EVERY DAY COUNTS and ARRIVE ON TIME
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day—missing school puts them behind. We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school on time each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of schooling. There is no safe number of days for missing school—each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading. Also make every effort to be on time every day as students who are late miss out on valuable instructions and routines at the beginning of the day. Lateness teaches your child bad habits and is a major distraction to theirs and other children’s education.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
Our School Council elections have been completed and I thank all Council members for their involvement over the past year or two. Thank you retiring members Nadine Krome-Wright and Ross Atkins. I am pleased to announce that the following people are the 2015-16 school council members.

School Council Parent Representatives:
Cathy Chalmers
Cherie Skilbeck
Carlie Jones
Kylie Tomlinson
Karen Tate
Sandra Love

Staff Representatives:
Richard Lewis
Jane Bennett
Georgia Younger

Executive Officer: Julie Braakhuis
Community members:
Kara McGuiness
Carol Smith

WELCOME PICNIC
The weather was fantastic for the Welcome Picnic and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and freedom of playing on the oval with their friends, and parents and staff catching up on a relaxing evening. Thank you to the PFC for selling drinks and icy pole treats.
The Play Project

On Wednesday the 4th of March Seaford Park students in years 1 to 6 participated in “The Play Project” with Dom from the Football Federation Australia. The Play Project is an initiative started by the Football Federation Australia and Mondelez International and it aims to teach children the benefits and importance of participating in 60 minutes of Huff’n’Puff (physical activity) every day.

Did you know that... the recommended amount of screen time per day for school age students is only 30 minutes. During our conversations throughout the day we learned that many students are spending up to 4 hours per day watching screens. We are encouraging our students to turn their screens off for just one night and see if they can find something that will make them Huff’n’Puff instead. Here are some great ideas for active play that help you to Huff’n’Puff and increase your heart rate. Practice your soccer, football, netball, tennis, basketball, running, trampolining, gymnastics skills, go for a ride on a bike, scooter, skateboard or go for a walk. Help mum and dad do some chores around the house – dance while doing it! If it is wet or hot, make a newspaper ball or use a balloon to play with inside or make your own obstacle course.

**Huff’n’Puff play, every single day!**

*Doesn’t matter what we play,*

**Huff’n’Puff every day!**

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**DISTRICT SPORTS TRYOUTS**

Congratulations to all of our Year 4, 5 and 6 students who tried out for the Seaford District sports teams. Students from 6 schools in the Seaford District attended try outs for Netball, Australian Rules Football, Soccer and Basketball during the past week. Everyone who had the confidence to attend the tryouts should be very proud of themselves. We are pleased to announce that the following students have made it through to the Combined Peninsula Division.

**Netball:** Charlotte, Hayley, Olivia, Sahara and Emma

**Football:** Brodie, Riley, Oska, Daniel and Tarkyn.

We wish all of these students good luck as they move through to the selections process.

Mrs. Witte (Physical Education Teacher)
**PREP A** – Javier D - always trying his best and smiling all day long.

**PREP B** - Aiyana R - being a friendly and helpful member of the grade.

**1/2A** - Kalani K - making an excellent start to year one and demonstrating persistence in all areas.

**1/2B** - Ella B - persistently completing all classroom activities and being a good friend to everyone in our class.

**2/3A** - Dakota L - being a hard working and dedicated student.

**3/A** - Jolie F - always finishing her work on time and helping out with odd jobs. Thank you.

**5/6A** - Noah L - great start he has made to the school year and the way he approaches all tasks in the classroom.

**P.E** - Charlotte D - excellent participation during the Netball Victoria Clinic.

**MUSIC** - Nicholas H - wonderful job listening to and following instructions when playing the rhythm sticks.

**ART** - Alyssa S - trying hard to always produce her best work and being a great helper in the art room.

**SCIENCE** - 5/6A - excellent teamwork in the science room solving our ‘balloon rocker’ challenge.

**AUSSIE OF THE MONTH** - Noah L

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**MATHEMATICS COMPETITION**

Last year a number of students sat the *Australian Mathematics Competition* (AMC) and the University of New South Wales’ *International Competitions and Assessments for Schools* (ICAS), and many achieved fantastic results. Due to the success of last year’s participants, this year we would like to give students the opportunity to participate again in a range of topics, in the ICAS competition. ICAS has taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and is now in more than 20 countries. As with last year’s competitions, students will be awarded a certificate relevant to how well they perform in the test, and the students with the top score in each subject in each year level will be awarded a medal and a medal winner's certificate, to be presented at a special Medal Presentation Ceremony. There is a fee for each test, and minimum participant numbers before we can officially register students. Expression of Interest forms went home on Friday the 6th of March to students who requested them. Please fill it in and return it to Mrs Griffiths by Friday the 20th of March to gauge what subjects we can offer and to assist with planning. If you did not receive an Expression of Interest form and would like one, please download it from the school webpage or see Mrs Griffiths. The form will not be regarded as permission to attend, subjects will be offered subject to demand. Please do not send money to school yet. For more information about ICAS go to [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au), contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au.

