EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
As you are probably aware through recent media coverage, a number of schools across Victoria and Australia have recently received threats via automated telephone calls. Schools that have received threatening phone calls have had to enact their emergency management plan.

Killara Primary School will be conducting drills as part of our emergency management planning, including evacuations and lockdowns.

Killara has recently subscribed to the State Government schools emergency SMS service. This service will enable the school to alert parents and carers to an emergency. To help us contact you in an emergency, parents and carers should ensure contact details on Compass (released next week) are up to date; this includes email addresses, phone and mobile numbers.

In the event of an emergency (or even a hoax), parent contact will not be immediate. As part of emergency planning it is essential that we make sure everyone (children and adults) on the site are safe. Bringing others to the site will only serve to confuse the situation and make it difficult for staff to enact emergency practices and for emergency services to undertake their duties.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

AFTER SCHOOL DEPARTURE
A further reminder that parents are asked to move straight from the school grounds after dismissal time, as the grounds are used by Before and After School Care and supervision becomes confused when there are other children using playgrounds. This also assists yard duty supervisors, whose task it is to make sure students have been picked up or moved off site in the usual manner. Please also note that the play equipment is age appropriate. Students should not be encouraged to use the equipment that is not suitable for their age group.

COMPASS IS COMING
Next week we will be launching Compass as a communication tool between school and home, with log in information and instructions being sent home on Tuesday 8 March.

The first aspect of Compass we are launching is “on time” reporting of units of work for literacy, numeracy and inquiry.

Units of Learning being reported on immediately will be:

**Prep:**
- Reading- Concepts About Print
- Writing- We are Writers
- Mathematics- Numbers to 10
- Inquiry- Me As A Learner

**1/2:**
- Reading- Making Connections
- Mathematics- Data
- Writing- The Writing Process
- Inquiry- Me as a Learner

**3/4:**
- Reading- Reading Protocols
- Mathematics- Place Value and Number Patterns

**5/6:**
- Mathematics-Shape, Location & Transformation

Specialists will report once per term using this system.

Your child/ren’s progress will be identified using the following scale against the skills:
- Well above expected standard
- Above expected standard
- At expected standard
- Below expected standard
- Well below expected standard

Further units of work will be reported on throughout each term (with the 3/4 and 5/6 teams to provide further units over the next week or two). Teams will set timelines and report on units as soon as assessment is completed. We will use the newsletter and, indeed, Compass, to keep you informed of when to expect the next report.

BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT POLICY
Last week we published the rationale of the Behaviour Support Policy. This week we are including the overall purpose and description of the policy:

**Purpose:**
The purpose of this policy is to define the approach we use as a school to encourage positive behaviours, prevent inappropriate behaviours and respond to inappropriate behaviours, when they do occur, in a consistent and effective way. This policy encompasses...
the classroom, yard and general behaviours of students and guides the procedures we adopt as a school.

**Description:**
1. We implement rights and responsibilities to ensure a safe and respectful school environment.
2. We apply prevention and early intervention strategies.
3. We adopt a sequential approach to behaviour management when the rights of others are compromised.
4. When concerns arise about a student’s behaviour, or a student is displaying patterns of inappropriate behaviour we consider more targeted intervention strategies.
5. We regularly extend our professional learning and strategy development.

As you can see we are committed to building positive behaviours, preventing inappropriate behaviours and intervening in a sequential way (as per our rationale of “the least to most intrusive way”). We look to intervene early, but also provide more targeted intervention for students who are displaying ongoing or regular misbehaviour. We place an emphasis on the learning of the teachers, as often there are specific needs that need to be researched and catered for.

Next week we will outline our implementation strategies for this policy.

**DEALING WITH A CONCERN**

We are working hard at improving the way issues between students are handled and have recently adopted new Behaviour Support approaches (as per our policy above).

As a school we are committed to ensuring issues between students are followed up and that parents are involved when appropriate. Teachers know the indicators that show a need to set up a support process involving parents and should establish clear lines of communication with you in such circumstances. It is, however, an unrealistic expectation for teachers to contact parents about every issue, particularly if the issue has been resolved. We encourage parents and teachers to negotiate how and when they will communicate with each other. Ways this currently occurs include communication book, emails, letters from the school as well as phone calls.

