



-Achieving Excellence-

Seaford K-7 NEWS

Wednesday 12th August 2020 - Term 3, Week 4, 2020

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Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

August

17th Orienteering SA after school 3.30-5.00pm

18th Boys Biz in Gym 3-4.15pm

Soccer clinics 3:30-4:30pm

21st Due Date for Name Change Slips

28th 9.10am Assembly – video to families

Wk 7 3 Way Conferences

SEPTEMBER

4th School Closure

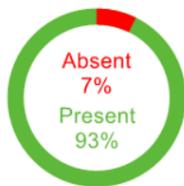
Dress Code Compliance

Just a reminder that our school dress code does not include jeans or items other than gold and bottle green tops and jumpers and black or grey bottoms. **Please check that your child is dressed appropriately.**

Attendance - Every day counts!



Year to Date (2020)



Previous Week

This attendance data was derived from student attendance data from the system on 7/08/19. Our target is 95%!

Please ensure your child/children attends school every day. Here are some tips and tricks that you may find helpful:

- remove devices from bedrooms and have a – no technology rule after an agreed upon time each night and have a family game time instead (great for relationships and for bedtime)
- have a set routine for school nights, e.g. bath/shower, bedtime story and then bed
- pick a fun family time activity that everyone can participate in over the weekend if the bed and morning routines are followed
- do a night-time prep so mornings are smoother for everyone
- get the kids involved in packing their own lunchbox the night before. This may also help with less wasted food
- talk about the fun things they will do at school during the day, encouraging a positive mindset towards school and learning (as well as the all-important friendships and play times)
- organise with one of their friend's parent/carers for your child/children to come to school together. Sharing the load with another can help encourage children to be more motivated.

School & Preschool Name Change

Our Joint Governing Council, have been discussing changing our names as currently both sites include the wording Seaford K- 7 Birth to Y7 Campus.

Due to the Department for Education's initiative of moving Year 7s to high school and we are in Port Noarlunga South, we are proposing that we have a name change to reflect our locality and future cohort of learners.

Suggestions so far have been Mid Coast Primary School and Mid Coast Kindergarten, and Southport Primary School and Southport Kindergarten. As part of the change process, we are asking our community for their input so any new suggestions are welcome.

We would really appreciate your thoughts regarding this matter and ask that you return the slip that was sent home last week by **Friday 21st August.**

Thank you for your support with this,

The Joint Governing Council

Preschool Enrolments for 2021

Have you enrolled your child for Kindy for 2021? Children who turn 4 years of age before 1st May 2021 are able to attend preschool from the beginning of next year. We are currently enrolling children for 2021. Please contact the Kindy for further details on 8327 2280 if you would like to enrol your child at Seaford Campus Preschool.

Phonics Screener Check for Year 1

Most children start school with some understanding of reading. Some can already read. Children who understand the relationship between letters and sounds—known as 'phonics'—will be at an advantage. Phonics is vital in learning to read.

Some children struggle with learning to read. It is important that these children are quickly identified so that teachers can plan for any specific support they may need. When this is done early, children have the best possible chance in life and learning.

The phonics screening check is a short, simple assessment that tells teachers how students are progressing in phonics. It takes only 5–7 minutes and is carried out by classroom teachers with each student individually. Teachers then analyse the results and, if necessary, plan for any additional support that students might require. All Year 1 students in government schools will undertake the check in weeks 5- 8 Term 3. To ensure high quality and consistency, Year 1 teachers and leaders have been trained to use the phonics screening check during Term 2. The phonics screening check is one important element of the Government of South Australia's Literacy Guarantee, ensuring that all students have the best possible start in reading. The Literacy Guarantee is central to the improvement of literacy and numeracy for all students.

Reading Aloud Challenge

This week information will go home with students about our Reading Aloud Challenge for Term 3. For 4 weeks we are asking parents and carers to read to their child every night for 15mins. Why you ask?

- Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important thing you can do to prepare your child for reading and learning.
- Your example demonstrates that reading is valued and important.
- You can learn new things from a book.
- It's great for bonding.
- You can discuss new vocabulary together.

You are your child's first and most important teacher so how you go about reading aloud is important. Here are a few tips.

1. Get excited! Enthusiasm is contagious.
2. Read with expression. Go ahead and use silly voices and do the noises. Your child will love you for it.
3. Point to the pictures and discuss them. Make connections e.g. "That looks like your train!"
4. If your child is struggling to sit still give them a snack or something to hold.
5. If your child is reluctant, keep trying. Build this into their daily routine.
6. Let your child turn the pages- get them involved.
7. Find a comfortable spot but don't doze off!
8. Make sure you read a variety of books to your child. Yes, they will have their favourites but read others too.

Don't forget to join your local library as you will need to update your reading books regularly!

Handwriting

Handwriting remains an important means of communication. Although it is important for learners to be able to write using a keyboard or touchscreen, the ability to handwrite legibly and easily remains a vital skill in many aspects of everyday life.

