NAPLAN

As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) for Years 3 and 5 will take place next week from Tuesday May 10 to Thursday May 12.

This testing will take place in your child’s classroom and each assessment session will go for between 40 and 50 minutes depending on the task and year level.

Testing will take place next week as follows:
- Tuesday 10 May: Language Conventions / Writing
- Wednesday 11 May: Reading
- Thursday 12 May: Numeracy

Classroom teachers have focussed on familiarisation of the testing format and strategies to assist your child to complete the assessments efficiently and accurately to the best of your child’s ability.

Children are reminded that it is okay not to know everything as these tests will have some questions designed to challenge the limits of your child’s knowledge beyond their expected level.

NAPLAN assessment is about creating an accurate picture of your child’s literacy and numeracy learning development, at a given point in time.

COMPASS LEARNING TASKS AND REPORTS

In the coming weeks, you will see a new section added to the learning tasks that outline how you can support your child at home if they have found the unit challenging. Teams have been using the Newsletter and Team Newsletters to alert parents to what learning tasks will be available for parents to access and when.

At the end of the year, our reporting will be in digital form rather than a printed copy going home. The report will include the learning tasks from this year so far, a general comment, and a grading related to work habits and effort as well as AusVELS levels. Parents will have the option of requesting a printed copy, however we encourage parents to access the report on Compass.

Bookings for parent teacher interviews will be through Compass this year, so please let us know if you are having issues with logging in. As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, quite a large number of families have not logged in to Compass. There has been improvement in this with 43 families logging in for the first time since last week’s newsletter! Please call the office if you are having any difficulty with Compass.

There are still 197 families that have not logged in to Compass. There has been improvement in this with 43 families logging in for the first time since last week’s newsletter! Please call the office if you are having any difficulty with Compass.

Soon we will be adding the link to enter student absences and approve previously unexplained absences via Compass so it’s vital that all families are able to access Compass.

ANZAC

Our student leaders represented the school and laid a wreath on behalf of our community at the Sunbury RSL ANZAC service. Our students represented the school in a positive and respectful way. Special thanks to Karen Francis and Shannon Ingleton for organising our representation and attending with the students.

On Monday morning, we held our school ANZAC ceremony. For those in attendance, it was, as usual, a reflective occasion and our students demonstrated a very respectful attitude, sustaining their attention and involvement throughout. The choir performed 2 songs, Australia Remembers and Lest We Forget, reflecting on those lost at war and the meaning of ANZAC Day. We listened to the Last Post and The Rouse.

Alex B, Jasmine P and Alannah Y read In Flanders Fields, Brown Slouch Hat and The Prayer of an ANZAC, poems that helped everyone to understand the meaning of the day and the relevance it has to us as a society. All classes were involved in setting up the display that reminded us that it is the ANZAC Centenary (2014 – 2018) The wreaths are currently on display in the foyer as well as a display by 5/6 E. Special thanks to Kelli for her organisation of the ceremony and choir.

The Ode

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.
ACTIVE PATHWAYS
Last Friday, we launched our new Active Paths at a whole school assembly! These are colourful markers on the pathways that lead to the school and show how far away our school is.

We were lucky enough to earn this installation for free due to our high participation rate in events such as Walktober. It was fantastic to see everyone joining in!

Representatives from Bicycle Network and Ride2School came along to our assembly to launch the Active Paths. They spoke to the students about the importance of being active in the morning and afternoon and the importance of at least 1 hour of exercise a day because it will help their learning.

Teachers have selected students that participated in the walk/ride to receive prizes, these will be presented at an assembly in the coming weeks. The aim of these Active Paths is to encourage safe walking or riding to school on a regular basis. You can see pictures of the maps in the front school office or on our website here:
http://killaraps.vic.edu.au/page/189/Active-Paths

Best wishes,
Phil, Pete and Andrew

CURRENT NEWS

SIBLING PHOTOS
For those families who have ordered sibling portraits these will be taken tomorrow Friday 6 May. Students who were absent for their individual portraits will also be followed up tomorrow. Late orders will need to be paid online direct to the photographer. Please ensure all your sibling order envelopes are sent in to the office prior to Friday 6 May.

Important Information: For students who are participating in the cross country event tomorrow and have placed orders for sibling photos, these photos will be taken at school after the cross country event has been completed and the children have returned to school.

PARENT ESMART WORKSHOP
On Tuesday, June 7 at 6.30pm, parents are invited to attend a FREE eSmart workshop in our school theatre. The session will be run by a delegate from eSmart – a division of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation. The focus of this session is “educating – protecting – empowering” and will look at a number of topics including:
• What do we mean by ‘digital literacy’ and ‘digital safety’?
• What are kids doing online/popular sites?
• Technology from a teens perspective
• Creating home rules/boundaries/acceptable use; making informed decisions
• Where to seek help/advice
• What legalities are involved with online behaviours

Official invitations that include an RSVP form will be sent home to families soon. We look forward to an educational and thought provoking session and would love to see you there.

PROMETHEAN ACTIVPANELS
Installation of new Promethean ActivPanels has begun across the school. The ActivPanels will replace existing projectors and ActivBoards across all classrooms at Killara. The flat panels have an array of features that make them ideal for 21st century learning, including a multi-point touch display to support interactivity and collaboration. They reveal brilliant colours and crisp details to boost readability, ensuring the best learning experience for all students in the classroom.

Installation has been completed across the Prep, 5/6 and 3/4 Teams and will finish in the 1/2 area over the coming weeks. We are sure all students will enjoy the experience of this new technology in their classrooms, to enhance and transform their learning.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER
Recycle your old household batteries
Did you know? Old household batteries can be recycled at Bunnings and Aldi stores in Sunbury. Please don’t send them to landfill, the heavy metals in them leech into the ground and contaminate ground and surface water. Be Responsible - Recycle Sustainability Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT
Information night for current and prospective parents. Thursday 19 May 7pm–8pm at the kinder. 3-6 year old mixed age Pre-school (10.5+ hours a week 3 year old kinder program) 2 year old early learning group. 61 Main Rd, Riddells Creek 5428 6376 www.macedonrangesmontessori.com.au

KILLARA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Phone: 9744 6432  Fax: 9744 4956
website www.killaraps.vic.edu.au

2017 ENROLMENTS
We are in the process of preparing enrolment packs and will be able to start taking enrolments from May 17. If known, families of new Prep children with siblings already at the school will receive an enrolment package directly. Prep information sessions and tours are scheduled for:
Tuesday May 17 – Information session and tour 9.30am
Wednesday May 18 – Evening information session 7.00pm
Thursday May 19 – Information session and tour 9.30am
If you know of new families please encourage them to attend one of these sessions.