



The Seaforth Satellite

The weekly newsletter of Seaforth Public School

Week 7 Term 2 Tuesday 7th June 2016

All you need to know in 30 seconds!

Dates for your diary:

June

1 st – 10 th June	Life Education, Healthy Harold
7 th	P&C Meeting 7pm Library
8 th -10 th	Band Camp
10 th	Winter PSSA
14 th	ICAS Writing
15 th	ICAS Spelling
21 st	Stage 1 Year 2 Excursion Pittwater CEC
22 nd – 24 th	Stage 3 Camp – Great Aussie Bush Camp
30 th	Stewart House School Clothing Collection

Newsletters are available on the school website and the parent portal

<http://www.seaforth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/home>www.seaforth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

From the Principals Desk

Our vision at Seaforth ...

We are a community of educators and families, committed to achieving success and developing strength of character for every child that will allow for the accomplishment of their potential throughout and beyond the Seaforth years.

This week's key messages include:

- P&C Meeting tonight
- Office of the Children's safety commissioner
- Supporting our anaphylactic students at school
- And finally ...

P&C Meeting tonight 7th June

Just a reminder that our P&C meeting is scheduled for tonight. At this evenings meeting I will be presenting the plans for the rebuilding of our classrooms as well as our Positive Behaviour and Learning Team (PBL) will be taking in depth about our new approach to student welfare and recognition.

As always the P&C is an excellent opportunity to be a part of our communities' decision making processes where we always encourage and welcome new faces each meeting.



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Office of the Children's safety commissioner

This week I would like to encourage and draw parent's attention to the range of resources and support available to parents and students in keeping our children safe online through the Federal Government's Office of the Children's safety commissioner.

The aim of the office is help guide children and young people toward safe experiences online where the Office of the Children's Safety Commissioner aims to encourage behavioural change – where Australian children and young people act responsibly online – just as they would offline.

Through this aim, the offices' overall goal is to create an environment in which cyberbullying is truly unacceptable through providing education and assistance to prevent harmful online behaviour from occurring.

For parents a great place to start to review the range of tools available is via the iparent link at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>

Additionally, for schools, there is a huge range of excellent teaching tools and resources that I would like to embed within our student welfare programs across the school to ensure that all of our students are responsible digital citizens and feel safe online.

Supporting our anaphylactic students at school

As a whole school policy, we aim to support students with allergies with broad ranging education in respect to allergy awareness as well as engaging in annual mandatory training for staff in treating asthma and situations where anaphylactic reactions may occur.

Whilst Education and awareness is the key to ensuring a safe allergy friendly school, we also ask that all parents assist us to minimise exposure to nuts and nut based products to keep those students with nut allergies safe at school. With that I ask that all parents assist us by not packing nut based products or spreads in children's lunchboxes as a community first step in supporting students with allergies. If you would like further information on allergies, an excellent resource for parents is the food allergy aware website at:

<http://www.foodallergyaware.com.au/>

Student Reporting

In all NSW Department of Education Schools, parents are provided with two written student reports issued at the end of Term 2 and Term 4 as well as one formal face to face interview with their teacher. In line with this, we will be issuing student academic reports that describe your child's progress over terms 1 & 2 on Friday 1st July which will then be followed up with parent/ teacher interviews during the week of the 18th July.

We feel that this provides an opportunity for parents to receive and review their child's reports and to take the time to prioritise the areas for discussion before attending their parent/teacher interview making the opportunity focussed and productive.

In next week's newsletter, we will be providing you with details for how to book your parent/teacher interview online via our school website. As always you are most welcome to make a time to meet with your class teacher in between these formal occasions as the need arises or even if you are available in the afternoon, teachers are usually available outside of afternoon meeting commitments on the school playground for 15 minutes to meet and chat informally with parents.

For further information on student reporting explained, in particular understanding the A-E system of grading students, I encourage you to review the piece on student reporting in the Deputy Principals news this week.



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And finally ...

