

SALTWATER P-9 COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES

Swimming Program:

Years 1-3: 11 Nov – 22 Nov

Preps: 25 Nov – 6 Dec

Years 4-6: 9 Dec – 19 Dec

New Preps Transition Days:

12, 13 & 14 Nov

3, 4 & 5 Dec

Performing Arts Concert: 27 Nov

Student Led 3-Way Conferences:

9 & 10 Dec

Year 6 Transition Day:

10 Dec (public schools only)

Year 6 Graduation: 11 Dec

Christmas Carols: 18 Dec

Internal School Transition:

19 Dec

Last day of school:

20 Dec, 1:00pm dismissal

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is fast approaching with so many tasks, events and celebrations ahead of us. November begins with the first round of 2020 Prep Transition sessions, and will end with our inaugural Performing Arts Concert and the Pop Up Carnival.

Once we begin the month of December, it's all systems go, as we begin the countdown to the end of the year. December will commence with round two of 2020 Prep Transitions, followed by Reports and 3 Way Conferences, Year 6 Graduation and Visual Communications Gallery, Christmas Carols and finally our Internal 1-6 Transition Day.

As we work through the organisation of these events, we are also in the midst of preparing for our 2020 workforce planning. This means that we are in the process of teacher recruitment, organising furniture and spaces, as well as curriculum planning. Therefore, it is very important to ensure you have notified the office of any siblings that will enrol next year or if you are moving and your children will not attend Saltwater in 2020. If you know of anyone who is still waiting to enrol their children at Saltwater, kindly remind them to do so ASAP as this will assist with class allocations and staffing.

Performing Arts Concert and Pop Up Carnival

To celebrate our first year in the community here at Point Cook, we are showcasing the talents of 60 performers from Prep- 6 in a production of various music and dance numbers, including performances by the choir. The production is directed by our very talented Performing Arts Directors Mr Lapina and Mr Haddad.

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Sakura is a story of transformation, and a captivating voyage of discovery. This is a journey that encompasses many different students of different nationalities and cultures from all over the world coming together, unified in a common goal. The production represents new beginnings in many different forms, inspired by our new multicultural school with new students who are a part of new families within our community.

Our primary objective of the evening is to support our students and the wider community in promoting togetherness, social awareness and diversity by presenting a night of multicultural, community driven family fun, where we welcome all families from all over the local area and beyond to enjoy the evening together. Overwhelming research suggests that youth who participate in their respective communities have an increased likelihood of pursuing further education, as well as entering the workforce.

There will be pre-show entertainment from 4:30pm-7pm, prior to the performance starting at 7pm, with an abundance of family friendly activities. Each ticket includes general admission, a show bag and access to pre-show carnival entertainment such as:

- * Magicians
- * Inflatables obstacle courses
- * Balloonist
- * Giant slide
- * Face painting
- * Live DJ
- * Jumping castle

Food trucks will be available on site and the cafe will be open to sell coffee, cold drinks, including slushies, and sweets. Each ticket will also go into a draw to win one of our many prizes. The raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the concert.



Youth Activating Youth

\$1 from each ticket sold will be donated to Youth Activating Youth, a multicultural organisation that provides disadvantaged and disengaged young people with the essential skills needed to build self-confidence, self-efficiency and networks that will encourage a more enduring development. For more information please go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/YouthActivatingYouth/>

It is going to be quite a show, so mark Wednesday, November 27 in your diaries as 'Showtime'. Tickets can be purchased online by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=569851&>



TICKETS ON SALE NOW
www.saltwatercollege.vic.edu.au



Proudly supporting Youth Activating Youth
With \$1 from every ticket sold donated

Building update

I am happy to inform you that I have confirmation from the department that Saltwater P-9 College has been funded and will receive three double story relocatable buildings for the 2020 School Year. These state-of-the-art double-story buildings will incorporate the latest innovations to provide teachers and students with modern learning environments, including:

- Double-glazed windows and improved insulation to reduce heat loss
- Special wall and ceiling linings to reduce internal noise reverberation
- Energy efficient design
- External window shades

These buildings will be manufactured off-site and assembled at school ready for the commencement of the Year 2020.

