From the Principal

Dear Parents,

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
Congratulations to all the children who participated in this year’s Australian Mathematics Competition. This year one hundred and six students participated in the event with 24 students being awarded with a distinction placing them in the 2-5% within the state. The results show an improvement in the overall competencies from last year and we are extremely proud of all the students.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP
Our volunteers Kerrin and Hannah run the Seabrook Uniform shop (2.30 – 3.30 p.m.) in the meeting room each Thursday afternoon. The ladies are looking for another volunteer to help on a regular basis. If you are interested please pop into the shop or into the office to express your interest to assist.

EMA
The government has informed us of some changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance for 2015. Funds will now be paid directly to schools for eligible recipients. Please see the information flyer on page 4.

KINDER VISIT
Our 2015 preps enjoyed a sunny afternoon for their visit to the school last week. Thanks to the team for making this a fun afternoon of games and activities for the children. We look forward to them visiting classrooms again this term to further support their transition into school.

BOOKLISTS FOR 2015
Booklists are almost ready to send home. Parents have the option to order and pay this year, or just make an order for their children’s personal requisites. An explanation of the payment elements will accompany the booklist. Please note that parents are welcome to source their own individual booklist items but the school has negotiated with our supplier for the best prices. Book pick-up day is Thursday 22nd January 2015. Please add this to your calendar.

Other good news this week is hearing that Sebastian W from 2MS has won a medal for this entry in the NAIDOC Week colouring in competition K-2. Sebastian follows his brother who won a similar competition in 2014 and Kayla the year before for her poetry entry. Seabrook students have been recognized for their creativity three years in a row which is wonderful. All winning entries have been displayed in Parliament House, Canberra. Congratulations Sebastian for your message of peace and love and we know the judges chose your work for the creativity, additional detail and inspiring message.

Have a great week ahead.

Sue & Staff
We are very proud of Sebastian W for his achievements in winning the colouring competition for NAIDOC Week. At the judging Jessica Mauboy and Brax from Home and Away were the judges of the panel and selected Sebastian’s art work out of 60,000 candidates. His work was hung up in Parliament House during NAIDOC Week. This is a great success as it is the first time that two people in one family have won this competition. Andreas W won two years ago as well. Congratulations.

Junior Learning Community - 0MT

The preps have been enjoyed the beginning of our new inquiry that has the central idea “The food people eat is produced in many places and in many ways”. The children in Prep MT have enjoyed looking at many pictures of food and discussing which ones they like to eat. They have many wonderings about how their food is produced and how it gets to the shop they buy it from. Here are some of the wonderings they have about food. We look forward to our trip to the Collingwood Children’s Farm on Wednesday the 22nd of October. We will be inquirers and find out more about how our food is produced.
Last Wednesday we had our new preps of 2015 and their families visit for a Games and BBQ evening. The weather turned out to be just perfect from the wind and rain of the previous day. Children rotated through a series of activities and had lots of fun. It was also a chance for families to have a little chat with our prep teachers about our prep program. A special thank you to the prep team, staff and the student teachers who supported this transition event to make it a success. Thank you to the parent volunteers for making our second hand uniform store accessible for parents and to the families who attended this event.

Sundram Moodley
Acting Assistant Principal - Prep/1
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) Program

What is changing?
In the 2013 School Funding Reform Agreement, signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government committed an additional $5.4 billion school funding to change the way it helps low income families with education expenses. From 1 January 2015, the Government will support the learning needs of students from disadvantaged backgrounds by providing $34.5 million directly to Government schools.

Why is the EMA changing?
In 2013, the Victorian Government signed a $12.2 billion agreement for additional funding for schools in Victoria. This involves a $5.4 billion contribution from the Victorian Government over six years. The Government was able to secure this additional funding without subjecting Victoria to significant intervention by the Commonwealth, achieving an enormously favourable outcome for Victorian families. In order to access Commonwealth funding, Victoria was obliged to shift as much education funding as possible into direct payments to schools. Had the Government failed to adhere to this condition, the entire additional funding agreed to by the Commonwealth would have been at risk for Victoria. By making this change, and redirecting EMA payments from parents direct to schools, Victoria was able to secure this record increase in education funding which will benefit all students, and in particular those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

More information about the School Funding Reform Agreement can be found at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/vlc/Pages/default.aspx (the link goes to TVLC)

When will the EMA program change?
From 1 January 2015, funding to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds will be distributed directly to schools, targeted through the Student Family Occupation (SFO) index. Funding will be provided to schools with the greatest densities of students from low socio-economic backgrounds, recognising their additional learning needs.

