Celebrating Success
At recent assemblies we have encouraged students to celebrate their writing by selecting one student from each sector of the school to be an ‘Author of the Month’. This gives us a great opportunity to recognise exceptional work and encourage other students to continue working hard on their writing goals. Please feel free to join us at assemblies each fortnight.

Target Meetings
This week each of our teachers will meet with either myself or one of the Deputy Principals to have in-depth conversations about student data and improvement – we call these meetings ‘Target Meetings’. These meetings are held each term and recognise the hard work of our teachers, identify misconceptions of students in each class, while also setting targets for students over coming weeks. This is just another example of the wonderful work our teachers are doing to help our students ‘leap into learning’ every day.

P&C Spell-a-Thon
This year Sandy Strait State School has continued its school wide initiative of “Leaping into Learning” with an intensive focus on Reading and Word Study. Our students and teachers have embraced this initiative and to highlight its importance we have linked the Spell-a-thon to our school wide focus.

All of the key dates for sponsorship collection and testing were outlined on the front of the card which was sent home. On the rear of the card were a list of incentive prizes across the year levels for students who achieve various sponsorship targets. I would ask that you assist the P&C in this fundraising venture and support and encourage your child in their continued spelling development over the coming weeks.
All money raised through the spell-a-thon will contribute towards improving facilities.

If your child did not receive their spell-a-thon card, has misplaced it or would like an additional card, please contact the school office and we will be happy to organise one for you.

**Academic Awards Assembly**

In week 10 we look forward to presenting academic awards to those students who have received an A in English, Math or Science. As we are still building the confidence, knowledge and skills for our prep students to engage positively with learning, we have decided to not present academic awards or encouragement awards to any prep students this semester. We would still love for the prep classes to come along to the assembly as we will speak at that parade about them working towards achieving great things in the future. We will present awards to the prep students at the academic awards assembly at the end of the year. Please see further information in News from the Deputy Principal of Junior School—Mrs Helen Forbes.

**Uniforms**

Students are asked to wear full school uniform to school every day. This includes wearing a school shirt (or school sports shirt on PE day), grey bottoms (shorts and skirts), closed in shoes and school hat. On the cooler days a grey or green jumper and grey or green long pants can be worn. Please assist your child to be in school uniform every day.

**Instrumental Music Workshops**

Over coming weeks there are band and strings workshops being held for students involved in these music programs. Please return the appropriate notes and payment to support these great events for our students. Please check date claimers for your child’s workshop dates.

**Author of the Month**

Each month during assembly time we take the time to recognise the Author of the Month. A student who has written a quality piece of writing. The Author of the Month has their story come to life via a short video and they then share the story with the audience on assembly.

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**News from the Deputy Principal of Senior School— Mr Bruce Jackson**

**NAPLAN**

The three days that were the festival of NAPLAN are over for another year and, while NAPLAN can present some anxiety to students and teachers the reports (when compiled in August/September), will have a use for students, teachers and the school.

**Students**

The NAPLAN student report will show individual results in the key areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show the national average, the range of results for the middle 60% of students nationally and our school’s average for each test. This means students will be able to compare their performance against other students in the same year of schooling.

**Teachers**

The NAPLAN reports will show teachers how their own class went in comparison to:

- other classes at our school,
- other classes in our State and
- other classes in the country.

This allows our teachers to make informed decision about where they could focus their teaching for the future.

**Our School**

The NAPLAN reports also show how we as a school are progressing. Of particular interest will be the level of improvement students and classes have made from one NAPLAN assessment period to the next. These reports help us direct our focus. Making significant improvement in an area would indicate our programs and teaching are working. Meanwhile an area where little progress has been made may indicate an area where we may need to re-address and focus on for the future.