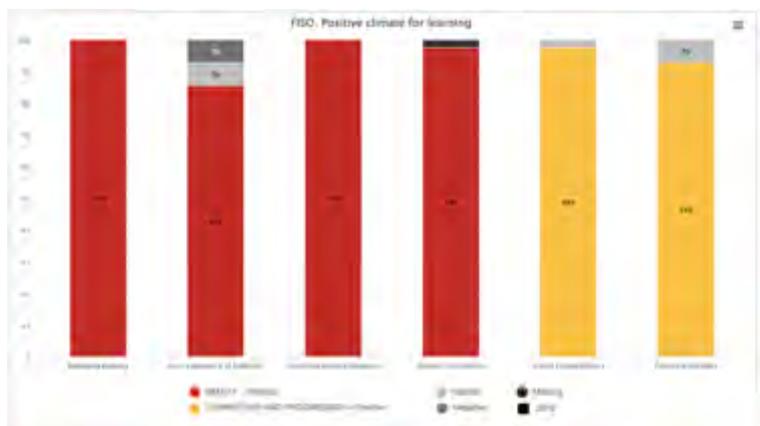
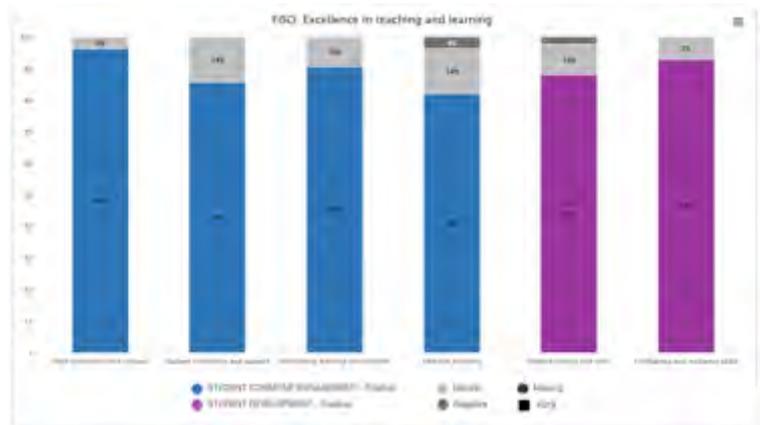
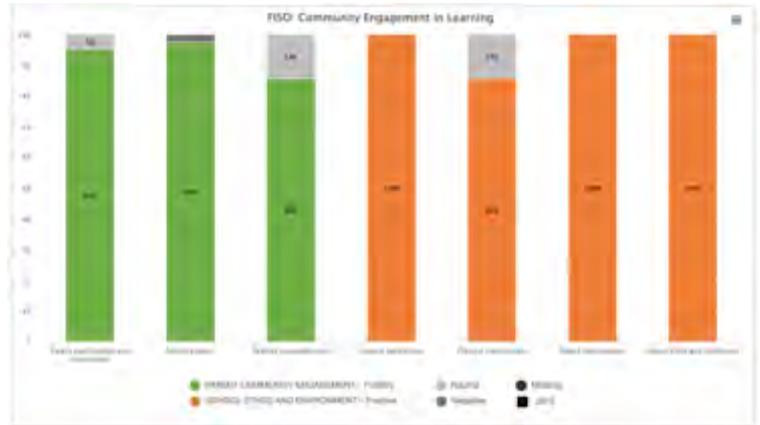
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Parent opinion survey

A few months ago, a number of our families were randomly selected to complete our first Parent Opinion Survey. Every year we conduct anonymous opinion surveys for staff, students and parents. The use of opinion data, as a measure of school performance, is very important in making our school the best it can possibly be.

Parent Opinion Survey data is used in our Annual Report and analysed in the School Self Evaluation every four years (Saltwater will have a self-evaluation in 2020) for the purpose of identifying areas where school improvement can be focussed and areas where we are doing well that can be celebrated. All feedback is confidential as an independent contractor collates the information. This year, the result of our Parent Opinion Survey has been very positive, showing that we have very satisfied, happy parents, who believe our school is performing extremely well. I have attached a snapshot of the results in this newsletter for your viewing. You will see the high percentage (predominantly 90% or higher) of satisfaction in the following areas:

- Parent participation and involvement
- School support
- General satisfaction
- School improvement
- School pride and confidence
- High expectation for success
- Stimulating learning environment
- Confidence and resiliency skills
- Managing bullying
- Promoting positive behavior
- Respect for diversity
- School connectedness
- Positive Transitions



Jackie Daniels
Principal

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Chess Inter-School State finals

On October 23rd and 24th the Saltwater College Chess team competed in two Inter-school State Finals.

1. NSC Chess Inter-school Primary State Semi-Finals

Fifty-six students from 15 schools competed in the Western Zone Northern Star Chess Primary State Semi-Finals on October 24th.

The Saltwater College team was placed 2nd with 19.5 points against the strongest schools in the West, beaten only by Cambridge Primary by 1 point.

With this result, the whole team has qualified for the State Super-Finals on November 11th.

Team scores

Max Kurian = 2nd on 6 points out of 7

Ryan Yang = 5th on 5 points out of 7

Angus Walsh = 11th on 4.5 points out of 7

Max Walsh = 17th on 4 points out of 7

2. KU Inter-school Chess State Primary Finals

In the KU State Primary Schools Chess Finals, there were 255 players from 39 schools competing.

The Saltwater College team was one player short.

To give the team the best chance at success and attempt to qualify for Nationals, Coach Phil was able to arrange for 5 year old Reyansh A. from Saltwater Kindergarten to join the team as a substitute. Reyansh did not disappoint, scoring 6.5 points out of 9, bringing the team to a total score of 23 and into 11th place, only narrowly missing a place in the National Finals by half a point.

Team Scores

Reyansh A. = 6.5 points out of 9

Ryan Yang = 6.5 points out of 9

Angus Walsh = 5.0 points out of 9

Max Walsh = 5.0 points out of 9



A tremendous effort and great achievement for the school's first year in Inter-school competition resulting in the team being approved to play in the Kids Unlimited Inter-school Primary National Finals on Monday 2 December and Tuesday 3 December. We wish the team the best of luck at the tournament!

Phil Minichelli
Chess Academy

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International Needs Australia

We are very fortunate that we live in a democratic country where we have free will, free education and a health care system that ensures that we are well looked-after. Unfortunately for many around the world, these basic rights are not always available. Through one of our previous inquiries, 'Understanding the rights of a child may lead to equity', we learned that many families around the world struggle due to poverty, discrimination, exploitation and other reasons. Some of the reasons as to why this occurs are due to economical, religious and cultural beliefs. These ideas are powerful but sometimes used to enslave people rather than liberate them.

