Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We have had a brilliant start to the year. The children are very settled, they are showing considerable empathy, no one in the senior school has mentioned one scrap of bullying, teasing or the odd untoward comments. They appear to be working well together, mixing with each other & operating as very responsible role models and this impacts on the whole school as these attitudes filter through the grades. Thanks seniors!

VISITING AUTHOR
On Monday, John Heffernan, a renowned & successful author, addressed many of our students, telling stories which had you sitting on the edge of your seat. Watching the children's enthralled faces was a sight to behold. He had everyone eating out of his hands & he repeatedly told me what lovely manners our kids have & how absorbed they seemed to be.

SCHOOL BAND
Huge thanks to Mrs Kendy Nicholas for all of her organization to facilitate our school band. However, please ensure that your child takes on the commitment necessary to produce the goods. I'm going down next Friday to listen. Two children, who had given a deep commitment and registered great interest, signed by the parents involved, pulled out of the band just last week. As a school, we outlaid significant cash to have everyone with suitable instruments. This was costly. We bought extra instruments and hey presto! They just pulled out in spite of extensive notifications back & forth prior to our purchases. It's not really acceptable. A commitment is a commitment.

LOCAL CAR PARKING
We all understand how restricted we are with road frontage when it comes to parking. There are significant difficulties with both Frith St and Symes Ave.

Regarding Frith St, people are still parking too close to the crossing. If the Police come, you will be fined and everyone needs to be warned. This happens, at random, at least twice a year. So please drive very, very slowly. The other entry is 'Symes' Ave.

There is a fair bit of concern from one of the residents in Symes Ave. Apparently there's an issue with parking over driveways, even partially, and one parent and a neighbour seemed to have a verbal conflict. Our neighbours are very gracious and I would ask that, as parents, you would respect their needs.

WHAT’S COMING UP

Mon 11th March - Commonwealth Bank Visit to Assembly
Wed 13th March - Comm Bank, Account opening opportunity
Thurs 28th March - Easter Hat Parade - 2pm
Friday, 29th March - GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, 5th April - School Cross Country
COFFEE CLUB
We will not be having a coffee machine at our school. We have had 2 meetings, the first in favour, the second meeting not in favour. Other parents wanted a say. A survey was sent out and we received only 7 responses and of these most were not in favour. We can’t do more to be open and transparent, fair to all and provide an opportunity for everyone to express their thoughts so we might now say: “Case closed.”

CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE
This semester our school value is resilience, which Principal Pam discussed in her first newsletter for 2013.

The ability to "bounce back" after a set-back or disappointment, is a skill we all need to practise. (even my beloved "Jets" are needing to show resilience after their defeat, last weekend!)

For many children, it is in the field of sport, where they can best learn to be resilient.

We can’t always be the winners, either individually, or as a team. But we can demonstrate good sportsmanship, & show a strength of character by aiming to do better next time. "Losing" is not "the end of the world," & we need to look for "positives" to reflect upon, & learn from our mistakes.

Being good adult role models will help to provide a greater understanding of resilience for our children.

Helen Harvie (Mrs Rainbow)
School Chaplain

NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT
Great News! Our school now has a mobile phone app. What’s that you may ask? It is a little application that sits on your phone and gives you instant access to our school information when you click on it, 24/7. The app is going to give parents the ability to instantly access newsletters without going to the website, or to send in a sick note while you stand outside the school because you forgot to write a paper note! We will be sharing many of the other features with you over the coming weeks, but for now download it to your smartphone by going to either the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Market and search for our school name. Once you have found it press install or download.

Subject: Our School App Is Live

Our school smartphone mobile app is now available on both the Apple and Android networks for you to download and start using. These instructions will help you;
How to Install Our School App
On Apple
• On your iPhone open the app store
• Search for our school name
• Press Install
• Enter your iTunes password
It will commence downloading immediately
Android/Google Play
• On your Smartphone open the Android/Google Play market
• Search for our school name
• Press install
Your app will start installing instantly
To Open Our School App
• Look for our schools app icon on your phone screen
• Press the icon once
• It will open automatically
When prompted select 'yes' to receive notifications and use your location (this will make sure the google maps and pop-up alerts work for you)
If you encounter troubles:
• Shut down the app and /or your phone to refresh the phone’s memory
• Uninstall your app and reinstall it
Contact www.activeschoolapps.com.au/support for help within 48 hours
Our children have done it again! John Heffernan, the visiting author, was rather overcome with their delightful manners and the way they responded. Congratulations to the whole school.

