PRINCIPAL’S NEWS—Karin Hird

Evacuation Practice

Yesterday we had our twice yearly Evacuation Practice. The students were very calm and well behaved. Even though we were in many locations, as it was towards the end of our Scripture / Ethics time, the students, teachers and visitors all arrived safely and in a timely manner to our evacuation site.

High School Transition Program

Swansea HS organise a variety of activities throughout the year to support Year 6 students in making the transition to high school. This term Mrs Leggett has been to the Parent Information Night already and handed out information about Swansea HS. The first taster lessons will be on March 16 and the Premiers Sporting Leadership Challenge will be on at the high school on April 4. More information will come home closer to each event.

Records Update

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your contact details and other personal information is correct. We have entered all of that information into our system. We are now checking through all or our health care plans. If your child has an action plan for asthma, anaphylaxis or other health conditions we will be contacting you for an annual update to ensure that we are able to support your child in an emergency. If your child has an asthma plan and we don’t have a copy, could you please provide us with one.

Gardening Project

Thank you to the two mums who came in and helped Mrs Muir on Monday morning. The students had a great time cleaning up the garden area. Next week, Monday, 29 February at 8:30am, we will be shovelling and bucketing a cubic metre of soil. Please come along and lend a hand.

Book Fees and Voluntary Contribution

Thank you to everyone who has paid the book fee and voluntary contribution already. It would be very much appreciated if these could be paid before the end of the month.

Impetigo

There have been a few reported cases of impetigo. Students can easily catch impetigo from younger brothers or sisters who are in preschool. From a health website:

Stopping the infection spreading

The advice below can help to prevent the spread of the infection to other people or to other areas of the body:

- Stay away from work, school, nursery or playgroup until the sores have dried up, blistered or crusted over, or until 48 hours after starting treatment.
Don't share flannels, sheets or towels with anyone who has impetigo, and wash them at a high temperature after use.

- Wash the sores with soap and water, and cover them loosely with a gauze bandage or clothing if possible.
- Avoid touching the sores, or letting others touch them, whenever possible.
- Don't scratch the affected areas. It may help to ensure your or your child's nails are kept clean and short to reduce the risk of further damage caused by scratching.
- Avoid contact with newborn babies, preparing food, playing contact sports, or going to the gym until the risk of infection has passed (when the rash has crusted over, or after at least 48 hours of treatment with antibiotics).
- Wash your hands frequently, particularly after touching infected skin. Washable toys should also be washed. Wipe non-washable soft toys thoroughly with a cloth that has been wrung out in detergent and warm water and allowed to dry completely.

If you think that the infection has spread to someone else, make sure they are seen by a GP as soon as possible.

P&C AGM
The P&C will be meeting on Tuesday to elect the new office bearers for 2016. On behalf of the school I would like to thank Sidone Lambert for her valued contribution as P&C President for the last two years. Sidone will be standing down from this position. This is a great opportunity for new parents to become actively involved in the school. The AGM will start at 6:30pm in the staffroom.

Kindergarten News
Homework was sent home this week; it includes a 'Pocket Rocket' book to read as well as sheets with pictures and words on them. These are our green level words that we go over in class and help us to learn our six green level sounds – S, A, T, P, I, N.

If you would like more information on the homework or the SSP approach I am available most afternoons from 3.15pm, so feel free to come in and I can explain how you can use the resources given for homework to best support your child's learning. I can also provide more information on what SSP is all about.

We have also started our Talking and Listening Tasks for the term. It is asked of parents and carers that you take a few minutes to help prepare a 1-2 minute presentation for each week's talking and listening topic. This week we are talking about pleasant feelings: how do they make us feel? When do we experience pleasant feelings? Etc.

Also as a reminder tomorrow is our School Photo day. So come dressed in your best school uniform and remember to bring a smile!

Trinity Hook & Brooke Titterton

Class 1/2 News
The Star of the Week is Tyler, This week in 1/2, we have been talking about onomatopoeia! Words that represent sounds such as 'bang', 'crash', and 'pop' are great sizzling starts for our writing. We read the books 'Bear and Chook' and 'The Terrible Plop' which have wonderful examples of onomatopoeia.

In Maths, the Year 1 group has been making groups of items and skip counting by 2, 5 and 10. Students may like to keep practising this skill at home. Over the past couple of weeks we have also been working on identifying the 'friends of ten', the two numbers that add together to make ten. You could ask your child if they know their 'friends of ten'.