At Saltwater College, we are passionate about taking action and helping our global families in any way that we can to educate communities. We also assist organisations who help provide support in education and provide healthcare to the ones that need it. As a result of our investigations, we have partnered with Swinburne University and INA - International Needs Australia, to do our bit to assist in helping communities around the world to create a positive social impact.

Sarah, Naledi & Mia
Year 5 Students



On Wednesday 6 November, Saltwater College had a free dress day to support International Needs Australia (INA), as organised by some of our Year 5 students.

INA is an Australian charity who are passionate about eradicating global poverty. INA is a fully accredited international development agency with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) as well as a full member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID).

Thank you to everyone who donated in support of our partnership with INA and Swinburne University. We raised a total of **\$700**.

This contribution will help to challenge the underpinning ideas of discrimination and provide the resources needed to create new lives for children – free of poverty, oppression and marginalisation. It will help INA work directly with women and children globally to implement world-leading, innovative projects to change lives.

We have also locked in workshops for next year.

Well done to our Year 5 students and our Saltwater Community!

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Student Comic

Riley Witcher from 4A would like to share a teacher comic he has created.



Sneaky Snakes

With the warmer weather approaching and the construction in the surrounding area disturbing the ground, we must all be vigilant regarding our safety around snakes. At Saltwater, we have clear incident management procedures that are followed if an incident such as this occurs, including ensuring the grass is cut. Students have also been reminded that if they do see a snake they are to stay calm, move away from the area and inform a teacher on duty or come straight to the office.

Wyndham City Council has shared the following information regarding snakes in residential properties:

If you find a snake on your property:

- Watch it from a safe distance and do not touch the snake
- Safely remove any people or pets from the area where the snake is
- If the snake is visible, a qualified professional snake catcher engaged by Wyndham City can attend and remove the snake from the residential property. This service is free of charge to residents and can be accessed by phoning 9742 0777

News From Big Childcare

Dear Saltwater College Families,

We are sad to farewell Maddie who is making a career change. She will still be working in the child care industry but within a child care centre which we think she will be equally amazing at! Sadly, Maddie's last day will be tomorrow – Friday 8 November. Maddie has been integral in creating strong relationships within the community at Saltwater College and providing a high standard of care (and great fun!). If you get a chance, Maddie would love to wish you goodbye. A huge thank you to her for everything she has done.

We are pleased to let you know that we have found a replacement for Maddie – which wasn't easy but we are confident you will be happy!

Adam Imber will be starting as **your new Centre Manager** from Monday 11 November. Adam has worked within the OSHC industry for the last three and a half years and comes to us with a proven track record in running great programs. He loves working in OSHC and particularly giving children the platform to learn essential life skills, build strong relationships and try new things, all whilst having loads of fun along the way! Adam holds a Bachelor of Exercise Science/Human Movement and Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management. Unsurprisingly, outside of work, Adam loves all sports. He plays for a local footy team, enjoys riding his mountain bike and spending time with friends and family.

Adam can be contacted on the same number and email you had for Maddie...
0413 258 139 or saltwater@bigchildcare.com We can't wait for you to meet him!

Best regards
Big Childcare Management





INTRODUCING NEWLY APPOINTED STAFF FOR 2020



My name is Sarah Borracci. I have taught the primary years program (PYP) for three years at an accredited school and am excited to continue to challenge myself and my students at Saltwater College in 2020. I am passionate about collaborating with young minds to achieve holistic growth. I look forward to embracing this new school community.

Kind Regards,
Sarah Borracci
Classroom Teacher, Saltwater P-9 College



Born and raised in the Point Cook area, I have very strong links to the local community and am a very keen Western Bulldogs fan. I have a keen interest in history and have already established background in Sports Education through coaching a variety of sports. When not teaching, I am Wicket Keeping for Point Cook Cricket Club, playing basketball or going to the movies with family and friends.

I cannot wait to get started at Saltwater P-9 in 2020!

Kind Regards,
James Peterson
Classroom Teacher, Saltwater P-9 College



My name is Hayley Mann and I have been a teacher for 10 years. I am from England and have been living in Australia for just 1 year. I am passionate about teaching, especially in the younger years. I spent 8 years teaching children through play based learning, which was lots of fun. I am really looking forward to teaching within my new local community. In my spare time, I love to explore the amazing places around Melbourne. I am looking forward to meeting many of you in the new school year.

Thank you again,
Hayley Mann, Classroom Teacher, Saltwater P-9 College

INTRODUCING NEWLY APPOINTED STAFF FOR 2020



Dear Saltwater P-9 Community

Hi everyone, it is my great privilege to be able to introduce myself as the newly appointed classroom teacher at Saltwater P-9. I am super excited to embark on this journey and to have the opportunity to continue to grow with the school community.

In 2014, I completed my Bachelor of Education P-12. I have taught in a variety of schools, both in London and Melbourne's west. Since 2018, I have been working at Cairnlea Park Primary School as a grade five and three teacher.

In the last five years, I have expanded my knowledge by teaching all year levels. I have worked with students from a variety of backgrounds including EAL students. As an educator, my principle purpose is to make an impact on a child's life by being encouraging, inspiring and by guiding them in the right direction to achieve their life long goals.

Teaching has been such an enjoyable and rewarding career. I have been lucky enough to work in a variety of schools and have learnt a lot along the way. I am looking forward to building an excellent rapport with each student, parent and staff member throughout the year.

