Dear Parents / Caregivers,

**NAPLAN Testing**

Next week our Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in the National NAPLAN testing program. A flyer is attached to this Linkletter for all parents of year 3 and 5 students to familiarise themselves with. We encourage you to support your child by ensuring they have had a good night’s rest, a suitable breakfast and arrive at school on time and in a positive mindset. On Tuesday May 10th from 9:10 am the students will be participating in a test of Language Conventions. After lunch they will complete a Writing assessment. On Wednesday May 11th Reading will be completed at 9:10 and on Thursday May 12th the final assessment will be in Numeracy at 9:10am. Teachers are mindful that NAPLAN is a snapshot in time of a student’s knowledge and forms just one part of the extensive assessment process which occurs daily and in an ongoing manner in the classroom. However, NAPLAN data is nationally considered important so we encourage students to approach the test by attempting to do their best.

As a school, staff have looked at the tests and the types of questions and ensured that they have exposed their class to similar questions so that students should feel comfortable attempting NAPLAN. I would like to publically acknowledge and thank our whole staff for the support they provide to students so they are prepared to sit these assessments. Following completion of the NAPLAN tests parents are provided with an individual report sheet of their child’s results which also shows how they compare to other students across Australia. Parents have the option of choosing if they do not want their child to participate in the tests. If you make this decision then I require a letter in writing and signed by Monday May 9th. I wish all students the very best for these important assessments next week.

**BUILDING UPDATE**

The frame including some of the window framing have been erected as the construction company has had excellent weather. They are well on schedule to complete the building by November this year, so that we are open ready for 2017 with our new Administration, Kindergarten and classrooms. Currently we are deciding on choice of new Kinder furniture and equipment. The new buildings will be beautiful with fascinating and stimulating places to learn, both indoors and outdoors. We have started to take enrolments for the 3 and 4 year old Kindergarten program already, so that is very exciting for us. We have had such positive responses from families and community who see this as an excellent concept. We are also recording the construction with the use of time lapse cameras, and expect to be able to play a short ‘movie’ showing the knock down of the old building and the construction of the new over the 12 month period. Hopefully we will launch this at our official opening early next year. You will LOVE the exciting, funky design of this building and the way it sits on our site.

**MOTHERS’ DAY STALL AND RAFFLE**

Our fabulous PFF group have put in an enormous amount of time and effort preparing items for the Mothers’ Day Stall and raffle. I know that there will be lots of happy, grateful Mums on Sunday, thanks to the generous efforts of our PFF. Our students thoroughly enjoy going to the stall every year and choosing something special for their Mother / Carer, and they are very careful to keep it a secret until Sunday! A HUGE (special ) thankyou to Kerrie-Anne Shepherdson for the extraordinary effort she went to making so many beautiful items she donated to the stall. To all our wonderful mothers, I
wish you a very happy Mothers’ Day on Sunday as it is truly a special privilege to be a mum. Thank you for all that you do everyday and the love and support you provide as carers throughout the year. I hope you get a little bit spoilt and have a restful Mothers’ Day.

The lucky winners of our Mothers’ Day Raffle are:
1st - Sue Pursche
2nd - Ella Jenkins
3rd - Katie Testa
4th - Izac Royall
5th - Jemma McCabe-Hall
6th - Jayda Wood
7th - Michael Laverett
8th - Reuben Hogan
9th - Jordan Waite
10th - Ryan Flakelar
11th - Belle Marcuzzi

Walkathon

Rewards will be allocated at Monday’s assembly for students who have raised the most money from the Walkathon last week. Please keep the collections coming in to be included for the prizes. Money raised will go towards buying new Science equipment for our Science program. Congratulations to everyone for participating so enthusiastically on the day! Everyone has a lot of fun and exercised out in the fresh air at the same time.

Walk-a-thon money is due tomorrow, Friday 6th May.

Wood-fired Pizza Oven Training

Would you like some free training in wood-fired oven cooking? Then come along to our school on Monday 9th May from 10 am - noon and learn the skills of cooking all sorts of delicious foods in this exciting way. You will be treated to lunch provided by the school (that you will be involved in cooking). You are also invited to bring along some foods from home to cook and take home with you for the family to enjoy e.g. scones, breads, roast, pizza, cake, baked potatoes etc. Please register at the front office in person or with a phone call to the school on 6024 1188.

Working Bee - organised by School Council

Our Autumn Working Bee is scheduled for SATURDAY 14th May from 9 am - noon. This year we will be targeting the Stephanie Alexander Garden and doing some important jobs to support this valuable program. I am asking for your help as we need lots of family assistance to care for this large but beautiful garden that supports us with produce for the kitchen.

Regards,
Jocelyn Owen

Compass School Manager

We are excited to announce the arrival of an exciting and innovative student management program called Compass. Along with this newsletter your child will have brought home an envelope with your username and password along with a user guide to get you started. Please feel free to contact the office should you have any questions. Some of the powerful capacities are:

- Direct Messaging of Updates to Mobile Phones
- Attendance
- School reports
- Excursion permission forms
- Parent teacher interview scheduling

Peter Schneider
Business Manager