What funding for low income students will replace the EMA?
The Victorian Government will continue to support students from low-income families by distributing $34.5 million directly to the neediest government schools, in place of the EMA payment. This equity funding for government schools will be allocated according to Victoria’s existing needs based funding model, the Student Resource Package (SRP). The funding will be provided directly to schools via the SRP, targeted through the Student Family Occupation (SFO) index. To be eligible for SFO funding, a school campus SFO index must be greater than the statewide median SFO index. Funding for the SFO is targeted at those schools with students whose readiness to learn is affected by a range of circumstances, including prior educational experiences and family or other personal circumstances. The SFO was introduced in the 2005 SRP, based on findings from the University of Melbourne along with other key changes, in response to the need to better allocate equity resources. The SFO marker is constructed using parental occupation data that is submitted annually and weighted according to categorisation of occupations as per the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The University of Melbourne’s key findings found that student outcomes are directly correlated with disadvantage and disadvantage is concentrated in certain schools. SFO, at present, is the best predictor of educational outcomes. Funding is provided to schools with the greatest densities of students from low socio-economic backgrounds, recognising their additional learning needs. Consequently, SFO funding supports programs that focus on students at risk of not achieving success at school with particular emphasis on students with literacy problems. Victoria will allocate its contribution to non-government schools through the Financial Assistance Model (FAM).


How will students be supported by the payment?
The Victorian Government will continue to support students from low-income families by distributing $34.5 million directly to the neediest government schools, in place of the EMA payment. Funding will be used by schools to support students for school-based expenses previously covered by the EMA. These include educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

How will schools ensure the money is used for those students who previously attracted the EMA?
School principals and councils will be responsible for ensuring that students, who previously attracted the EMA, are supported to participate fully at school. Schools have complete flexibility, within their annual budgets, to address the specific needs of their students, and provide additional support, as required. While this new approach will see a change in the way the previous EMA funding is allocated, it is still expected that all schools will provide the support required for their students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Further information about the changes will be published on the Department’s website until 31 December at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/ema.aspx.

From the start of 2015, parents can direct their questions about the new funding arrangements to their child’s school.

How will schools in higher socio economic areas support children who previously attracted the EMA?
Schools have complete flexibility within their annual budgets to address the specific needs of their students, and provide additional support as required. The Department’s Financial Policy and Guidelines for Schools is available at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/financial/policy.htm

Access to State Schools Relief Committee support is available via the principal to assist with clothing/uniforms for families in financial hardship. The Commonwealth Government is primarily responsible for the provision of financial assistance to low income families through the Schoolkids Bonus, which is provided directly to eligible parents to assist with education costs. More information is available at SchoolKids Bonus.

What support will be available to schools that don’t receive additional funding, to assist low income families?

School councils have the responsibility to develop policies and plans to allocate their overall resources in accordance with the goals, targets and strategies outlined in their strategic plan. This includes the allocation of funding provided under the SRP, any other funding provided by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and locally-based funds. Access to State Schools Relief Committee support is available via the principal to assist with clothing/uniforms for families in financial hardship. The Commonwealth Government provides financial assistance to low income families through Schoolkids Bonus.

How will families be informed about the changes?

A letter from the School Council President to parents has been included as part of the 2015 Indicative SRP circular.
For your information

Prescribed Medication Authority Forms
Dear Parent/Guardian,
Please be advised that if your child is required to take prescribed medication whilst at school a MEDICAL AUTHORITY FORM can be found on our Skoolbag App and the school website. This form should be filled out and signed off by your doctor before we can administer the prescribed drug.
Please Note: wherever possible, medication should be given outside the school hours, e.g. if medication is required three times a day it is generally not required to be taken at school: it can be taken before and after school and before bed.
If medication is to be administered at school the medication must be in the original packaging.
Should you have any questions/queries contact the Leadership Team.
Thank you for your support
Principal Susan Lee

ITALIAN WORD OF THE WEEK
Each week all the grades at Seabrook Primary School will be introduced to a new Italian word/s/phrase to be used in the classroom, at specialists and around the school. To encourage the learning, parents and family members could also use and practise the language at home with the students.
This weeks word is..... L’ italiano e’ forte “
meaning - Italian is cool
2nd week running

Prescribed Medication Authority Forms
Dear Parent/Guardian,
Please be advised that if your child is required to take prescribed medication whilst at school a MEDICAL AUTHORITY FORM can be found on our Skoolbag App and the school website. This form should be filled out and signed off by your doctor before we can administer the prescribed drug.
Please Note: wherever possible, medication should be given outside the school hours, e.g. if medication is required three times a day it is generally not required to be taken at school: it can be taken before and after school and before bed.
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Should you have any questions/queries contact the Leadership Team.
Thank you for your support
Principal Susan Lee

INCURSION / EXCURSION / FUNDRAISING MONEY
When sending in money for incursions, excursions, fundraising etc., please send in the correct money and ensure that you have separate envelopes for each separate activity/event. We cannot accept foreign coins, as they are rejected by the bank, so therefore will be returned to you. Please check you have included Australian currency only. Money is not kept in the office so we cannot provide change.
Parents need to give the correct money in a clearly marked envelope, in the mornings only, to the classroom teacher. Teachers are unable to accept money at the end of the school day as they are unable to leave money in the classroom. Cash payments are not accepted at the office. Parents are welcome to call into the school office to collect a few school payment envelopes to leave at home for this purpose. Alternatively, please ensure that the money is in a clearly marked envelope with student’s name, grade and amount and activity/event.
Thank you for your co-operation.
Yvonne Golomb Administration
For your information

