Hi everyone,

Day Two of NAPLAN down and the students are managing well. It is not easy to sit a timed test that covers a range of skills, particularly writing, where students have to plan and write on a topic in 40 minutes. Well done everyone for your confidence and persistence.

I spotted this on Facebook yesterday and want to share this with you. This came from Queensland Teachers and was in New Idea. It’s something we always tell our students and it is important for them to realize how unique they are. It is also important that our students realize that sometimes we have to face many challenges. How we prepare and respond to those challenges is just as important.

To Our Dearest Students from Year 3.

Next week you will sit your first NAPLAN test. Before you take this test there is something very important for you to know:

This test does not assess all of what makes each of you exceptional and unique.

The people who score these tests don’t know that some of you love to sing, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use a computer program. They have not seen the way that some of you can dance with grace or speak confidently to a large group. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you participate in sports, help your Mum and Dad or that play with your little brother, sister or cousins. They do not know that you are caring, thoughtful and that every day you do your best. Because these attributes cannot be tested.

The scores you get from this test will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can’t tell you that you have improved on something that you once found difficult. They can’t tell you that you brighten up your teacher’s day. They can’t tell you how amazingly special you are.

So come to school ready to do your best for the NAPLAN test and remember there is no one way to ‘test’ all of the wonderful things that make you, YOU!

Kind regards,

Mrs Finn, Mrs Schieter and Mrs Bailey

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Upcoming Events

May 14
NAPLAN

May 15
Food Revolution Day

May 21
Waterwise Challenge

May 29
Big Scrub Schools Enrichment Day
Stage 1 – The Channon
Stage 2 – Dunoon
Stage 3 – Modanville

June 8
Public Holiday – Queen’s Birthday
Food Revolution Day is this Friday. If you haven’t sent in the note for your child to participate, please send in by Friday morning.

This Sunday and Monday, Miss Jodie and I will be attending a course on Visible Teaching and Learning. This is an evidence-based course on strategies that provide the most positive change or impact on student learning.

Waste Challenge
Next Thursday, we will be undertaking a waste wise challenge at school. As part of our participation in the 2015 Waste Wise Schools Challenge we will be attending the Lismore City Council World Environment Day Celebration. The event is held at the Lismore Recycling and Recovery Centre on Friday 5 June 2015. The day will consist of a range of 45 minute activities for students to participate in, and each group will rotate through various activities throughout the day.

Several organisations will be involved this year, including Rous Water, the Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre, North East Waste, Northern Rivers Waste, Southern Cross University and the Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens.
The cost of bus transport to and from the event will be covered by Lismore City Council.

Friday 29th May- Interest Day
Stage One students (Kinder, Year One and Two) will be going to The Channon School and Stage Two (years 3 and 4) to Dunoon.
Stage Two students will travel by car to Dunoon School. Parents will need to sign the note to allow travel by car. Students will come to school first.
As there are only 3 students in Stage One going to The Channon School, we would like the students to meet Miss Jodie at the school. More details to follow shortly.

Alison Bath
Principal
Media release

Family Support Activities to celebrate National Families Week.

Family Support Network Inc Geelong is planning a number of free community events next week to celebrate National Families Week this year. National Families Week celebrates the vital role that families play in our society. This year’s theme ‘Struggling families, stronger communities’ reflects the services offered by Family Support Network to families in our local community.

Firstly, on Monday 18th May they are holding a Service Exhibition Day at Geelong Library in Megalook St, Geelong. The exhibition will run from 10 am to 3 pm and everyone from the community is welcome to drop in, say hello and find out more about our services.

Secondly, our playgroups at South Geelong and Herne Hill will be celebrating families involved in undertaking community art projects. Families from across the community can drop in and paint on canvas their interpretation of ‘stronger families, stronger communities’. These canvases will then be hung on display at Geelong Library, our Herne Hill and South Geelong locations and at our Library off the 15th of June. New families are welcome to drop in and find out more about our playgroups and participate in these events. Activities will take place at 10 am and finish at 1 pm.

Our playgroups are located in both South Geelong and Herne Hill. Our South Geelong playgroup operates on Wednesdays and Fridays’ at the old scout hall at 65 William Street South Geelong, next to the South Geelong Bowling Club. Our Herne Hill playgroup is situated on the grounds of the Nembal community centre at 62 Cullen St.

In addition, they will also be conducting an open house at their Laurel Ave premises on Wednesday morning between 9:30 am and 12 noon. Once again everyone from the community is welcome to drop in, say hello and find out more about our services.

Neil Monton, Manager of Family Support Network, said, “Families create the fabric of our communities, developing stronger families, nationally leads to stronger communities. Our facilities and our free services are valuable resources for families with young children to connect with other families and to obtain information and support around children’s development and parenting. This includes parenting support groups, parenting programs and individual support in addition to our playgroups. All Family Support are committed to supporting happy, healthy childhoods and happy, confident parents.”

Family Support invites all local communities to join them in the celebrations at any of the four events. Come along and celebrate the importance of families in our kid’s lives.

For more information contact Neil Monton on 67 323 585 or feel free to turn up on the day for photo opportunities.

Family Support Network Inc is funded by the Department of Family and Community Services.