Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Week 5. We have a great deal of information to share with you this week so please read ahead so you are aware of what is happening in our school.

2014 Enrolment
The enrolment growth the school has had over the past three years has been quite staggering. In 2011 the return was 423 students, 2012 was 452 students, 2013 was 511 students and this year our return was 525 students. As we have shared previously, very soon we will run out of teaching spaces and facilities have informed us that once we reach our limit we will become enrolment managed. This means that only those students who reside inside our school catchment area can be enrolled as students of the school. Nothing changes for our current students and families who may live beyond our catchment.

Great Results Guarantee
As a part of the state government’s Great Results initiative, our school has been given an opportunity to access $141,000 of $131 million shared across the state. This money is to be specifically targeted towards improving student outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy and is a much appreciated bonus to schools.

After analysing our school Literacy and Numeracy data for the last three years, linking this data to evidence based research and then discussing ideas and strategies with staff at our weekly staff meeting, I met with a cluster group of principals to discuss our school plan of action. It was most interesting to hear the variety of ideas and strategies that schools are implementing to improve their results. Each initiative was customised to address the needs of each school as it should be.

The plan of action for our school is to implement proactive strategies (and programs) to prevent children from falling below benchmark in either Literacy or Numeracy as they move through the early phase. Although programs will be implemented in 2014, evidence of some of our work may not be apparent until these students sit the national NAPLAN tests in Year 3. These tests provide us with an opportunity to compare our school data with ‘like’ schools across the nation. We have also taken the time to ensure our strategies are sustainable, align with the national curriculum and provide our students with an education that is facilitated by 21st century technology.

The school will use the money to provide levelled literacy intervention for students in Years 1, 2 and 3, speech language support for our Prep students who need further development in oral language, intense reading and maths intervention, improvements in our access to technology and the purchase of the necessary programs and resources to support and provide all of the above.

I feel confident our school strategies will make a difference and look forward to implementing our plan of action in 2014.
From the Leadership Team

Facilities
Just to provide our families with an update on some facilities issues that were shared at the P&C meeting last night as there will be many projects happening in our school over the course of the next few months.

Air Conditioning
We have finally received all quotes back for air-conditioning in both F Block and the old library. To expedite things we made our choice immediately and booked in the jobs. The first task is to get the power upgraded in F Block which is going to cost somewhere in the vicinity of $9K. Once this is done however, we can install air conditioners into the classrooms, cooling things down for our Year 1 and 5 students and teachers. Speaking with the P&C last night it was decided that the school would look after these two blocks and the P&C will focus their attention on the I-Centre.

New Tennis Courts
The approval for the new tennis courts came through in the latter part of last year. The location we have chosen for these courts (the engineers deemed the current location not feasible due to the large number of tree roots underground) is on the far oval. This is positioned very close to the old tennis courts and means they can be hired out to the community and easily accessed from Ceduna Street. This is very exciting for our school as outdoor tennis / basketball / netball courts are something that can only add to the opportunities we provide our students. I will keep the community informed of timelines around this project in the newsletter each week.

iPads & WiFi
iPads: We now have 125 iPads in the classrooms that are allocated as five per class but teachers do tend to share them across a year level. We also have an extra 10 iPads we purchased last year to allow for students to work in small extension groups. Added to this, we have 9 iPads for our SEP students. The school plans to purchase additional tablets this year to increase the number of devices in per classroom.

WiFi: Over the Xmas break we had new wireless access points (WAPs) installed in our I-Centre, B Block (Year 5s and 2s) and C Block. We have logged the job for the remaining WAPs to be installed and will now just have to wait for this to be confirmed and booked in from Central Office.

2014 School Camps
This year all students in Year 5-7 have the opportunity to attend a camp at Tallebudgerra. The 6s and 7s will be attending the camp in early Term 4 while the Year 5s will be attending in the latter part of Term 4. Very soon all of our Year 6/7 students will receive a note to take home asking for a deposit for their camp in August. The five day camp will cost roughly $300 and will provide the students with memories and experiences that will last a lifetime.

Parent Volunteers

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP US?
We are desperate for volunteers in our classrooms and would love to have you!! Any morning you can help would be enormously appreciated but Friday morning is when the most help is required. Just 30 minutes of your time will make such a difference to your child’s learning. It also gives you a window of opportunity to see the invaluable work that takes place each and every day within our classrooms, whilst learning the tools and skills you need to help your children’s learning at home. Please see your child’s classroom teacher if you have any time at all that you can consistently commit to each week.

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart".
~Elizabeth Andrew~

Scooters within the School
Scooters have been banned from Loganholme SS since 2009. This rule was made due to the high rate of incidents that were occurring. These included:-
- Dangerous riding on pathways causing accidents with families and students
- Trading of scooter parts with younger students who didn’t understand the monetary value
- Stealing or moving of scooters as they could not be secured to the bike racks
- Inappropriate joyriding of scooters within the school grounds before or after school
- Complaints of dangerous riding of scooters within the community whilst traveling to/from school

This is to remind families that scooters are not permitted at school. We thank the community for both supporting us and enforcing this rule with your children.
From the Leadership Team

**Prep – Harold’s Surprise (P/1M)**
- Ways to seek help from trusted adults
- The benefits of physical activity
- How to spot safe and unsafe behaviours and environments
- Choosing healthy food options

**Year 1 – Clued Up**
- Awareness of basic needs to stay healthy and safe
- Exploring healthy food options
- Identifying safe and unsafe behaviours and environments
- How to help others
- Knowledge of safe people and places to turn to for help

**Year 2 – Harold’s Mystery Tour (2/3A)**
- Identifying the function of vital organs
- Safety in public places
- Recognising that a balanced diet and exercise promotes good health
- Exploring strategies to manage feelings and emotions

**Year 3 – Harold’s Heroes**
- Recognising safe and unsafe behaviours
- Healthy food choices
- The effects of second hand smoke on the body
- Emergency procedures – 000
- Awareness of the safe use and storage of medicines

**Year 4 – Harold’s Diary**
- Emotions connected with new situations and change
- Benefits of active lifestyle/healthy diet
- Importance of friendships/support networks
- Strategies to manage peer pressure/bullying
- Exploring legal drugs such as medicines/caffeine

**Year 5 – Mind Your Medicine**
- Factors that influence someone’s sense of self-worth
- Techniques for effective communication
- Identifying the impact of different factors on health and wellbeing
- Strategies for managing stressful situations
- Medicines as drugs and the consequences of their misuse

**Year 6/7 – It’s Your Call**
- Exploring the decision making process
- Safe and appropriate use of communication technology
- Short term and long term consequences of a range of legal drugs
- Factors that influence decisions such as friends, family, media and laws

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*Invest in your child’s future...*

*Read with your child 10mins a day! Isn’t your child worth it?*
From the Leadership Team

Student Induction Ceremony 2014
Please don’t forget we are holding our special Induction Ceremony for our Year 7 and 6 student leaders. This event is open to the community to attend so if you can join us, we would love to see you there.

School Induction Ceremony

When: Friday 28 February
Time: 9:00am
Where: Kingfisher Hall
Who: All welcome to attend

Kind regards
The Leadership Team