Kind Regards,
Jasmine Sheikh
Classroom Teacher, Saltwater P-9 College



I am delighted to introduce myself as one of the new classroom teachers at Saltwater P-9 College for 2020. My name is Mahaylia Masters, and I have recently finished completing my Bachelor of Education (Primary) at Deakin University Waurn Ponds. I moved to Geelong almost 4 years ago now from a small country town in Naracoorte, South Australia to pursue my university studies.

I have always had a strong passion for teaching and working with children, being involved in various leadership roles throughout Primary and Secondary School. Over the last 4 years, I have had the opportunity to develop my teaching skills within Foundation – Grade 6 classrooms in a variety of schools. Over the course of my studies, I have had opportunities to develop my cultural awareness, volunteering in small local villages in both Nulawai, Fiji and Chiang Mai, Thailand. While living in Geelong, I have worked in Before & After School Care, also working as a support worker for OutsideTheBox Education, supporting children with additional needs during their school holiday programs. These experiences have developed my skills and abilities to work with children of all learning abilities and backgrounds.

I aim to build strong relationships with the students, parents and colleagues at Saltwater, creating a fun and inclusive learning environment that allows for all students to achieve their full potential.

I look forward to meeting everyone within the Saltwater community in 2020!

Kind Regards,
Mahaylia Masters
Classroom Teacher, Saltwater P-9 College

STUDENT WELLBEING



- Book a double appointment with your GP
- Advise them of your concerns regarding your child's emotional wellbeing
- Obtain a referral and Mental Health Plan under the Better Access Initiative (Medicare item 2715/2700). This entitles your child up to 10 sessions per 12 months. *It is important that the GP provides an accompanying letter attached to the Mental Health Plan for Medicare purposes.*
- Have your GP fax the referral and the paperwork directly to onPsych on 1300 651 580, or you can take pass it onto Cydnee and she will pass this and your child will be put on the wait list to see Shruti as soon as possible.

Cyber safety

Being a 1:1 device school it is important to be vigilant with your child's online safety.

Cyber Bullying is the use of the internet and related technologies to harm other people in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner.

Just a handful of the effects of cyber bullying include:

- * Undermining confidence
- * Negative thoughts.
- * Causing stress and hurtful health effects
- * Affecting performance and attendance in school
- * Depression and a sense of loneliness

Parents will be aware of many incidents reported in the media regarding safety online. Personal information is easily tracked and gathered by those who know how, this is why it is so important to keep children as safe as possible while online especially given that technology is a part of our everyday lives and given we are a 1:1 device school .

Parents are encouraged to view the following sites:

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/bullystoppers/smsocial.pdf>

You can also find our acceptable use policy on our website via the following link:

<https://saltwatercollege.vic.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/>

onPsych

Reminder we have FREE Psychology services at Saltwater P-9 College

Do you find that your child is displaying emotional or behavioural issues? OnPsych are a team of fully qualified and registered psychologists and Mental Health Social Workers who specialise in child and adolescent services working in primary and secondary schools. Services are performed confidentially and at NO COST to the parent. Our onPsych staff member at Saltwater College is Shruti Gupta; who works with both children and adolescents who are experiencing a range of difficulties such as anxiety and mood disorders, learning and behavioural disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorder, interpersonal, self-harming and adjustment difficulties (social & situational). If you believe that this might benefit your child, please contact Cydnee Brain for an information pack or talk to your child's classroom teacher.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of my child seeing onPsych?

onPsych staff are experts in their field. They offer professional help with simple problems like making friends to complex mental health issues, such as:

- * Dealing with bullying
- * Self-harm
- * Autism Spectrum Disorder
- * Self-esteem and confidence
- * Eating disorders
- * Attention deficit & hyperactivity
- * Behaviour problems (at home and at school)
- * Fears and phobias
- * Depression
- * Anger
- * Social skills
- * Grief and loss
- * Anxiety

onPsych services are FREE of charge to you, all you need to do is to get a referral from your GP. Below are the steps you can follow to quickly get a referral so that Lilly Bui can see your child as soon as possible.



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



Dance and Vocal extension are now in full swing leading up to our ultimate performance “Sakura” on 27 November. These groups are working with so much passion and drive as rehearsals intensify. It’s very easy to forget that they are just students, because they are showing a lot of professionalism beyond their years. Teamwork is at an all-time high as they motivate each other, focussing on the common goal.

With the focus on the performance, some of the day classes have been modified to make room for extra rehearsals. In the meantime, teachers have commenced Christmas Carol rehearsals in their classrooms, in preparation for our other big event.

It’s definitely a busy time, but the resilience and fortitude of all our students are definitely something to be proud of.

Make sure you get your tickets to support our students!

Michael Lapina and Phill Haddad
Performing Arts Directors



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS



State Athletics:

Last Thursday Ella Vrhovac competed at the State Athletics carnival. She competed against all of the other children in the State.

I would like to congratulate Ella on her excellent achievement in coming first in her 800M and second in her 1500M event. We are all super proud of you Ella for all of the hard work and dedication you apply to your sport, well done.

Swimming Program:

We are commencing our first Saltwater swimming program on:

Monday 11 November- Friday 22 November **Years 1,2 & 3**

Monday 25 November- Friday 6 December **Preps**

Monday 9 December- Thursday 19 December **Years 4-6**

Children will learn stroke technique and development, swim and survival strokes, communication and cooperation as well as personal development skills. Swimming is a very important part of our curriculum and it is expected that all children participate in this whole school event. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school for further information.