Have an excellent week where I am looking forward to joining our many Band students on their Band Camp this Wednesday and Thursday at Camp Kedron. This is always such an amazing experience made possible by our many parent volunteers on the Band Committee, teachers and instrumental tutors. Music is such an enriching experience and as a school we are very fortunate to have such a strong program.

So with that I thought I would leave you with a short TED Ed clip on how playing a musical instrument benefits your brain. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0JKCYZ8hng>

As always if you see me darting across the school or typing away in my office, please feel free to stop and say hi! The world is always made that little bit smaller through the many frequent and informal conversations which connect us as a community.

Mr. Bernard Cheng: **Principal**

From the Deputy Principal

As we head toward the end of Semester One, I thought it timely to provide some information regarding the A to E or Common Grade Scale, form of assessment which is mandatory for government schools in NSW. This information has also been provided to staff in the context of recent professional learning discussions at whole school and stage levels and has impacted upon what we assess, when we assess and how we are assessing. This learning revolved around the notion of a grade scale and the specific changes in language within each descriptor which describes what a child is able to do at that level.

The Department of Education document, *Policy Standards for Curriculum Planning Programming, Assessing and Reporting to Parents K-12* states that "The parents of all students are to be provided with a written report twice a year." Further, it states that, "Schools will use the following five-point achievement scale to report to parents for students in years 1 -10. Achievement is judged in relation to syllabus standards".

The **Common Grade Scale** describes performance at each of five grade levels.

- The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge.
- A** In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.
 - B** The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.
 - C** The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.
 - D** The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.
 - E** The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.



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The A to E Scale summarises the standard (or quality) of achievement associated with each grade. The scale describes:

- the depth of knowledge and understanding and
- the range of skills that students working at that standard typically show.

In Kindergarten, the Common Grade Scale is not mandatory and reports to parents can take the form of written comments.

Grades are given for **individual** achievement by indicating A to E or, Outstanding, High, Sound, Basic or Limited. Students will get the grade that best matches the standard of their achievement up to a point in time and are measured against syllabus standards. Teachers are **not** limited to set numbers of each grade within their class or school and each grade is not associated with a numerical mark or range of marks. Assessment tasks will provide all students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and the application of their skills and knowledge at all levels.

Having said that, according to the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) the bulk of any student sample should be achieving the Sound or C grading. In crude terms, students who are achieving a C have grasped the skills and concepts that have been taught to them in a sound manner. To be graded at a High or B level, the key phrase which appears in the descriptor is “able to **apply** this knowledge and these skills to most situations’. At the A or Outstanding level, the descriptor states that the student has “achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can **apply these skills to new situations**. This implies that children are able to apply their learning to new situations i.e. other key learning areas, and unrelated contexts and to connect their classroom learning to the broader real world. It has no relation to how far ahead they are of their peers in academic school years.

Grades are one aspect of school reporting to parents. Other important tools include: teacher comments, parent-teacher interviews and information about student effort and application. Information regarding our parent interviews in Week One of Term 3 will be sent out shortly detailing how to book your interview time on the website. Please make sure you have downloaded the school app which will send you push notifications about upcoming school events such as this.

If you would like to read more information about the Common Grade Scale, please go to:

<http://arc.bostes.nsw.edu.au/go/gen-info>

Christine Smith: Deputy Principal

School News

Stage 2 Multicultural Finals

A huge congratulations to all the students in Stage 2 who took part in the Multicultural Speeches at a class level. On Friday 27th May, 2 representatives from each class were chosen to present their speech in front of all the Stage 2 classes.

The representatives from each class were:

Grace G, Finn M, Ollie M, Cleo V, James F, Toby B, Guy O, Maddison S, Henriette M, Harry F, Jose L and Charlize S.

The representatives did a fabulous job on the day and there was some very stiff competition.

Once presenting their Multicultural Speech, the students then had to prepare an impromptu speech within 5 minutes. The topic was “Someone you would bring to dinner and why”.

Our two Stage 2 finalists who will be representing our school at the Combined Northern Sydney final is Grace G and Finn M. Congratulations.

Well done to all the students.

