Swifts Creek School Newsletter

May 6th 2015 - Week 4 Term 2

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Whole School Dates to Remember
May 12-14th NAPLAN
May 19th School Council
June 8th Public Holiday
June 17th Pupil Free Day
June 26th Last Day Term 2 - early finish

Tambo Campus Dates to Remember
May 7th ‘Keys Please’
May 4th-8th VCAL Camp
June 2nd NSST
June 9th-12th Yrs 10,11,12 Exams
June 15th-26th Year 10 Work Experience
June 25th East Gippsland Gala Music Festival

Flagstaff Campus Dates to Remember
May 22nd Performance Tour at Omeo
May 25th-29th Year 5/6 Gelantipy Camp

Literacy Tips
Learning and Time
As parents we often think about how we can help our children do well at school. Research has shown that giving our children time is one of the best things we can do. Children who spend time with their parents, sharing activities often achieve better school results. Some activities you can share include:
- Looking at books or reading stories
- Going shopping
- Preparing food and trying new recipes
- Playing sport or games outside

NAPLAN
Naplan assessments will be conducted from the 12th-14th of May. Students from Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in these assessments. Classes with students at these levels have been conducting familiarisation sessions for students which allow students to practise how to complete the tests and make them familiar with the structure of questioning and response. Sometimes given that the nature of the tests are different to how we normally work and assess in the classroom the structure can cause confusion and effect student outcomes. Familiarising students sets them up for individual success.

What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Mother’s Day Stall
Yes it’s that time of the year again: Mum’s special day. We have some great items for sale. Nothing over $5.
Please Dads, remember to give your kids money this Friday 8th May.
If anyone has time to come and 'man' the stall we would appreciate your help.
Please let Kathy or Sarah know on 5159 4267.

Lost Property
Every day so far this term we have collected a number of jumpers with no names.
Please, make sure uniforms are named and remind your child it is their responsibility to look after their belongings.
Reading at Swifts Creek P-12 School

The High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedure we are focusing on this issue is

Vocabulary

⇒ Obviously it is easier to understand what we read if we understand all of the words.

⇒ Vocabulary is also important for our writing. Using the correct terms and interesting words really improves the quality of writing.

What you can do at home
To help your child/ren with their vocabulary skills, you can remind them to use these questions as they learn new words:

- What could the word mean?
- Are there smaller words within the word?
- Can I think of synonyms?
- Do the synonyms fit/make sense?
- Can I look at the words around it?
- Do I need to re-read or read on?
- What other words look like or sound like this word?
- What pictures does this word bring up in my head?
- What action goes with this word?

Games that help to build vocabulary include:

- Boggle
- Scrabble
- UpWords
- Target Words
- Crosswords
- Wonderwords

If you would like to know more about the High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedures, please just ask the classroom or home group teacher, or Ms Napthine.