Physical Education Classes:

During Physical Education, the Prep children have been focusing on their fundamental motor skills. They have been learning how to kick a soccer ball both individually and with a partner. The children have been fantastic at displaying cooperation with their peers and have become excellent risk takers whilst learning a new skill.

The Year 1 & 2 children have been revising and refining their skills in kicking a soccer ball. They have been open-minded in learning new drills to help them improve their kicking skills.

The Year 3 & 4 children have been introduced to learning hockey skills. The children have been exposed to close and loose dribbling, pushing and trapping the ball and having control of the ball to move around obstacles such as cones. They have displayed excellent resilience when learning a new skill.

The Year 5 & 6 children have been refining their hitting, trapping, pushing, dodging and shooting skills whilst learning new drills in hockey. They have displayed sportsmanship and integrity whilst learning their new skills. They have also been peer assessing and providing peer feedback when needed.

Kelleigh Evans, Physical Education Teacher

VISUAL ART NEWS

During this term in Visual Art, the Year 5 and Year 6 students have been consolidating their previous learning and focusing on drawing what we see not what we think we see.

Students have had the opportunity to work with soft-pastels to create a still-life drawing of fruit. They started by using pencil to draw the fruit to ensure they had the perspective correct, then they moved onto using the soft-pastels to create their piece.

The students were required to be respectful of their group and ensure they didn't move the fruit so that their peer's perspective didn't change.

They were also required to work collaboratively in sharing the allocated materials.

They should all be proud of their efforts and their risk-taking behaviour as they produced some fabulous pieces.

Well done my budding artists!

Maria Pandazopoulos,
Visual Arts Teacher



SPANISH NEWS



Buenos días Saltwater Community,

Our school assembly on Monday 28th of October was a very special day as our students had the opportunity to showcase their voices while singing in Spanish. I was very proud of our students; they all joined in and sang their little hearts out, making the most of the opportunity to share their learning.

One of the highlights of the day was that I could see that the Spanish vocabulary is not only being used by our students but also is reaching our teaching staff, parents and guardians.

Learning a second language empowers our students to be curious about the world and other cultures, making new friends and contributing to a sense of personal achievement.

Well done to our Spanish learning community at Saltwater P-9 College.

Mr. Pastén
Spanish Teacher



NEWS FROM PREP



Dear Prep Families,

This term during our Unit of Inquiry, students have been learning about different folktales and how they have evolved as they have been passed down through generations. Students have learnt that each time a story has been passed down to the next generation there is usually some form of change, a change as simple as the characters altering over time. An example of this was in the folktale 'Rumpelstiltskin', where the main character was known as either 'Princess' or 'the miller's daughter', however in an older version the character had been given the name of 'Eloise'. Students also learnt that the settings, problems and solutions had changed due to people telling the story and adding their own personal ideas and twists.

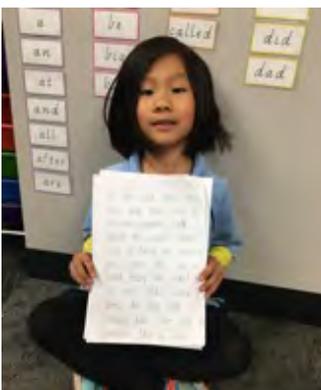
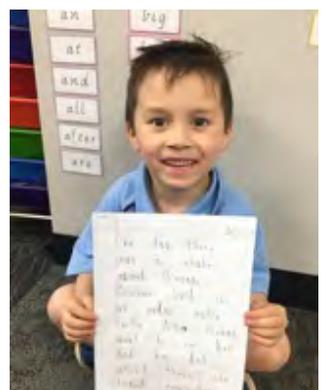
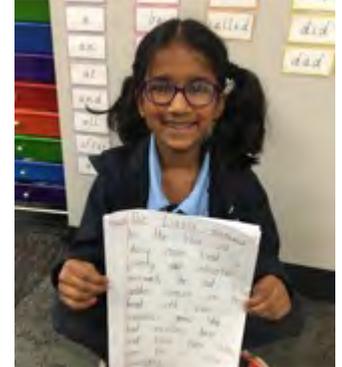
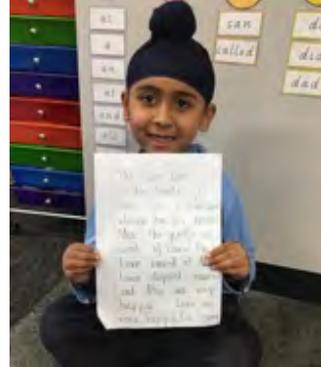


In Mathematics, the Preps have been learning about the features of 2D shapes and 3D objects. To enrich their learning students have been engaging with real-world experiences by identifying 3D objects in their school environment. By connecting the concept of shape to realistic examples, students developed a deeper understanding and were able to recognise academic content with greater confidence. Recently, students engaged in an authentic learning experience where they used their iPads to document a series of 3D objects in their school setting. Their documented pieces were then transferred into a Keynote presentation where every student then uploaded their work onto Schoolbox.



NEWS FROM PREP continued

In Writing, the Preps have been learning about the structure of a narrative text through their work on folktales and as a class, students investigated what features these narratives contained so they could create a shared writing piece that was added to over the week. Whilst working on the shared piece the students contributed ideas to help create a class narrative. Working on this piece over the week allowed the students to focus on the detail within their story by making sure their idea and each section was clear and accounted for. By the end of the week, the Preps had written their own narrative that was sequenced correctly and full of creative ideas. The Prep teachers are so proud of the achievements the students have made when learning about narratives and cannot wait to read their future stories.



