Dear Parents/Carers,

It was wonderful to greet so many parents at our recent ‘Meet the Teachers’ evening session. All the parents I conversed with voiced their enthusiasm for their children’s learning and their high expectations for their education. The teachers of Sefton Infants School certainly share your vision and high expectations for the students’ education. Our school mission statement reinforces this stance:

Sefton Infants School and Preschool are committed to providing equitable and comprehensive quality teaching and learning programs in which all students achieve their personal best, become confident, active learners and respectful citizens.

At Sefton Infants School and Preschool, we believe:

- all children can learn;
- learning best occurs in a safe, caring and orderly environment that values diversity, collaboration and risk-taking;
- learning achievement relies on quality teaching with ongoing, relevant teacher professional learning;
- all children deserve a high quality education in which individual needs are supported, met and exceeded;
- children thrive when our expectations are high and their self-esteem is high;
- students need to be actively engaged in practical and meaningful learning experiences;
- strong partnerships with our school community are vital for successful student learning;
- and the values of Public Education (Integrity, Excellence, Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Participation, Care, Fairness and Democracy) are integral to ensuring a positive and productive learning environment.

All staff members of Sefton Infants School and Preschool look forward to working closely with our parent community to achieve this vision.

Kind regards,
Sharna Labbe

Principal’s Report

Upcoming Events:

* Wed 20 Feb: Free student eye-care check
* Wed 20 Feb 3pm: Active After School Communities for Kinder
* Thu 21 Feb 3pm: Active After School Communities for Years 1 & 2
* Wed 27 Feb 9am: P&F Meeting
* Fri 1 Mar: Clean Up Australia Day
* Mon 25 Mar: Parent -Teacher Interview Week
* Fri 29 Mar Good Friday - Public Holiday
* Mon 1 Apr: Easter Monday - Public Holiday
* Tue 2 Apr: Swim School commences for Years 1 & 2

Website: www.seftoninf-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Kind regards,
Sharna Labbe
Parents & Friends Association Meeting

All parents and friends of Sefton Infants School and Preschool are warmly invited to our first P & F (Parents and Friends Association) Meeting for 2013 being held in the school library on Wednesday 27 February at 9am. Come along to this friendly get-together to meet other parents, enjoy some morning tea and find out more about what is happening at our school. It is also a wonderful opportunity to contribute your own ideas to school events and fundraising activities. We look forward to seeing you there.

Voluntary School Contributions - A Friendly Reminder

Thank you to all of the families who have already made a voluntary contribution to the school this year. At the beginning of each school year, Sefton Infants School requests the assistance from the families of the students attending the school in the form of a voluntary school contribution. This monetary contribution goes directly towards the purchase of resource materials used by the children in class. For example, the funds may be used to buy exercise books, paper, art materials, reading resources, etc. The contribution amount for this year is $40 per student or $60 per family (two or more students enrolled at the school). Your support with these voluntary contribution payment is much appreciated.

Adrenaline Autoinjectors (EpiPens)

The Department of Education and Communities has recently announced that all government schools will receive a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) for their school first aid kit. This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis. Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector in the school’s first aid kit is intended to be used if:

- An undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- There is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student
- A student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline has been administered.

All staff members of Sefton Infants School have been trained in the emergency procedures for an anaphylactic reaction and the administration of an adrenaline autoinjector. Please ensure that you alert your child’s class teacher and the school office staff should your child become diagnosed with anaphylaxis. Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this matter.

Anaphylaxis = the most serious type of allergic reaction. It can progress very quickly and may cause death without medical attention.

Adrenaline Autoinjectors can be used to treat an anaphylactic reaction.
Food and Birthdays at School

Due to an increasing number of children at school with serious food allergies and special dietary requirements, children are advised not to share food at school.

Please do not bring birthday cakes or lolly bags to share at school as part of your child’s birthday celebrations. Many children are not able to participate in the celebrations and/or the food shared may pose a serious health risk for those children with allergies.

Your child’s birthday will be recognised with a special certificate at our weekly assembly.

Thank you for supporting this food and birthday policy at our school. Please contact Miss Labbe if you have any questions in regards to this matter.

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Term 1 Units of Work

Sefton Infants School has an ongoing focus on teaching basic literacy and numeracy skills. The early childhood years of education are crucial for learning these fundamental skills. Whilst the majority of our teaching time is dedicated to literacy and numeracy, our students also undertake studies in other learning areas. Please read below the units of work that your child will be studying during Term 1. It is a great idea to talk to your child about their learning at school. Having your child explain and describe concepts and skills learnt at school helps them to reinforce and extend their learning.

**Kindergarten:**

- Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) - *All About Me*

**(Early Stage One)**

- Science -and Technology - *What’s Alive? (Living Things)*
- Health & Personal Development - *Social Skills / School Rules*
- Sport - *Fundamental Movement Skills*
- Creative Arts - *Visual Arts & Drama*

**Years 1 & 2:**

- Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) - *Community Helpers*

**(Stage 1)**

- Science -and Technology - *How things grow and change*
- Health & Personal Development - *Social Skills / School Rules*
- Sport - *Fundamental Skills & Minor Games*
- Creative Arts - *Dance & Music*
2013 Staff

Introducing the 2013 staff members at Sefton Infants School and Preschool:

Principal
Miss Sharna Labbe

Class Teachers
Preschool - Mrs Talevska
Kindergarten Blue - Miss Colley
Kindergarten Green - Miss Donaldson
1 Red - Mr Toumazou
1/2 Yellow - Miss Labbe / Mrs Davidson

Specialist Teachers
English as a Second Language - Mrs Taranec / Mrs Nicholls
Reading Recovery / Learning and Support Teacher - Ms Dulaurens
Vietnamese Community Language - Mr Tran
Arabic Community Language - Mrs El-Asmar
Teacher Librarian - Mrs El-Asmar
RFF (Release from Face-to-face Teaching)- Mrs Nicholls

Administration Staff
School Administration Manager - Mrs Moroney
School Administration Officers - Mrs Olya Mencinsky / Ms Kingman
School Learning Support Officers - Mrs Woodward (Preschool)

Ms Kingman

Mrs Richards
Mrs Tyson

General Assistant - Mr Taychouri

Please contact your child’s class teacher to make an appointment if you have any concerns or a query about your child's learning.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
(at Sefton Infants School)

WHEN: Fri 1st March 1 - 1:30pm

WHAT: Students will be cleaning up the school and local Allder Park as part of our environmental and community education program. Children will be closely supervised by class teachers.

Children are encouraged to bring plastic gloves and/or old tongs to school on the day to help with our Clean Up Australia Day.