Stewart House School Clothing Appeal 2016

Scheduled date for pick up is 30th June 2016. Please leave bags in the Hall for collection.



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Scholastic Book Club

Issue #4 is out now and catalogues will be making their way home this week. You can also view the catalogue online at <http://www.scholastic.com.au/schools/bookclub/catalogue.asp>

Paperwork-free credit card orders can be made online at <http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP>

OR by using the super quick and easy free Book Club LOOP for Parents App available from the Apple App Store and from Google Play.

For all cash, cheque and credit voucher orders: please fill out your order form, and submit along with your payment in a labelled, and sealed envelope into the Book Club Order Boxes at either the Kempbridge or Yatama Offices.

ORDERS CLOSE FRIDAY 17th JUNE

Orders are usually delivered to your child's classroom approximately 1 week after the due date.

If you have any questions or difficulties please contact me at seaforthps.scholasticbookclub@gmail.com

Kitty Williams: **Scholastic Book Club Co-ordinator**

Library News

Grandfriends Day Books

Most of the books donated (by students and their families) on Grandfriends Day have already been loaned out to their donors. Some students, however, have not yet received their books. I am pleased to say that the last of the books are now being covered, and should be loaned out in the coming days. I apologise for the delay, and thank you all for these wonderful new books, and your patience.

New Library Computer System

Over the next few weeks the Library will be switching over to a new computer system. Sadly, some Wednesday Library classes – this affects some Year 2 and 3 classes - will need to be cancelled to accommodate training and implementation. I apologise for this inconvenience. Affected students are most welcome to come in to the Library anytime they like to borrow or return books.

Kel Cowling: **Librarian**

Sports News

Congratulations Yannis!

As previously reported, School Captain Yannis Frerck was recently selected to represent Sydney North in the State Soccer Championships. Well, the news just gets better.....

Sydney North made it through to the Grand Final of these championships, and were down 2-1 at halftime. In the second half, a free kick was awarded to Sydney North, 30 metres out from goal. Wisely, the Sydney North coach nominated Yannis to take the kick. Like a cruise missile homing in on its target, the ball zoomed through the air and into the net. (Yannis claims it may have actually broken the sound barrier, but I think this is an exaggeration). As the score was level at full time, Sydney North and their opponents from Western Sydney were declared joint champions.



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Look out for Yannis in our school playground – he'll be wearing the State windcheater with the words "State Soccer Champions 2016" emblazoned on the pocket!!!

PSSA Round 6, 10th June 2016 – Please note Rugby league and netball don't change

Boys Soccer A	David Thomas 2
Boys Soccer B	Passmore 1
Girls Soccer	John Fisher 1
Soccer C Team	David Thomas, Manly Vale
Rugby League	Nolan's
Netball	John Fisher Curl Curl

No PSSA Winter Sports Match reports for Friday 3rd June due to Wet Weather – Cancelled.

Kel Cowling: **PSSA Sports Coordinator**

Kitchen Garden Happenings

Given the exciting weather that occurred over the weekend the Kitchen Garden classes started this week with such enthusiasm by our students to assist in tidying it up. Thank you so much to 3P, 3W and 3C for their passion in assisting. Three Banana plants unfortunately were blown over in the winds and it was fascinating for classes (as well as the volunteers and teachers) to assist in removing one of the plants (see pics).



Alexandra Huntington: **Kitchen Garden Teacher**



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Band News

Thanks everyone for doing the online registration for Band Camp. We are delighted to report that only 2 students are unable to attend this year.

Some important things to remember for band camp:

- Please arrive at 8am on Wednesday the 8th (allow enough time for travelling) - we need to do roll-call, get everyone allocated to rooms and we start at 9am sharp.
- If you aren't able to bring your own child, ask around in your band as there will be many parents willing to offer your child a lift.
- Please remember to bring a MUSIC STAND - your child **MUST** have one for their tutoring sessions. These are available at Mall Music if you haven't bought one yet.
- If you have volunteered to bake for the tutors' afternoon tea, please bring that with you on Wednesday morning (or arrange with another parent to bring it for you).
- Please have a little chat with your child before you arrive about the behaviour that is expected of them at band camp. We have 2 wonderful teachers and parent supervisors for both days, but we have 67 kids to supervise and we ask that they conduct themselves appropriately during the camp.
- It looks like it will be pretty cold next week so make sure you pack lots of warm clothes, especially for night time.