Reminder:

- As the weather warms up it is important that all students bring their hats and water bottles to school. Saltwater P-9 College is a SunSmart school and in both Terms 1 and 4, it is a requirement for students to be wearing their hats outside. Please ensure hats are either placed in bags every morning or stay in the little front pocket.
- Stay and Play – 5th December

NEWS FROM YEAR ONE

Dear Year 1 families,

We've had a busy last couple of weeks. Not only did we have a day off to celebrate the traditional Melbourne Cup races, but we also got to dress in casual clothes to raise money for International Needs Australia. There are many new students and families we welcome into our classrooms that we hope feel at home soon. Additionally, as we get ready for the end of the year, our classes have started practising singing our carols, as well as thinking about choreography in dance classes.

For our Unit of Inquiry, we have now wrapped up our topic about protecting the environment, but we hope that students can use what they have learnt to continue making positive choices to reduce pollution. Last but not least, our final unit for the year is about how our family and friends shape our identity. It aligned perfectly with Diwali celebrations, and especially as we move into Christmas celebrations at the end of the year, it gives us the opportunity to explore how we can show respect to everyone. We will be learning about our similarities and differences within the classroom, but also to those all around the world. Luckily for us, we will get to engage further with this topic at our Stay and Play with engaging incursions, as well as sharing cultural food with other families afterwards.

To help us think deeply about the lives of others, we will be focusing on the book *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker, which compared two boys who live on opposite sides of the world.

In Maths, we have been learning about location. So far we have been practising using our language to direct ourselves and Bluebots around maps and spaces, and have explored cardinal points (N,S,E,W) and mapping. The students have found this unit very enjoyable, especially when they get to use coding on the iPads and can make comparisons to the instructions given on Google Maps.

Just a reminder that swimming lessons will begin next week and will run every day for the next two weeks. If forms are not handed in, students will stay back and be split amongst other classes to do work at school.

Don't forget to buy yourself a ticket to the exciting Performing Arts concert, 'Sakura'! Mr Lapina and Mr Haddad, as well as many students and teachers, have been working extra hard to make this an inspiring and unforgettable experience. Tickets can be bought online. All the Year 1 teachers will be performing with the choir, so we would love to see everyone there supporting us!



Reminders:

- Stay and Play – 21st November
- Performing Arts Concert – 27th November

Please make sure your child is completing their homework each night, and if they have finished all their assigned tasks on Mathletics and Literacy Planet and would like some more, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.



NEWS FROM YEAR TWO

Dear Year 2 families,

Wow! Here we are in Week 5 already! The Year 2 team has been busy working on all sorts of different things lately; from making Halloween stress balls, to celebrating Mexican Day of the Dead by creating sugar skulls using lines of symmetry and picture reflections, to practising our class Christmas carols. The year is truly racing by.

In Reading, the students have been focusing on practising their partner reading skills. Partner reading involves students, in pairs, reading aloud to each other. This enables students to monitor their reading aloud, read more confidently and fluently, as well as practising to read with expression. Students have been reading aloud to a partner using the EEKK (Elbow-to-elbow, knee-to-knee) strategy – ask the students to model it to you during their reading time at home. Partner reading also gives students the opportunity to work on their reading goal and reflect on whether they are achieving it or working towards it.

In Mathematics, the students have been analysing the litter data that they recently collected from around the school. They utilised their additive thinking strategies to add up all their class data to create a combined Year 2 result. They used strategies such as jumping on a number line, splitting and algorithms to add numbers, landmark numbers and rounding to the nearest 100 for easier calculation. With the data, the students represented the information using picture graphs. Some students have also investigated representing the data in different forms of graphs, such as column graphs and bar graphs.

In Writing, the students have been busy writing their information report drafts. To date, most students have completed the Introduction (Classification), Description, and Location and Amount (Dynamics) sections. They are currently writing the drafts for the final environmental impacts section. As soon as they are done, we will begin the important process of revising and editing. The students are also planning to include graphs that they created in their focus during Mathematics, which display the amounts of each category of litter that were collected during the School Litter Survey. It's exciting to think that the students will soon finish writing a report based on a real-life scientific study that they planned and completed!



Reminders:

- Please ensure that students are reading every night and completing their homework – this enables students to consolidate what they have learnt in class.
- Students should bring fruits, snack and lunch for breaks, especially healthy food options. Students are discouraged to share their food due to allergies.
- Please ensure that the students return their Parent Guardian Consent forms and Swim School Student Level Forms for the upcoming Swimming Program. Lessons start on Monday 11th November and run through to Friday 22nd November.

NEWS FROM YEAR THREE

Dear Year 3 families,

We have had a wonderful and jam packed few weeks of learning in Year Three. Over the last few weeks, students have been working hard to consolidate their knowledge of procedural texts in Writing, measurement in Mathematics and reflecting on their newfound knowledge in Inquiry.