We also want to help our students to become resilient and independent people, so many strategies involve helping them to sort things out.

If you have a concern or issue we ask that you uphold our expectations as a school, remembering that people are not always immediately available to see you.

Our Parent Code of Conduct states that parents have the responsibility to:

- support the school in its effort to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment
- act in a safe and responsible manner
- listen to, and treat members of the school community with respect
- communicate and act on information regarding the educational and social development of your child
- make an appointment and attend at the mutually agreed time
- support school policies and decision making processes
- allow procedures be followed as stipulated in school policies

- maintain a solution focussed approach to solving issues in a calm and co-operative manner

To resolve issues we ask that you note the following:

**PROTOCOL FOR ISSUE RESOLUTION**

All of our students have the right to feel safe and comfortable at school. There may be times when you feel that the action of another child has infringed the rights of your own child.

- All school issues are to be handled by the staff of the school.
  - We attempt to resolve these issues through:
    - Calm discussions between the parties directly involved, whilst respecting the dignity of each and every person
    - Being prepared to actively listen to another’s point of view
    - Allowing correct procedures be followed to allow all parties to be heard
- Parents should not directly approach other students or make contact with their families. This only serves to compound the issues and make them more difficult to resolve. We believe that most situations can be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties.
- Under no circumstances is a parent or guardian to approach another child to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards their own child. Please try to have a positive and open mind. We all have bad days and at times events occur which don’t always appear fair. We are dealing with children and they are learning how to behave. It is often the case that the injustice was not intentional, and many times not even apparent to others.
- Approach situations in a spirit of co-operation, understanding and genuine partnership.

**WHO TO CONTACT**

If you have a concern or issue relating to your child, please make use of the following steps:

1. **Contact the class teacher first** – they are in the best position to help you, as they know your child well and are directly responsible for them.
2. If you have further concerns or need further support, please speak to the Team Leaders.
3. If you still have concerns or are requiring further support, please make an appointment to see Assistant Principal Student Welfare and Wellbeing for student well-being and welfare issues. If the issue is a learning-related one, make an appointment to see the Assistant Principal Learning and Teaching (NB. At present see Pete Hansen for all issues, however a second AP will start in term 2)
4. For urgent matters, or if you believe that you have not had the follow up you would like, please make an appointment to see the Principal.

Teachers have meeting commitments on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, so are generally not available on those days and may have other commitments such as professional learning and pre-arranged appointments.

**Best wishes,**

Phil and Pete

**CURRENT NEWS**

**CLASS, VICE CAPTAIN & HERO PRESENTATIONS**

The presentation of certificates and badges to our Class Captains, Vice Captains and Student Leadership Council members will take place on Monday 7 March. A note will go home with those students who have been selected as Class Captain, Vice Captains and Student Leadership Council members and we hope families can join us at the presentation assembly.
MATHS CORNER
Welcome to our Term 1 Maths Corner. Here you will find some helpful numeracy games and activities you can do at home and 4 tricky Brain Teasers. For answers please visit Miss Emily room 11. Enjoy 😊

Maths at home:
*Collect and count large groups of objects such as dry pasta, shells and flowers from the garden. Once you count them you could order them in size, colour and shape.
*Include counting in everyday activities e.g. putting groceries in the trolley, hanging clothes on the line, counting each toss of the ball as you play a game.
*Newspaper numbers – look for numbers 1 to 100 in the newspaper. Cut them out and glue them in order, making your very own number line.

Brain Teaser
1. Find the only number in the world that gives a bigger number when you add it to itself than when you multiply it by itself.
2. Some months have 31 days. How many have 28 days?
3. How many triangles in the picture bello

HELPING KIDS DEAL WITH REJECTION
By Michael Grose
One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection.

Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Paradoxically, children’s experience of rejection and disappointment at school is good for them, as long as it’s balanced with successful experiences too. They learn that they can cope and solve problems in their own way and that bad experiences don’t last forever.

And they learn that sadness and disappointment can be managed too, which is an important lesson to learn to take into adolescence and beyond, when life is full of ups and downs.

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

1. Model optimism. Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.
2. Tell children how you handle disappointment and rejection. Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.
3. Help children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment. Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.
4. Laugh together. Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The stronger the wind the stronger the trees is the notion here. Supporting kids to handle life’s hurdles helps them to develop a lasting sense of resilience, which is essential for good mental and emotional health.