Point Cook Football Club
Football Academy 2014
FUN FITNESS
FRIENDSHIP SKILLS

The Point Cook Football Club Academy is designed to give AFL players of all ages the opportunity to develop their fitness, football and life skills and to become the best that they can be. It also includes an AFL draft testing component. The 5 sessions will be held at
Saltwater Reserve Point Cook on the Tuesday evenings 4:30pm - 6:00pm
Nov. 18th & 25th & Dec. 2nd, 9th & 16th

Cost.........$80 per child for new participants or $50 - Previous participants
PLAYERS FROM AUSKICK AND CLUBS OTHER THAN POINT COOK FC ARE WELCOME !!

Go to www.pointcookfc.com.au to get a registration form and e mail to lisarouvray@bigpond.com or post to PCFC Academy, PO Box 6268 Point Cook 3030

For further enquiries please contact Head Coach
Peter Gardner on 0419 440 325 or email
Academy Administrator Lisa Rouvray

Cooraminta Children’s Centre Inc.
3 Year old Kindergarten
Cooraminta Children’s Centre in Altona Meadows has vacancies for 2015.

For 2015 session times please refer the website:
www.cooramintachildrenscentre.org.au
If you are interested, please call the centre on 9315 7677 or 0417 362 299

CFME
The Results are Out! You had the interview. Are you still procrastinating getting the much needed coaching HELP for your child?
Call today: 9816 9111 or 1447 030 840
Maths / English Prep - VCE
Do you like AFL? Did you know we’re starting our new Active After School Care Football Clinic this Friday?! Book in and join us!

Or, if you prefer taekwondo, come and get involved every Tuesday! Both sessions occur on a weekly basis, so there’s plenty of fun to be had.

For any new parents interested in before or after school care, our open times are:
7:00AM - 9:00AM (Before School Care)
3:10PM - 6:00PM (After School Care)

OSHClub Program Phone: 0411 302 879
Coordinators: Katie and Amanda
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is free! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au where all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account!

wednesday 3rd December 2014 will be the last week for banking and redeeming rewards for 2014.

Well done to the 148 students who banked last week.

Congratulations to the following Students who received a certificate this week.
Gold 30 deposits: Flynn B, Joel B, Marcus F, Adam F, Lucas M, Willow K & Erika L.
Bronze 10 deposits: Cady P and Sharnika P

Graduating Grade 6 students
Good luck with starting high school in 2015!
Your Youthsaver account is also graduating.
As your needs change your account will also change with you.
For more information visit and Commonwealth Bank branch or go online to:
Students with siblings at Seabrook Primary can continue to bank with the Seabrook School banking program.

Do you have a school banking question or query?
Please email: seabrookschoolbanking@gmail.com
School Banking Volunteers
### SEABROOK TIMELINE
#### October / November 2014

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<th>Mon</th>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>9am Assembly Grades 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Prep Excursion to Collingwood Farm 0MT &amp; 0AC</td>
<td>Grade 5 Science Fair</td>
<td>Grade 1 Assembly 2:30pm - 3pm</td>
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<td>Grade 1 Swimming</td>
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<td>9am Assembly Grades 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Grade 5 Immigration Museum Excursion</td>
<td>Grade 2 sleep over</td>
<td>Prep Assembly 2:30pm - 3pm</td>
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<td>Life Saving Victoria Program</td>
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<td>Grade 1 Swimming</td>
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<td>4 November</td>
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<td>9am Assembly Grades 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Public Holiday Melbourne Cup Day</td>
<td>Grade 1 Assembly 2:30pm - 3pm</td>
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<td>9am Assembly Grades 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>New Prep Visit 11:30 - 13:15</td>
<td>Prep Assembly 2:30pm - 3pm</td>
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<td>Grade 1 Swimming</td>
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### Scholastic Book Fair 10th - 14th November 3:10pm - 4pm

Our newsletter is sponsored by those advertising within. We have no other direct links with them, and our policy is not to encourage or direct our school community to use a particular product or company. If you wish to place a small (business card size) advertisement in our school newsletter at a cost of $5 per week or a 1/4 page advertisement for $20 per week please contact Maureen Murphy on 9395 1758 or email murphy.mary.d@edumail.vic.gov.au

### Are you leaving Seabrook Primary at the end of 2014

This helps us with our planning

If your child/ren are not returning to Seabrook Primary School next year (excluding our current Grade 6 students), can you please fill in the details below and return to Mrs Susan Joyce. (at the office as soon as possible)

My child/ren

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will be leaving Seabrook Primary School:

- [ ] at the end of term 4 2014

and will be attending ____________________________ school.

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________ ContactNo: ____________________________