Well done 1/2 students for your effort in home reading! Home reading books can be changed any day when new readers are needed.

Kate Halligan
Class 2/3 News
Congratulations to the students who achieved 100% in their spelling last week: Kyan, Sari, Evie, Joe, Billy, Chase, Bonnie and Taj. We took our Maths outside this week to practise our addition and subtraction. Students enjoyed throwing bean bags into hoops and buckets and adding and subtracting points, depending on where the bean bag landed. Ask your child what their highest score was! We all enjoyed our walk to the public jetty yesterday afternoon. Thank you to Mrs Munro who came along to help. The students will map their walk next week in class, using both mapping software on the Smart Board and manually in their workbooks.

We started reading groups last week and are now settled into our routine. Students have been working very hard and have particularly enjoyed the writing station.

Mrs Halligan has requested if you could please have a close look at home for any home readers that could be there from last year. She is missing quite a few. Thank you.

Donna Black and Karin Hird

Class 3/4 News
Congratulations to the students who scored 100% in their spelling over the last 2 weeks: Alex, Issy, Kayden, Keely, Jack, Dylan, Sophie, Maggie, Annie, Daniel, Grace D, Koby, Darcy and Lachlan. The students have also impressed me with their effort with reading and times tables practice. I am very happy to announce a new Times Table Wizard this week. I must not forget to mention the students who continue to earn their times tables’ cards especially from my new Year 3 students which is a great achievement.

Next week our class will be looking at Data during maths.

I would like to congratulate the students on their fantastic behaviour and work ethic during my absence at the Zone Swimming carnival.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers, including our garden helpers, who have already come in to help our students. If you are able to volunteer some time, help during Maths and Reading Groups would be greatly appreciated. Except for Thursday, Maths Groups are every day after lunch starting at 12 pm followed by Reading Groups at 1pm. On Thursdays Maths Groups are first thing in the morning (9:15 am) and Reading Groups are at 1pm.

Home work now includes a request for 2 Mathletics activities each night.

Carl Derbyshire

5/6 Class News
Just a reminder about homework. The students should do some reading most nights. You don’t necessarily have to listen but do ask what the book is about and what is currently happening to the characters. Remember to record your child’s reading. Ditto marks make this easy. Spelling should be practised each week-night, ready for the Friday spelling test. Times tables should be practised where necessary and ‘Mathletics’ is now available. If your child cannot get access to a computer at home, they are welcome to come in before school starts and use the computers in the classroom.

Year Six students should have returned their Year 6 shirt note by now. The shirts that can be used to check sizes will go back Friday afternoon. The order will probably go in early next week. Unfortunately no late orders will be accepted.

The Canberra note should be returned by now so that numbers can be finalised.

Peter Westcott

Library News
The Library will be holding a books sale next Tuesday. Books that are no longer required by the school will be sold for 20 cents to one dollar. Money raised will go to purchasing new resources for the library.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held on Tuesday, 22 March and Thursday, 24 March in the library. This year’s theme is “Monster Book Fair”, so start planning your scary, fluffy, fury or even kind of cute monster costume to wear on the Easter Hat Parade day Thursday, 24 March.

Rebecca Thomas
In the Spotlight—Why Reading Matters!

**WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student A Reads</th>
<th>Student B Reads</th>
<th>Student C Reads</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✤ 20 minutes per day.</td>
<td>✤ 5 minutes per day.</td>
<td>✤ 1 minute per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✤ 3,600 minutes per school year.</td>
<td>✤ 900 minutes per school year.</td>
<td>✤ 180 minutes per school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✤ 1,800,000 words per year.</td>
<td>✤ 282,000 words per year.</td>
<td>✤ 8,000 words per year.</td>
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 ✤ Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests.
 ✤ Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests.
 ✤ Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Wray and Hamilton, 2003)

**WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.**

Absence Note

Name: __________________________ Class: _________

Date/s of absence: _____________________________

Reason for absence: ______________________________

______________________________________________

Parent/Carer signature: __________________________

Date: ________________________________________

Merit Awards—Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Bodi, Caleb, Ryder, Matilda, Judah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Shaniah, Hamish, Mya, Taj B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Bailee, Shontelle, Kamea, Wil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Sean, Conner, Lyla, Grace D, Darcy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Steven, Jett, Tiahna, Ruby, Sam</td>
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</tbody>
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We are Safe. Respectful Learners.