Welcome to the 2016 School Year to every member of our school community.

I hope you have all had a chance to recharge your batteries and are ready to face the new academic year with enthusiasm. It was great to see all the smiling faces greeting me at assembly, ready to start our new year. I would also like to welcome our new families to the school and extend an invitation to them to get involved in the school through classroom helpers, Parents Club, School Council, Working Bees, and special event days.

Our Preps are just delightful to watch as they learn about our school and their teachers. Mrs. Thompson, Ms. Yang, Mr. Press, Ms. Wright, and Ms. Harris have done an amazing job in providing the children with a warm and caring welcome into their classrooms. School will be a major part of your child’s life, and we share with you in both the excitement and responsibility for ensuring it is successful, happy and secure.

In the Early Years the aim has been to ensure that new prep students and their parents are ready for entry into the school through a comprehensive transition program.

Seaford North Primary School is an exciting and engaging place to be.

We are excited to announce that we are now officially a candidate school* for the Primary Years Programme. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Seaford North Primary School believes is important for our students.

*Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme or the Career-related Programme (CP).

For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit http://www.ibo.org

Seaford North Primary School is strongly supported by a committed School Council with sub-committees in Education, Finance, Buildings and Grounds, Out of School Hours Care and Marketing & Publicity. The Parents Club plays a key role in providing opportunities for parents to establish social networks, as well as initiating fundraising activities vital to maintaining our high standards. An important part of this family involvement begins with our welcoming “Family Fun Night” picnic / BBQ. An open invitation stands for everyone to become involved. Thursday 25th Feb 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Parental involvement is an integral part of the school’s programs. The school promotes participation and regular communication between teachers and parents hence “meet and greet” program. Parents assist across a broad range of school activities such as, excursions, Motor Development Program, Parent Helpers in classrooms, School Council, Parents’ Club, Animal Palace etc.

Seaford North Primary School has a deserved reputation for encouraging its students to reach their full potential in a safe, caring environment. The quality of its educational programs, with emphasis on literacy and numeracy, provides the best possible foundation for further education. We believe curriculum planning should be forward looking, focusing on providing students with the skills for lifelong learning and the ability to be adaptable and flexible in a changing world. The school encourages a caring atmosphere where children feel emotionally, socially and physically secure. Our children being resilient is extremely important.
This year will again be a year full of challenges. I am very impressed by the dedication of the school staff, who spent considerable time during the school vacation preparing and planning for 2015. We had a very smooth start to the year largely due to the professionalism of staff and the administrative team, especially with the organisation of the book sales.

Part of your voluntary contributions is going towards the purchase of more air conditioning and portable technologies which will be constantly used by your children. Site licences for new educational software to integrate into the curriculum will also add a new exciting aspect for your children. Without your valuable contributions through the levies and voluntary contributions none of these enhancements to programs and facilities could happen. (It is interesting to note that in our quarterly grant from the Department, we received only $300 for computer equipment). I thank you again on behalf of all the children.

This year I would like to welcome a new staff member, Rebecca Maclagan in classroom teaching role and Lisa Coates as our P.Y.P. and Curriculum Coordinator. The skills of these teachers are sure to add much to our already excellent programs in the school. I would also like to welcome the staff returning after the much needed holidays.

During the holidays much was happening around the school and in classrooms, painting all around the school, new portables furnished, temporary generator installed etc. We also had many parents and children who helped in our Animal Palace. I would like to thank Leanne Peterson, Josh and Noah, Graeme Carter and Selina, Melanie Quinn and Jak, Jessica Spreenberg and Nicholas, Caroline Roberts and Bridgette, Peter Phillips and Sophie, Guy Riley and Poppy, Wendy Stubbs and Andrew and Kelly Allan and Charlie. Without these wonderful helpers we would not have an Animal Palace.
New Portables – Great Learning Spaces

Lee Murnane, Principal

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY
Friday 12th Swimming Trials
Monday 15th Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet
Grade 1 to 6 – 3.50 to 6pm
Tuesday 16th Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet
Grade 1 to 6 – 3.50 to 6pm
Thursday 18th 5-6 Swimming Afternoon
Monday 22nd Parents Club Meeting after
assembly in Staff Room.
Thursday 25th Family Fun Night 5.30-7.30

MARCH
Wed 2nd District Swimming
Friday 4th House Athletics Carnival
Sunday 6th Seaford Wetlands Awareness Day
Tuesday 8th School Photos
Monday 14th to Friday 18th 5/6 Camp
Thursday 24th Last Day of Term 1

Permission Slip Return Dates
Grade 5-6 Swimming Afternoon
Tuesday 16th February
LATE NOTICES CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

Photo Envelopes
To be brought in on PHOTO DAY 8th March
PENSION CARD AND HEALTH CARE CARD HOLDERS PLEASE NOTE

CSEF – Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
If you hold a valid means-tested concession card you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. You are eligible if you are the holder of a Health Care Card or a Pension Card that was current as of the first day of term 1 or term 2. If you are eligible please call in to the school office with your card and fill out an Application Form by 24th June, 2016. The annual CSEF amount per student is $125 for primary school students.

