

Issue 7.

28th June 2024

Dear Families.

# Creating a safer and more respectful learning environment

Earlier this term, students, parents and staff commented to me about the level of swearing by students at school. This prompted conversations with the 5/6 students, which in turn inspired a survey of the students on the matter. What we learned from the surveys:

- 85% of 5/6 students feel there is a swearing problem at school
- 85% of students say that 5/6 students swear the most at school of any group
- 67% of 5/6 students and 60% of 3/4 students admit to using swear words at school
- In a typical school day, 60% of 5/6 students hear students swear six or more times
- Students feel the following when they hear swear words at school:

"I feel unsafe, frightened, upset, sad, worried or 'yucky' when I hear swear words at school."

P-2
Students

3/4
Students

5/6
Students

98%

86%

60%

In discussions with our 5/6 students, it was noted that most physical altercations at school are in response to inflammatory language that usually includes swearing. These behaviours cause most students to feel even more unsafe at school.

Since talking about swearing with our students, I am happy to report that the anecdotal evidence points to a reduction in swearing at school already. It is hoped that the themes around empathy, respect, choice, self-discipline and being a responsible role model for other students, as well as new consequences, will further reduce the incidence of swearing at school. Parent assistance in reinforcing the above messages would be greatly appreciated. Some sound advice on how to talk with your children about swearing can be found here: How to Talk to Kids About Swearing (verywellfamily.com) Thank you for your help as we work to create a more respectful and safe school environment for your children.

One of our very special and important events of the year is the **NAIDOC** assembly. This year's theme is "Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud". Parents are invited to join us this Tuesday afternoon (July 2) for the celebration. We will begin in the bus shelter at 1:45 before moving into the assembly room for the rest of the program.

As this is the final newsletter for the term, I wish our students and their families a safe and restful term break when it starts at the end of next week. **Term 3 begins on Monday 22 July.** Please don't forget that the *Premier's Reading Challenge* continues through the holidays, so some time spent reading every day during the break would be a very good thing!

Kind regards

Darryl Williams Principal

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tuesday July 2 NAIDOC Assembly GP Room 1:45pm

> Friday July 5 Last day of term 2

Monday July 22 First day of term 3





# PRINCIPAL'S ENGAGED LEARNER AWARD

### Edith Herbstritt & Cai Green

**Lilly Scott** for **Purpose** by working hard to sound out words when writing on her own.

Grace Atkins for Empathy by showing gentleness & kindness when helping her friends.

Ella Armstrong for Purpose by always giving her best & working hard on her reading & writing.

**Izzy Schnebel** for **Empathy** by being a kind classmate, always helping others.

Gertie Cheney for Purposefulness by giving her best effort & focus to learning tasks & always doing what is asked.

Ben Clark for Empathy by showing understanding & care to those who need support.

Max Watkins for Purposefulness by demonstrating determination & resolve in his learning activities.

Phila Auer for Empathy by assisting her classmates & celebrating the success of others.

Elliott Braybrook for Courage by settling into a new class & making new friends with ease. Great job!

**Zach Jarrett** for **Empathy** by being a kind & considerate friend & helpful classmate.

Georgia Turnbull for Respect & Care by looking out for her friends & helping when they are sad or need a hand.

Valli Batchelder for Empathy for always being fair & caring to anyone in our school.

Warrior Arnol for Growth by making excellent growth in reading. Well done, Warrior.

Molly Roudon for Empathy, for being a kind & caring friend who demonstrates empathy toward her peers.



World Continence Awareness Week- June 17th-23rd 2024

- ➤ What is incontinence? The involuntary loss of bladder or bowel control.
- ➤ Over 5 million Australians, 1 in 4 people aged 15 years or over, experience incontinence.
- Most children are daytime toilet trained by the age of four.
- If a child regularly wets or soils (when the bowels are emptied in places other than the toilet) during the day after this age it is recommended to be assessed by a continence health professional or their GP.
- > School nurses can be the first point of call to offer support and advice.

### TIPS FOR PARENTS-

As a first step, watch your child and take note of their bladder and bowel behaviour over a few days, then you will be ready to visit your health professional.

- How often does your child go to the toilet?
- How often is your child wetting/soiling?
- What happens when they wet/ soil?
- How often do their bowels open and is it difficult for your child?
- How much does your child drink?
- What type of fluids is your chid drinking and when?
- Provide a comfortable and supportive toilet seat and environment and ensure your child has a surface to place their feet flat onto to ensure correct toilet positioning.
- Make a diary of your child's bowel and bladder actions for a couple of weeks to take along to your GP appointment.
- Stay calm- punishing children for wetting or soiling can make things worse.

Please contact me through the office or your child's teacher if you would like any further information or advice/ contact your GP.

Information taken from https://www.continence.org.au Check out this website for further information or contact the National Continence Helpline on 1800 33 00 66.

Emma Middleton, Primary School Health Nurse Cygnet, Huonville, Franklin & Glen Huon Primary