Also, a parent contacted the school to tell me about an incident she witnessed:

- Just wanted to let you know that when I was dropping off the kids this morning, one of the kinder girls had lost her plait elastic. So she was walking around holding one of her hair plaits in her hand, and came up to tell me she had lost it - but couldn’t find it at school. She was standing with a group of year 5 & 6 girls. I didn’t have a spare elastic and suggested maybe the office may, when one of these girls gave the kindy, one of her hair elastics (I think she may have taken it out of her own hair!!) No-one asked this girl to do this, and I was amazed when she did. The girl was none other than one of our school leaders, Kahri Anderson. Congratulations Kahri on such thoughtfulness.

- Huge congratulations to another little star.

On Tuesday 26th February, Chloe from 3/4B left school early to head to Sydney for an audition at the International Film School, for an upcoming Student Film called ‘Crow’. Yesterday the Director called Chloe to tell her he has selected her from over 60 young acting hopefuls to play the lead role of ‘Jemima’.

Filming will be conducted over 2 days in Sydney later in March.

Maybe in the near future we’ll have another Nicole Kidman in our midst. Well done Chloe!

- We have 2 little “fish” in our school and their swimming prowess grows from strength to strength. Josh & Kurt Murphy participated in the State Championships Surf Lifesaving last weekend.

Josh came 1st in the team relay and Kurt came 1st in the board relay and 1st in the swim team event where 4 boys have to swim around buoys in the best time. Congratulations to both boys! Top effort!

- Jacinta Bourne & Baxter Nicod from 2N wrote magical stories about whales. They were detailed, factual accounts, well written, sequenced & descriptive. Great work! Congratulations.

**EASTER RAFFLE**

The P&C will be organising an Easter Raffle which will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade. The raffle tickets will be sent home next week. If you would like to make a donation of an Easter Egg for the raffle they can be left at the office.

**KINDergarten**

The Kindergarten classes are in need of the cardboard paper towel rolls for their craft activities. If you have any at home please drop them into the kinder rooms. Thank you for your help.

Mr Searant

**THANK YOU**

- At our last Student Council meeting, there was a request from the kinders for more Lego in their rooms. Mrs Jodie Handscomb heard about the request has donated a small wheelie bin full of DUPLO Lego.

Thank you so much, the kindergarten children will be so thrilled.

- Mrs Prater has donated a drum with sticks and a stand to our school band. This is such a lovely gesture and is greatly appreciated. Thank you Mrs Prater.

- Mrs Kellie Aurisch gave the school a computer, which she no longer had use for. Our library now has the computer for students to access. Thank you for your donation.

Sincerely

Pam Richardson
Coastal Valleys Region Girl Guides invite you to
Come and Try Guides!
At your local Girl Guide unit
For girls aged 7-18 years

Guides enjoy challenging and fun program of indoor and outdoor activities:
games, leadership and life skills, craft, badges, cooking, camping and community events

For information on the location and available meetings in your area

Please email coastalvalleysgirlguides@live.com.au or call 13004475484
Or visit our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au to find out more about Guides
HAVING FUN TODAY - LEADING THE WORLD TOMORROW ..
TERM 1 FUNDRAISER: VIRTUES CARDS & CDs

Our school has sets of 26 Virtues Cards along with character strength affirmations on CDs for sale. The concept behind the Virtues Cards and CD fits very well within our school philosophy and is complementary to our core beliefs and learning.

This resource is a wonderful fit for classroom and family life.

26 Virtues Cards in Slide Box: $19 or in a Hemp Cloth Pouch: $23

The Sound of Virtues CD: $19

To give you an idea of what is explicitly written on one of the cards, the RESPECT card reads:

"You are practising respect when you...

• speak courteously to everyone
• take special care of the belongings of others
• are receptive to the wisdom of elders
• honor the rules of your family, school and nation
• expect respect for your body and your rights
  ♦ treat others with dignity.

I am respectful. I honour the wisdom of elders. I treat others and myself as we deserve to be treated."

These are wonderful reflections families can use as well as educators to encourage their children to take their place in the world.

A note will be given to each child with further information along with a fundraiser order form.

We hope you enjoy these beautiful gifts.