**From the Principal**

Term 2 Week 2 (10–12th May) is NAPLAN — National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parents/caregivers. This is a matter for individual parents/caregivers in consultation with the school. Some students with significant intellectual disability and/or those with significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests may be exempt. If you are considering withdrawing your child or believe that your child should be exempt from NAPLAN testing, please contact me at the school to discuss your concerns before the end of term. We expect all students to sit the NAPLAN, so attendance is very important. NAPLAN should be taken seriously by students with their best effort given for all components of the test. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. I also encourage parents/caregivers to not buy into the continuous media hype about NAPLAN causing stress etc. Students are well supported by school staff during the testing process. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer with further NAPLAN information as well as a link to the NAPLAN website.

MSP Photography will be here on Thursday for school photographs. Please ensure your child is in correct school uniform and arrives on time as the schedule to get through all class photographs as well as individual photographs is very tight. We start promptly at 9 am with Reception classes. MSP Photography allows preschool age children to be in the family photograph with their primary school age siblings. Family photographs with preschool age children will occur at 8.30 am on the day.

All other family photographs (with siblings at the school) will occur at 2 pm.

The Governing Council AGM was well attended with existing members being re-elected as well as the election of three new members. Governing Council membership is now:

- Chrissie Scott
- John Spooler
- Ernie Landherr
- Annie Steer
- Trish Hardiman
- Sharon MacDonald
- Sharon Williams
- Amanda Farr

If you are were unable to attend the AGM but are still interested in being a member of the Governing Council, you are welcome to contact me at the school or attend the next meeting Tuesday 12th April.

Thank you to the parents who attended the recent Maths Workshop. It was very well attended and the feedback from parents was very positive. As a result we will be running more workshops next term. So if you have any questions or concerns about how we do maths at Two Wells, please come along.

Parent/Teacher Interviews will run from the 4th–6th April. If you haven’t made an appointment to meet with your child’s class teacher please contact them ASAP. Interviews are an important avenue for sharing your child’s progress and letting you know what they need to focus on for term 2.

Thank you to the parent who joined me for Morning Tea after today’s assembly. We had really good discussions about homework, Maths, learning support, communication to parents etc. I will be discussing this information with staff and ways we can improve but the first job from today will be to survey parents next term about homework.

**Lynda Fitzpatrick-Brown**
From the School Counsellor

Child Protection

Here are just a couple of the interesting things I’ve learnt while doing child protection with some of our primary classes...

Did you know your child can chat to other people they don’t know through games on Xbox/PlayStation/Games centre? I DIDN’T!!

Did you know that 90% of the children thought it was ok to chat to these people that they have never met because they are all “just other kids playing games”?! ARE THEY??!

I was shocked and concerned by some of the comments that were made by students. All of them were aware that they shouldn’t talk to strangers, but when ‘chatting online’ to an unknown person, it was ok, as long as they didn’t disclose any personal details. ALARM BELLS!!

I have included a link to a useful website that gives information on individual online games, apps and websites. You may be surprised how inappropriate some of these are… I WAS!

Please remember that the majority of apps are designed for children **over the age of 13**.

Just a reminder… If you are not 13 years old and have an account on one of the 13+ apps and have an issue with cyber bullying or harassment, the Police will **not** investigate due to the child not legally being allowed access.

www.cybersmart.gov.au

Please continue to talk with your children about the dangers of an online profile. We want to keep all children as safe as we possibly can.

THANK YOU!

I also want to take the time to say thank you to our SAT. The SAT raised $213.40 during our Harmony Day/Bully No Way casual clothes day. Well done Two Wells Primary School, GREAT effort!!

$106.70 will be donated to the **McGrath Foundation** and $106.70 to **Beyond Blue** as voted for by the SAT.

Kind Regards

Zoe Evans
School Counsellor
Two Wells Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open to families on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:45 – 9:15 am and Wednesday afternoon from 2:45 – 3:15 pm only during term time.

Urgent – Emergency Contact Information

Student\s:

Please indicate with a tick in the boxes provided:

A smartphone is either an iPhone or an android device which can access emails and apps.

☐ I have downloaded the Skoolbag app

☐ My phone is not a smartphone so I need a text message. I understand that the message may be delayed due to phone congestion or circumstances beyond the school’s control. The designated mobile number is:

Thank you
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.