Unit of Inquiry 5:

During weeks 4 and 5, students collaboratively worked in small groups to design and create their own machines utilising at least one of the six, simple machines. Using the knowledge they had gained about forces and simple machines; they were instructed to create a compound machine that served a purpose in everyday life and helped make a task easier. Students were pushed to use their critical and creative thinking skills to brainstorm a design and possible problems and solutions, should they arise. It was also wonderful to see students developing their Approaches To Learning Social Skills through teamwork and collaboration. There was such a diverse range of machines created. We saw garbage buses that sorted rubbish into general waste, compost and recycling; TVs that served food; submarines that clean the ocean floor and much, much more. We encourage all families to have a discussion with your child about their invention and check their Schoolbox portfolio for an image of what they created. Marked rubrics for this Inquiry will be published on Schoolbox in the coming weeks. Finally, we would like to thank all families who donated recyclable materials to help make this task possible.



Please see below a few student reflections on this task:

- *“My group created a TV that has a drawer you can get food from. I liked building this with my group because it was a lot of fun. We used screws and pulleys as the simple machines in our design.” – Levi 3A*
- *“I enjoyed this task because our invention was small, but it could do a lot of things. We made a hand that used a lever to carry objects.” – Tahlia 3A*
- *“I enjoyed working with my group because we all worked as a team. We communicated about the materials we wanted to use.” – Charlize 3B*
- *“I liked that we had a lot of materials to choose from. My group created a bus that collected rubbish and had three bins. We used cardboard for the bus and bottle caps for the wheels.” – Shako 3B*

NEWS FROM YEAR THREE

continued

Unit of Inquiry 6:

We will now be starting our sixth and final Unit of Inquiry for 2019. Students will be investigating the Transdisciplinary Theme, 'How We Express Ourselves' and focusing on the central idea, 'Cultures have created stories to understand their place in the universe'. This unit is all about students exploring either their own culture in more detail or another culture they are interested in and uncovering how stories are told and passed down through generations. As part of this unit, students will also be exposed to the Intercultural Capability of the Victorian Curriculum and study Aboriginal culture in more detail. Throughout the unit, we encourage families to engage in conversations with your child about various stories that may have been passed down in their family. This unit will run for seven weeks, finishing at the end of term.

Writing:

Over the last two weeks, students have been consolidating their knowledge of procedural texts and identifying the different types of procedural texts. Across year 3, students have developed a sound understanding of the purpose and language features used in procedures. We encourage them to continue to think about the ingredients and method they are following whenever they create something at home. As a cohort, we will now be moving on to studying Poetry, which has an authentic link to our sixth Unit of Inquiry.

Mathematics Groups:

Last week, students combined their knowledge of forces with their knowledge of measurement to conduct experiments that analysed the distance a car can travel down a ramp when on different surfaces. The car and ramp was tested on many surfaces, including concrete, carpet and grass. Depending on their individual learning goals, students then measured the distance travelled by the car using either formal or informal measuring tools. This experiment allowed students to understand that 'a change in variable can change an outcome', which was a line of inquiry during our fifth unit. This meant, changing the surface of the ramp effected how far the car could travel.

During our sixth Unit of Inquiry, students will be working on developing mental maths strategies and applying these strategies to algebraic equations. Building mental maths skills will assist students to complete a range of mathematic equations quicker and more confidently. As a teaching team, we value the power of incidental teaching moments. We encourage parents to regularly ask their child/children simple addition, subtraction or multiplication questions at random moments to spark this knowledge and consolidate these skills.



Reminders:

- **Term 4** – Please ensure your child/children are wearing a wide brimmed hat to school that is clearly labelled with their first and last name. We also encourage students to wear sunscreen for optimal sun protection.
- **Week 6 - 7 (11/11 – 22/11)** – Swimming Program
- **November 27th** – Performing Arts Concert 'Sakura' tickets are now on sale for the show and the pre-show Carnivale. Be sure to get your tickets!
- **December 18th** – Saltwater Christmas Carols

NEWS FROM YEAR FOUR



Community: Melbourne Cup Wonderings

The Year 4 students have been focusing on 'successful communities' and on Melbourne Cup eve, the Year 4 students participated in a rotational activity that asked them to answer some key questions and pose wonderings about 'the race that stops a nation'. This was designed to get students working cooperatively with others as they built shared knowledge within their Year 4 community. The students were thinkers and communicators when they discussed questions such as 'Why is the Melbourne Cup called the race that stops a nation?', 'What could be some of the moral and ethical issues related to the Melbourne Cup?', 'What wonderings do you have about the Melbourne Cup?' The students did a wonderful job at sharing their prior knowledge and building new knowledge together.



Community Celebration

Our students' action at the end of our current Unit of Inquiry is to work together to choose and plan our end of year celebrations. Students have been busily working on the preparation for this. They have written persuasive texts to us, their teachers, to convince us to choose their activity idea. Some of the students have been very persuasive, incorporating rhetorical questions, emotive language and statistics. They've also been surveying each other to find out the popularity of different activities. We have discussed with students the concept of 'demographic data'. Connecting to this idea, students have recorded their data under different categories, e.g. girls and boys, 4A and 4B. They have then been able to describe the activity preferences of different demographic groups and made statements about their data. They then began to work in groups to plan out the activities. We are very much looking forward to celebrating these student-led activities at the end of the year.



Reminders:

- Please ensure that students are reading each night for 20 minutes and completing their homework. You can ask them questions about the text they are reading, or have a discussion with them from time to time.
- Year 4s have swimming in Weeks 9 and 10. We are still waiting on many of the permission notes and payments for this. Please consider allowing your child to participate in this very important activity, as the focus is not just on stroke development, but is also on 'swim & survive'.
- Sports Practise- each Friday morning, the Year 4 students are participating in various sports to prepare for Interschool Sports next year. Please allow your child to wear their sports uniform on Fridays.

