributing to class discussion.</td>
<td>Learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pupil of the Week – Week ending 8th February, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM</th>
<th>PUPIL’S NAME</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
<th>VALUES DISPLAYED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kevin Mai</td>
<td>For sharing how he can expand decimal numbers</td>
<td>Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jenny Luu</td>
<td>For great organizational skills</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mai Nguyen</td>
<td>For reading independently for 30 minutes without distractions and for making up some great measurement predictions</td>
<td>Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jaythaniel Iuliano</td>
<td>For asking questions and making predictions</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Isaiah Nicolas</td>
<td>For fantastic effort in all school work and being involved</td>
<td>Cooperation, Learning, Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kathy Tran</td>
<td>For her hard work and lovely manners</td>
<td>Respect, Learning, Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>TJ</td>
<td>For being friendly and always trying his best.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mohammad Rehman</td>
<td>For settling down quickly and beginning his work</td>
<td>Learning, Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Kevain Ntirenganya</td>
<td>For being helpful to each other and completing set tasks effectively and quickly</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Thinh Dang</td>
<td>For respecting and working well with others in the class</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Andrew Asafo</td>
<td>For using good manners and respecting others</td>
<td>Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Anh -Thu Tran</td>
<td>For always participating in class discussions and encouraging others during group work.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Jahvani Edwina</td>
<td>For settling into her new school and trying her best!</td>
<td>Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Lucas Dimitriou</td>
<td>For being persistent and learning from his mistakes</td>
<td>Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tyson Jeanes</td>
<td>For trying really hard in all of our lessons</td>
<td>Learning, Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.E. Andrew Asafo</td>
<td>For his excellent attitude during sport</td>
<td>Respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multi Media Room 20</td>
<td>For being helpful to each other and completing set tasks effectively and quickly</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As a parent, you naturally want to give your child every advantage. LiteracyPlanet is an easy, accessible and cost effective way for you to bolster your child’s English literacy learning.

Literacy skills like reading, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and comprehension are critical building blocks to your child’s education and a gateway to all other academic success. LiteracyPlanet delivers this digital content in a fun and motivating way meaning that children spend more time learning necessary literacy skills.

There is lots to explore and discover, with more than 15,000 exercises and it’s already used by 60,000+ students in thousands of schools, so you know it’s safe and it works - in fact our schools consistently get better results!* Children can advance at their own pace so whether they’re top of the class or looking to improve, Literacy Planet can help. Don’t just take our word for it! Check out testimonials from other parents and teachers!

It gives parents the opportunity to see how their children can work to consolidate their skills. We have had excellent feedback from our parents, who say they have learned so much about grammar, punctuation, spelling rules, word families etc. Parents and teachers have both commented on the effectiveness of the program to motivate and engage the ‘unmotivated’ learner, with the built in rewards and appropriate and immediate feedback being a key part of the program.

- Sue Hall, Support Teacher - Inclusive Education.

* Schools using the program for years 3, 4 and 5 in consecutive years saw an average score increase of more than 20% in reading, spelling and grammar (compared to the national average increase of 18.8% for reading, 19.6% for spelling and 18.9% for grammar). Figures represent the improvement in the NAPLAN results for students who progressed from year 3 in 2009 to year 5 in 2011.
MOBILE PHONES
POLICY

Rationale:
Mobile phones are important modern day communication tools, essential in providing a safe and effective school environment. However, they can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed.

Aims:
To utilise the benefits of mobile phones whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

Implementation:
The school will maintain a mobile telephone and service contracts to satisfy its needs.
Teachers in charge of all excursions and trips involving students must ensure the school’s mobile phones or similar appropriate communications devices accompany each trip.
Staff using school mobile phones are required to sign for them in the Borrowing Register.
The office is responsible for ensuring that school mobile phones are recharged.
Mobile phones are not to be used for private calls, with the exception that staff are permitted to contact families or loved ones during overnight excursions or if an excursion is returning late.
Students are not to use the school’s mobile phones without permission directly from the Teacher in Charge.
Students who bring mobile phones to school must leave them with a teacher during the school day and collect them at the end of the school day. The teacher will store the mobile phone in a safe lockable place.
The school does not except responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones.
Students’ mobile phones must not be brought to classes, meetings, assemblies or similar organised activities.
Mobile phones and staff and students using them must not cause disruptions to classes or individuals, and must not cause a nuisance to the smooth running of the school.
Students misusing personal mobile phones at school or causing a nuisance will be brought to the attention of the principal.
The principal may revoke a student’s privilege of bringing or using mobile phones whilst at school.
In-phone cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as toilets.
Mobile phones are used at their owner’s risk.
Students are not permitted to take mobile phones to camp or on excursions.
The DE&T does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property. (Circular 038/2005)

Evaluation:
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.