STUDENT ABSENCE
It is a requirement of The Department of Education & Training that the school is aware of why children are not attending school. If your child is away ill, on holiday, dentist or for whatever reason the school needs to know. There are a number of ways in which you can let us know, The Phone App, Email or Web Page, Written Note with student when returning to school or you can ring the Office. If your child is away for 2 days or more it needs to be in writing.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Tuesday 8th March
Photo Envelopes are going home PLEASE TRY NOT TO LOSE OR MISPLACE THEM they have been set up by the photo company with your child’s name and ID on them. Envelopes are to come to school with your child on PHOTO DAY not before, if your child doesn’t have an envelope on the day and you wish to order photos you are to contact the company direct.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL
Personal property is often brought to school by students and visitors. This can include mobile phones, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will NOT pay for any loss or damage to such property.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE / AMBULANCE
Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance / transport and any other transport costs relating to an injury at school. Parents / Guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

SAFETY IN THE STAFF CAR PARK / SCHOOL GROUNDS
Please be advised that the Staff Car Park is for staff and visitor usage ONLY. It has come to our attention that there have been a number of reported incidents regarding the safety of students, parents and staff members within the car park area.

A reminder that the Staff Car Park is not to be used by parents as a drop-off or pick-up point, or as a thoroughfare. In order to create a safer environment for all of the school community, the car park gates will be locked during school days, Monday to Friday. Thank you for your support and assistance in making this area a safer place for the whole school community.

PARKING IN HALLIFAX STREET AND AIRLIE GROVE
A number of Residence in Halifax Street and Airlie Grove have complained about people parking across their drive ways and illegally parking at the school end of the street, they have reported this to the Council who will be coming and booking people who are doing the wrong thing.

NEW BELL TIMES
Recess 10.40 to 11.10
Lunch 12.50 to 1.50

TERM DATES 2016
1st Term – 27th February to 24th March
2nd Term – 11th April to 14th June
3rd Term – 1th July to 16th September
4th Term – 3rd October to 20th December

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK SWIMMING LESSONS
join now!
PARCswim
T 03 9781 8444
parcfrankston.com.au
A Back To School Special Offer! Bring this flyer or quote the code below when signing up to qualify for your first week free CODE: SWMT12016

FRANKSTON CITY NEWSLETTER
Nude Food Day will run every Monday at Seaford North Primary School. There will be a trophy for the winning grade having the least amount of rubbish in their lunchboxes. At the end of each term, a raffle will take place for the children who have Nude Food for at least 4 weeks to win a special Nude Food Lunchbox.

Secondly, nude food uses less rubbish and energy. It helps decrease landfill because we are using reusable containers, not wrappers and cartons. Nude food also saves energy because we don’t buy the little containers, so less energy is used making the big containers. Lastly, nude food also saves money. Nude food saves money because if you buy a big tub of yoghurt and put it in containers it is cheaper than buying lots of little tubs of yoghurt. It also saves money because the price of buying a nude food lunchbox is less than buying all the small packages for a week of school.

In conclusion, go nude food because it is an investment in the future. It uses less packaging and energy and it also saves money.
Go nude food!
Our IB Journey Begins

We are excited to announce that we are now officially a candidate school* for the Primary Years Programme. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Seaford North Primary School believes is important for our students.

Hello. My name is Lisa Coates and I am the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP) Co-ordinator at Seaford North for this year. Seaford North has joined with this organisation and is a candidate school at the moment working towards IB authorisation. I have completed a Masters of Education (IB PYP) at Melbourne University and I have had 5 years of experience in this role at Mt Eliza North Primary School. My job is to help the school community transition to become an IB World School at authorisation. To do this, I need to help the school fulfil a set of standards and practices set by the IB Organisation. Our teaching staff spent two days in an intense workshop presented by Dr Marcia Behrenbruch. However, IB considers the whole school community in terms of the students, teachers, support staff as well as the parents and guardians.

I am very excited to be overseeing with the whole school community on this journey. We are also excited to announce that you will be invited to an Information Evening where I will present information to you and offer you time to ask questions. I will also place a regular article in this newsletter to help develop your understanding of the program.

This time I want to introduce you to the IB Mission Statement:

The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right. This is an admirable and challenging mission at an international level. This mission is to be reflected in the Seaford North PS community because by adopting this program, we are adopting this mission. IB provide us with a framework to make this happen. I will work at explaining this framework through the newsletter.

Two of the strong features of the program are collaboration and consistency. This week teachers collaborated to make decisions concerning classroom expectations. We call these Essential Agreements. They are different to rules in that they are written by the class with their teacher and are deemed fit for the class when all members, including the teacher, agrees with them. They are published so that they can be referred to and used in discussions about the learning environment with class members. The students will be signing their agreement and staff believe it is important to share the Essential Agreements with you. Please support your child and their class by positively acknowledging these statements.

Many Thanks for your support in advance…..

Lisa Coates