NEWS FROM YEAR FIVE



Last week the students from Year Five started their sixth and final Unit of Inquiry for the year. To ensure the students experienced a thoughtful provocation we ventured into Melbourne's inner city. The students participated in an Urban Scrawl Laneway Tour with an expert guide and saw an artist in action. They applied their skills and knowledge from their Visual Communication lessons to capture images using our school cameras.



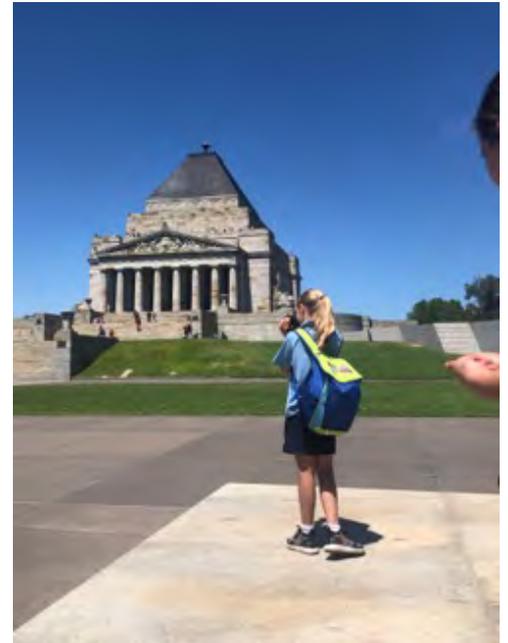
This inquiry-based, challenging city excursion was an invaluable experience for all students, offering a snapshot of art in our city. The students immersed themselves in the world of the 'hidden city' as they explored ACDC Lane, Hosier Lane and many more hidden treasures. The students were left with many questions and wonderings of what they saw, heard or witnessed, which now will be used to guide their inquiry. These wonderings together with the photos they captured will ensure they extend their knowledge of our Central Idea 'The Arts challenge and reflect society' and develop their own personal understanding.



The students were extremely fortunate to be able to visit The Shrine of Remembrance, not only to use this monument to take photos but witnessed a Shrine Tour. They discovered the symbolism and meaning throughout the Shrine and learnt more about the building's beautiful stories, architecture and purpose. As next week is Remembrance day, the students are now able to make this connection. A huge thank you to Mr. Saleem, Mrs Traianon, Cydnee, Ms Aexiou, Mr McIntosh, Mrs Deen and Ms. Moss who assisted us on our excursion.



In our exploration of the Arts, the students have started to investigate into different forms of poetry. We started by creating an 'I am Poem', which allowed them to explore themselves and communicate how they want to be perceived. We look forward to seeing our poets in action during this unit.



I AM...

I am a friendly and caring to one another
I wonder why people think dolphins are smarter than us
I hear my friend at school and my family members at home
I see a Mac Book in front of me now.
I cry when someone hurts my feelings or hurts me
I am friendly and caring to one another

I pretend I can fly in my dreams
I feel happy when I'm at school with my friends and teacher
I touch the wall when I wake up from sleeping
I worry when someone gets hurt
I am friendly and caring to one another

I understand when someone older than me is mad
I say it will be okay to people when they're scared
I have dreams of everyone I know being rich and happy
I try to make people happy when something goes wrong
I am friendly and caring to one another

-By Olivia 5A

Reminders:

- Homework is due November 13th 2019.
- Please remind students to bring their laptops charged every day as this is vital for their learning.
- As we are a Sun Smart school, in Term 4 students need to bring their hats.

NEWS FROM YEAR SIX

Inquiry

Currently the Year 6 students are engaging in their very own 'exhibition style' inquiry process. Students are either inquiring independently into their own phenomena based question or they are collaborating with others. The process thus far has seen the students identifying phenomena around the world that they are interested in finding more about. From here, they have developed many questions and, through one on one conferences with myself, they have formed their own Central Idea.

As part of taking action, the students asked whether they could seek assistance from teachers around the school regarding their insights into their own Central Idea. With an overwhelming response and support from the teaching staff, the answer was a YES!

Next week, the students will make contact with their mentor teacher and begin networking. Some examples of the students Central Ideas are listed below:

Wal and Jasmine:	Central Idea 'The onset of climate change is affecting mother nature'.
Shreshtha and Busiso:	Central Idea 'Animal adaptations are a result of our changing climate'.
Erica:	Central Idea 'Earth is part of a system orbiting around a star'.
Hayley:	Central Idea 'Technological advances have led to scientific discoveries in space'.
Mia and Gabby:	Central Idea 'Natural disasters are a result of sudden geological changes'.



Mathematics:

During our maths workshops on angles and parallel lines, students have developed the following key ideas:

1. A straight line that crosses a pair of parallel lines is called a transversal.
2. When a transversal crosses a pair of parallel lines it creates a number of angles, many of which are equal.
3. Alternate angles are on opposite (alternate) sides of the transversal, between the parallel lines, and are equal in size.
4. Corresponding angles are on the same side of the transversal and in the same position on the parallel lines, either both above or both below a line. They are equal in size.
5. Co-interior (or allied) angles are on the same side of the transversal between the parallel lines and they are supplementary (they add to 180°).

Important Dates:

- 27th November (Sakura Performing Arts Concert)
- 15th November (Apple Highpoint Excursion)
- 10th December (Year 6 State-wide Secondary Transition)
- 11th December (Graduation)
- 20th December (Last day of school)