Dear Parents & Carers,

2014 NAPLAN RESULTS

In May each year, all students in Years 3, 5 & 7 are assessed on the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy. These assessments are conducted over a period of 4 days, and assess student’s achievements in aspects of Literacy (Reading, Spelling, Writing, Grammar & Punctuation) and aspects of Numeracy. They are then marked centrally and individual student reports were sent home last week. It is important for our school community to be aware of our school’s results which are displayed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAND</th>
<th>COMPARED TO SIMILAR SCHOOLS</th>
<th>COMPARED TO THE STATE OF QLD</th>
<th>COMPARED TO THE NATION</th>
<th>% of NASS students in the bottom 20% of the nation</th>
<th>% of NASS students in the middle 60% of the nation</th>
<th>% of NASS students in the top 20% of the nation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YR 3 Reading</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>9.7% (6 students)</td>
<td>66.1% (41 students)</td>
<td>24.2% (15 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 3 Writing</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>11.3% (7 students)</td>
<td>67.7% (42 students)</td>
<td>21% (13 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 3 Spelling</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>17.7% (11 students)</td>
<td>66.1% (41 students)</td>
<td>16.1% (10 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 3 Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>9.7% (6 students)</td>
<td>72.6% (45 students)</td>
<td>17.7% (11 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 3 Numeracy</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>6.6% (4 students)</td>
<td>65.6% (40 students)</td>
<td>27.9% (17 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 5 Reading</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>13.5% (5 students)</td>
<td>64.9% (24 students)</td>
<td>21.6% (8 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 5 Writing</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Below</td>
<td>36.1% (13 students)</td>
<td>55.6% (20 students)</td>
<td>8.3% (3 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 5 Spelling</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>38.9% (14 students)</td>
<td>44.4% (16 students)</td>
<td>16.7% (6 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 5 Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>33.3% (12 students)</td>
<td>52.8% (19 students)</td>
<td>13.9% (5 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 5 Numeracy</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>25% (9 students)</td>
<td>58.3% (21 students)</td>
<td>16.7% (6 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 7 Reading</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>8.7% (2 students)</td>
<td>87% (20 students)</td>
<td>4.3% (1 student)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 7 Writing</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Above</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>4.2% (1 student)</td>
<td>75% (18 students)</td>
<td>20.8% (5 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 7 Spelling</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>20.8% (5 students)</td>
<td>75.5% (18 students)</td>
<td>4.2% (1 student)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 7 Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>20.8% (5 students)</td>
<td>58.3% (16 students)</td>
<td>20.8% (5 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YR 7 Numeracy</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>Similar</td>
<td>13.8% (3 students)</td>
<td>72.7% (16 students)</td>
<td>13.8% (3 students)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the Student of the Week Award for their classes today on Parade:

**PREP:** Jessica, Charlie, Hamish, Murk, Marley, Mitch

**YEAR 1:** Rohan, Zia, Lucca, Shaun

**YEAR 2:** Thomas, Shelby, Charlotte, Jordan, Baxter, Matilda

**YEAR 3:** Jessica, Hugo, Tejay, Billie, Luke

**YEAR 4:** Jordy, Byron, Luke, Nina

**YEAR 5:** Chas, Jaiden

**YEAR 6:** Away at camp

**YEAR 7:** Mayah, India

Kind Regards,
Kelly

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS - In the Kitchen
Next week’s (15 Sep) cooking lessons will be: 9am - 3R, 11.40 - 5B, 1.40 - 7M.
The menu items include Sweet potato, silver beet and tomato curry with chapattis, mint raita, green tomato chutney and lemonade. Thanks parent Clare for the curry leaves and rosemary that we are drying. Also thanks Garden Claire for the lemons. Don't forget the recipes are on the school website under the 'Resources' tab along the top.

Regards
Lis Anderson-McColl (SAKG Kitchen Teacher)

P&C News

TUCKSHOP NEWS: SPECIAL THIS WEEK—Butter chicken, rice and pappadum.

We still need help in Tuckshop (Thu or Fri), even for a short time will help. Busiest times are 9:00-11:00am. Students in Years 5/6/7 leaving school for Interschool Sports will be unable to order tuckshop on Fridays.

- School Disco this Friday Sep 12th, 5:30-8pm - P&C will be running a sausage sizzle with "New" STEAK sandwiches and VEGIE burgers, drinks, popcorn and slushies available. Please join us and help volunteer on the night if you can!
- P & C are taking expressions of interest for Tuckshop Convenor in 2015. Applications due by October 10th. For further information please contact pandc@ntharmss.eq.edu.au
- Check out the NASS P&C Facebook page for details on Discount Cinema tickets. (P&C receives a commission on every ticket sold.)
- Did you know that every time you do an order for name labels for your kids clothes, shoes, or even labels for your pantry items, you can help raise money for our school?! Simply go to www.FDR776.brightstarkids.com.au to make ANY purchase and a small percentage of the sale goes to our school! Thanks for your support!

Remember when you believed in anything and everything?
Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children’s tendencies to being tricked, fooled and misled by their peers. We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this.
We are looking for parents of 10 – 11 year old children across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 x $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers. To participate go to: http://tinyurl.com/childsvq2. Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652 or rebecca.seward@research.uwa.edu.au

LOST PROPERTY
Sorting through the lost property of our students was a tedious and smelly job last week. We have a huge crate of named lost items which will be returned to the classes today. Two large boxes of lunch boxes and drink bottles were returned to students last Friday. However, there is another huge crate of unnamed items which have been sent to the uniform shop for possible recycling. We also have another large crate with ‘non-school’ coloured items which may have been left over from recent camps. Please ask your children to check lost property as there are lots of popular brand names waiting to go home!
Making the most of your parent-teacher interview

It makes sense for you as a parent to be prepared and ready to make the most of the brief time you have with teachers.

Parent-teacher interviews provide a great opportunity for you as a parent to find out how your child is progressing at school.

Many parent-teacher interviews are tightly scheduled and can seem a little rushed. Teachers are generally highly organised so they can make the most of the time you have together.

It makes sense also for you as a parent to be prepared and ready to make the most of the brief time you have with teachers.

Here are some guidelines to make the most of these interviews:

1. Prepare well. Before the interview, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep questions short and to the point.

2. Attend with a partner or friend particularly if you are nervous or unsure. It is easy to miss a point and often difficult to relay information to a partner.

3. Give the teacher a chance to make an assessment of your child’s progress. This may seem obvious but some interviews never get off the ground because enthusiastic parents take over.

4. Take notes and clarify information that you don’t understand. “What do you mean by ‘he needs to spend more time reading’?” Make sure you have a good understanding of the messages your child’s teacher is giving.

5. Be prepared to give an assessment of your child’s performance. You may be asked how you think your child is performing so give an honest, but realistic assessment.

6. Ask how you can help your child if there are any areas that need to be strengthened. No doubt your child’s teacher will have some strategies for you to assist your child, so make sure you have a clear understanding before you leave.

If there are unresolved issues or you wish to discuss your child’s difficulties in greater detail, consider asking for another interview. This is being respectful of the teacher’s time and of those parents who are to follow.

Once the interview is over consider how you will discuss it with your child.

Avoid giving generalisations or simplistic appraisals such as: “The teacher says you are a good girl.”

Discuss areas that need work in positive terms. Talk about strengths or successes first before discussing areas that may need more work.

A clear message such as, “We talked about your reading and the teacher suggested that we should try...” is far more helpful.

Involve your child in discussing any plans for improvement. Avoid making big plans for your child to improve in a subject area without consulting him or her. By involving children and taking notice of their ideas plans are more likely to be successful.