STUDENT UPDATES
Please check all areas and confirm we have the correct details on file. Especially phone numbers, emergency contacts, medical details, student immunisation (if incomplete an immunisation certificate needs to be provided to the school as soon as possible), so that we have the most up to date information for your child. Please mark any alterations with a different coloured pen and return to front office as soon as possible.

GOOD CITIZEN
Prep: Jack Rm 4
Year 1/2: James Rm 25
Year 3/4: Sebastian Rm 16
Year 5/6: Stephanie Rm 6

PAYMENTS DUE
Year 5/6 Camp: Overdue
Year 1/2 Science Incursion: Tomorrow
CLASSROOM PARENT HELPERS PROCEDURES
Please ensure you report to the front office prior to helping in the classroom and sign in our visitors register. We also ask that whilst on duty you display your Working With Children's identification card. A card holder can be obtained from the office if needed. Prior to leaving the school please sign out.

EARLY PICK UP PROCEDURE
When picking up your child early from school, please ensure you come through the main office and sign your child out. You will be given an early leavers slip which you will then pass on to the classroom teacher when collecting your child. If you have arranged for someone else to collect your child prior to 3.30 you must notify the school by note or phone call prior to pick up.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS
When making payments to school or sending coins in lunch orders please refrain from including currency other than Australian as the bank will not accept these coins anymore. Coins other than Australian will be sent back home with the student.

LOST PROPERTY
Please come along and have a look if your child is missing any clothing. All named items are returned to student classrooms. If all other items are not collected by the end of term they will go into our second hand uniform cupboard.

TISSUES
For hygiene reasons we like to have boxes of tissues available in each classroom for all students to share. To ensure that there is always an ample supply of tissues available, we are requesting that each child bring a box of tissues to their classroom. These will be stored by the classroom teacher and shared by the class. Hopefully, this will ensure that we never run out.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCHOOL READINESS
An informative evening for parents of pre-schoolers Wednesday April 13 2016 at 7pm Sunbury Community Health Centre Macedon St, Sunbury.

Sally Ward is an early childhood consultant with Early Life Foundations, joining the team in 2014. She is a preschool teacher with extensive experience in the early childhood field over the past 35 years. Sally has been the Director and teacher in metropolitan and rural community kindergartens, the Coordinator of preschool programs within a large bilingual school, and instrumental in establishing, developing and coordinating the Three Year Group program in the highly regarded Trinity Grammar School Early Learning Centre. Sally's ability to listen, understand and provide practical advice to parents and colleagues has created strong relationships and positive feedback throughout her career. Her understanding of the pressures faced by families as they balance careers, child rearing and family life was strengthened during her time as the manager of her owner operator retail business. Sally's work as a regional Children's Services Adviser with the Department of Human Services brings a broad perspective across all facets of early childhood development and education. This role encompassed advising, monitoring and assessing preschool, childcare, occasional care and school age care programs.

PSW UNIFORM SHOP
Uniforms are available online and at the PSW store Shop 6, 106-126 Gap Rd, Sunbury Vic 97680384 www.psw.com.au

COMPLETE KIDS VACATION CARE
There are still some places available, get in quick! Bookings close 11 March. Call Complete Kids 9740 2111. April fun includes, PJ Day, movie marathon, Ripponlea gardens, Footsteps, sports centre, mad science and Planetarium.

HOOKING HOCKEY
Wednesday 2, 9, 16 and 23 March 6-7pm. Please arrive at 5.45 for the first session to register. 5-12 year old. Join us before we move to our new $11.3 million facility. Four specialised hockey clinics with accredited coaches, all with WWC. Plus an awesome hockey pack. Rear of Heathdale Christian College (formerly Mowbray College), Centenary Ave, Melton. Contact Kellie McLaren 0450643826 meltonjhockeyclub@yahoo.com.au www.meltonhc.org.au

BADMINTON
Sunbury ladies Bat’n’rouge Club welcomes ladies to join us for some fun filled badminton. $8 per week per person at Boardman Reserve Stadium, Wilson’s Lane. Monday mornings 9.45 -12pm. Contact Cath 0409256123