Samantha Griffiths  
Teacher

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**MOOMBA SWIM SCHOOL**

7 Moomba Avenue Seaford. Learn to swim in a bright pleasant atmosphere. Babies, Pre Schoolers, Children and Adults. Teachers all Aust Swim qualified. Pay As You Go. Ring 9786 3324

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**BETTER BUDDIES FRIENDSHIP SEAT**

Our Better Buddies Friendship Seat has been installed in the playground for two years now and it is timely to remind the students how it is used. The idea is that if a child has no one to play with they sit on the seat and other children ask them to join them. Here are some friendly hints about Including Others. Including others in your games and activities makes everyone feel good. If you include others in your games, they are more likely to include you when you are looking for someone to play with or talk to.

**Do:**
- Always be willing to let people join your games.
- Look to see if anyone is sitting on the Friendship Seat and ask if they would like to join in your game.
- Smile and say something like, “Would you like to play with us?”

**Don’t:**
- Ignore people who are on the Friendship Seat or would like to be included in your game.
- Think your group of friends will be upset if you invite someone else to join your game.
- Forget what it is like to be watching from the outside and wanting to join in.

Include others and make everyone feel good….
EASTER RAFFLE
Class boxes have gone out for Easter Raffle Donations please. The Class that donates the most will win Icy Pole Vouchers and the Most Eggcellent Class Award. Tickets have gone home and are due back on Thursday 26th to be drawn after the Easter Bonnet Parade on Friday 27th 9.30am. Parents and Friends Welcome!

MOTHERS DAY STALL
During the week prior to Mothers Day, 10th May, there will be a Mothers Day Stall held at the school. We offer a huge range of gifts for Mums & Grandma’s priced between $1 and $10.

FRUIT CUTTING FRIDAY MORNINGS
If you can please spare half an hour or so the more helpers the better. Every Friday morning straight after the bell in the Parents & Friends Committee room we prepare the fruit platters for the children's free fruit Friday snack. No experience necessary and toddlers are welcome.

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday May 5th 2 pm - 3pm
TUESDAY CHAT & CHEW
Tuesday March 24th from 1.30pm

FROM THE ART ROOM
Over the next few weeks the Art Room will be open at lunch time on Wednesdays. Any child who would like to make some fabulous Easter art and craft is most welcome. Perhaps we could even help out those students who are not able to make their own hats for the Seaford Park Annual Easter Hat Parade. See Ms McManus for details

NETBALL CLINIC RECOUNT
On Wednesday the 25th of February, Laura from Netball Victoria visited our school to do a netball clinic. She did some great warm-ups and games like ‘golden child’ and ‘safe zone’. These games and activities included foot work, skill and speed. We had to run from box to box without getting tagged. We all thought that she helped us with teamwork and netball skills. We would like to thank Mrs Witte for organizing the clinic, and Laura for coming out to our school. We had lots of fun and a great time!  By Olivia, Sarah and Abul 5/6A

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
March/April School Holidays Moonlit Sanctuary Young Ranger Program. Kids enjoy environmental activities, animal encounters and native animal care. Day includes: interactions with dingo, python, off-limits animals, feeding animals & food prep, animal enrichment activities, fun and games for ages 7-14 years. March/April school holiday dates:

- Week 1: Monday 30 March to Thursday 2 April, 10am – 4pm
- Week 2: Tuesday 7 April to Friday 10 April, 10am – 4pm

Cost: $65.00 per day, or $175 for 3 days (pro rata for additional days). Maximum 16 children per day.

Bookings essential as they are limited. Dress for the weather and wear closed-toe shoes, long pants and remember your hat or raincoat. BYO lunch or purchase at the café. Moonlit Sanctuary 550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale Phone 5978 7935 Web: www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au/juniorrangers.aspx Open daily between 10am and 5pm