Thanks everyone. See you at band camp next week.

Kerry Costello: **Band**

Uniform Shop

Opening hours

Monday 8:45am to 10am

Thursday 2:45pm to 4pm.

The shop is now fully stocked with winter uniform items

You can order online at www.flexischools.com.au or the school office has order forms. All online orders will be delivered within 4 school days

Winter Scarf

We have school scarves available at the shop to help keep children warm on those chilly mornings. **\$14 each**

Caps

For your convenience the canteen now has a supply of school caps if you ever find yourself stuck without a cap. **\$12 each**

Second Hand Items

We are very grateful for your donations of second hand items. 100% of the sale of these items goes directly to the school via the P & C. It is appreciated if items are washed before donation.

The uniform shop is currently fully stocked with summer uniform items.

Any queries please email me at seaforthuniformshop@gmail.com or call/text me on 0416 225 048

Ashley Bennett: **Seaforth Uniform Shop**



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Junior Science Academy

The Junior Science Academy is a program offered at Macquarie University¹⁰ to help children develop their understanding of science concepts and knowledge. It aims to support their science understanding and enhance and extend their school science learning and our activities are fun and engaging.

To find out more, visit: www.juniorscienceacademy.com.au

Topics include;

- ❑ The Science of Ancient Greece **(for children in years 4-6)**
- ❑ Crime Scene Investigation **(for children in years 5-6)**
- ❑ Chemistry: Change, Mixtures and Pure Substances **(for children in years 3-6)**
- ❑ Incredible Forces **(for children in years 2-3)**
- ❑ The Human Circulatory System **(for children in years 2-3)**
- ❑ Design and Build **(for children in years 3-4)**
- ❑ Rube Goldberg Machines **(for children in years 3-4)**
- ❑ The Earth and Solar System **(for children in years 2-4)**



Children may attend any day or days of each program, or all days. Our program runs from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Drop-off is from 8.30am to 9.30am and pick-up is from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at the Macquarie University campus, North Ryde. Drop-off and pick-up times are supervised.

Please see [website](#) for more details, including the activities on each day, and to book your child's place for the upcoming school holidays.

Please share with colleagues, friends and family who you think could be interested.

We hope to see you in July!

The Junior Science Academy team



WWW.JUNIORSCIENCEACADEMY.COM.AU

The Junior Science Academy aims to encourage children to develop their understanding of how our world works. Supported by science experts at Macquarie University, the activities are designed to suit all primary school aged children.

Children are introduced to science concepts, participate in science based experiments and make friends in a safe and supervised environment at Macquarie University where they have access to its learning facilities.

Our programs run four times a year in the school holidays and we add and rotate topics each offering.

Drop off	8.30am to 9.30am (children are supervised)
Activities	9.30am to 4.30pm
Pick up	4.30pm to 5.30pm (children are supervised)
Cost	\$120 per child per day, including GST

ENROL ONLINE TODAY!

www.juniorscienceacademy.com.au/enrol

CONTACT DETAILS

Email: juniorscience@mq.edu.au

Phone: 02 9805 3130






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Please support the local businesses which support our school

The logo for Taekwondo Martial Arts, featuring the word "TAEKWONDO" in large, stylized yellow letters on a black background, with "Martial Arts" written in a smaller, cursive font to the right.

ENROL NOW!!

PAY-AS-YOU-GO

No Direct Debit

No Contracts

Seaforth Community Centre
Cnr Baringa Av and Koobilya St
MONDAYS Juniors: 6:00pm

Forestville Senior Citizens Centre
Cnr Warringah Rd and Starkey St
WED Juniors: 5:00pm

Also Beacon Hill and more

Phone: 04 1300 4094

www.tkma.com.au



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