Learning to handwrite helps to build learners' expertise and confidence. This helps them to recognise letters and symbols and to understand the sound of the letters which they use to form and read words.

Automaticity is very important and developed through consistent rehearsal and practise that is specific, deliberate and meaningful. Automaticity of handwriting reduces the demand on working memory and the amount of parallel processing needed (parallel processing is the ability for the brain to engage in multiple processes at the same time). This allows learners to focus more on the content of their writing. Research shows there is a high correlation between automated handwriting and effective written language and spelling abilities.

Parents and carers can do lots at home to support automaticity and ensure children are forming their letters correctly. In the younger years children need constant modelling and correcting so they don't get into bad habits. If you see your child forming letters the wrong way or starting in the wrong place please talk to them about this and model how to do this correctly. If children

are writing their names with a mixture of upper case and lower case letters talk to them about how the capital letter starts at the beginning.

Pencil grip can also be a concern but, again, this comes down to modelling and correcting. If the child gets an unusual grip this could hinder their ability to write for extended periods.

If you have any concerns about your child's ability to form letters please talk to your child's class teacher.

Trent Hill Incursion - Indigenous Culture for Kids

Trent Hill is an Indigenous storyteller, educator and guide. He has worked at the Adelaide Botanic Garden for more than 10 years, conducting Aboriginal Plant Use trails for Primary and Secondary students. He also conducts in-school programs at schools and kindergartens about Aboriginal culture, artefacts, the roles of men and women and Dreaming stories.



We had the most wonderful Indigenous Perspectives lesson today. We had a guest speaker Trent Hill come tell us a Dreaming Story and show us some special artefacts.

He showed the children a map of Indigenous Australia and talked about how there are 300 groups of Aboriginal people throughout Australia and each group has a different language. He introduced us to some artifacts- old and special tools that Aboriginal people use, especially for ceremonies.

He explained HUNTING and GATHERING to the children and explained that females gather 85% of the food (seeds, fruit & vegetables) and water that Aboriginal people use on the lands. Men are the hunters who hunt for large animals such as kangaroos and emus.

Trent explained that Aboriginal Dreamings teach rules of living. They teach Aboriginal people what to do and what not to do.

We heard the story of Geddigul. Geddigul didn't listen to his people or elders. He didn't help hunt or gather and he was very greedy and lazy. The more lies he told the more trouble he got in to.

There were several lessons to be learnt from the Dreaming; including:

**you don't just walk into someone else's house- you need permission*

**he didn't listen or help so he didn't know how to look after himself*

**the sisters got in trouble for listening to a stranger*

**if you want something, you need to make an effort and help*

**use your manners and get permission*

**he ran out of chances*

**listen and respect your elders*

**only ever take what you need*

**whatever you don't use- give it back to the earth*

**look after the land and keep everything in balance*



Trent also showed us some special artefacts including boomerangs, a didgeridoo, sticks and a kangaroo skin. He also talked about the totems on the didgeridoo and that they stand for family and individuals. Then we went outside and Trent showed us how friction makes a fire.



The kids had an absolute ball. He was very engaging and we even had some great comments:

"That was the coolest thing ever!" - Hailie

"That was the best experience of Aboriginal culture ever!" - Koa

Please click on this link if you would like to know a bit more information:

<http://botanicgdns.rbe.net.au/bgaeducation/index.php/special-programs/620-indigenous-culture-for-kids>

Term Overview – The Arts



In The Arts with the Junior primary classes we will explore new songs using a wide variety of instruments. The ukulele will be a

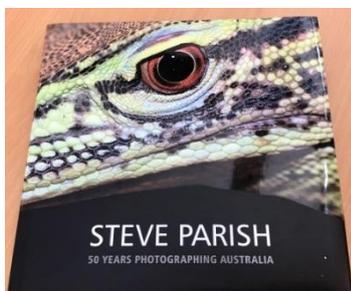
focus and children are welcome to bring their own ukulele or guitar from home. We will also use songs and music to find things we are thankful for in our lives.

This term with the Year 3 – 6 students we will focus on exploring songs by adding a variety of instruments over time to create our own orchestras. The ukulele will also be a focus and children are welcome to bring their own ukulele or guitar from home. We also will look at music notation and use our knowledge from the treble clef to look at how the base clef notation works.

Thank you – Library Donation

I would like to express our appreciation to the Iverson family for their generosity in donating this beautiful book to our Library.

Thank you,
Helen Briggs



Parent Concerns

Just a reminder that if you have a concern about an issue in your child's class, it is important that you respectfully raise that matter with your child's class teacher in the first instant. If the matter relates to administrative matters/decisions, then the initial concern should be raised with the front office/leadership staff. Thanks for your support with this.

Tree Planting

Last week students worked with Mike, our groundsman to plant Trees for Life native seedlings around the perimeter of the school. This will beautify our grounds and provide natural habits for local insects and creatures - fingers crossed!! It is great seeing the students developing their gardening skills and supporting our improvement of the environment they live in. Here's a few photos of them getting their hand dirty!