For more information about NAPLAN visit the NAP website [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

**Mini Minds Alive**

Coming up soon, our Yr 4 to 6 students will participate in Mini Minds Alive activities. Mini Minds Alive gives our students an opportunity to participate in some really worthwhile activities that are sometimes overlooked because of time constraints. Activities will range from art activities to tabloid sports. I am sure our students will love it. Teacher’s time is more precious than ever and their willingness to accommodate Mini Minds Alive is very much appreciated.

Please note that a letter went home recently regarding $3 payment for participation of students who haven’t paid the School Resource Scheme.

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**News from the Tuckshop**

A big thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to assist us with the Pizza Meal Deal Day. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Regards
Libby and Heidi, Tuckshop Convenors

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**News from the Bookclub**

Issue 4 of book club was issued last week. It is due back by 6th June, 2016.
Name from the Deputy Principal of Junior School— Mrs Helen Forbes

**UNDER 8’s**

On Wednesday 8th June we will celebrate Under 8’s in our Junior school with all students in Prep, Year One, Two and Three participating in a number of activities to encourage their creativity and imagination.

This is a yearly event which is valued by both teachers and students in recognising our students who are 8 years and younger. If you are free on this day please join us in celebrating this special time. The morning will start at approximately 8.50am and conclude at morning tea.

Mrs Lee from Year Three is organising the day by assisting teachers from the Junior school in selecting and resourcing activities for the day.

**The activities that students can participate in include:**


**Donations needed………..**

If you can assist by donating timber offcuts and nails for the Woodwork and rice for Rice Play it will be greatly appreciated. Please leave any donations at the office.

**Please note** that a letter went home recently regarding $10 payment for participation of students who haven’t paid the School Resource Scheme.

**ACADEMIC AWARDS**

Over the next two weeks students will be working hard to finalise their assessment for end of semester reports.

Teachers will identify students who have achieved an ‘A’ in English, Maths and Science and these students will be recognised with an academic award. This is the result of focussed effort and self-discipline by students and carefully considered planning and teaching by dedicated teachers.

These awards also provide an opportunity for all students to reflect on and celebrate their own individual progress in our whole school agenda ‘Leap into Learning’.

Junior Academic Awards will be presented on a special assembly on Wednesday 15th June at 9.00am – 10.30am. Parents are invited to celebrate this event with their children.

News from the Chaplain

**My Life Rules**

We have been talking about “Sometimes life is fair and good, and sometimes it isn’t.” We have also been exploring ….. what are our thoughts and responses to things when they are not fair? A hard question to answer isn’t it? Because it brings up in us a lot of other stuff like jealousy and disappointment…. and each of us respond differently. So I wonder what things you say to yourself to keep your thoughts and actions in perspective. Here are some ideas:-

- Most people do their best to be fair
- Sad things happen to good and bad people every now and then
- I can fight or be angry when things are unfair or I can accept the disappointment and let it go
- It’s okay if things aren’t always fair or good. I can live with it
- Learning to be okay when I am disappointed will make me a good person.

**Brekky Club**

I want to also say a BIG WELCOME to the two new volunteers Jenny and Fedra. It is going to be wonderful having you both on board. It does get busy in the mornings from 7.45 -8.30am Tuesday Wednesday and starting Thursday in June, you both will be greatly appreciated.

Well that’s it from me, watch this space in the next newsletter for the “Sandy Strait has Got Talent” finalists ….

Chappy
Community News

2016 National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEITA)
Nominate an inspirational teacher or educator now
Nominate online at asg.com.au/nominate by 31 July 2016
For general enquiries call 1800 634 487

Granville State School

Parent and Citizen Association
Trivia Night

$200 First Prize
When: 18th June, 2016
Where: Granville State School Hall
Time: Doors Open 5pm for a 5:30 start
7 rounds
Raffles
Lucky Seat prize
Beer, Wine and Softdrinks available for purchase.
NO BYO
Plate of Hot or Cold nibbles for purchase
(Needs to be pre-ordered)

Teams of 4: $20 per team
Nominations and nibble plates orders due 15th June
Ph 41209888 for enquiries