Sefton Infants School Newsletter

Principal’s Report

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome to the school year for our new and returning families! It has been so wonderful to hear all about our students’ holiday adventures and see how much they have grown over the summer break. I trust that all of our families had a relaxing and enjoyable school holiday time and are ready for another great year of learning at Sefton Infants School.

Sefton Infants School has made a fantastic start to the 2015 school year. Our new Preschoolers and Kindergarten students are settling very well into their new school routines and making new friends. All of our students are looking wonderful in their uniform, displaying much pride in their school. Thank you to all of our parents and carers for assisting us with this smooth start to the school year.

2015 is set to be another great year of learning at Sefton Infants School. All of our teachers and administration staff are looking forward to the year ahead and ensuring the best possible educational experiences for your child.

During the summer school holidays, Mr Toumazou gained a different teaching position by merit selection at another public school much closer to his home. Congratulations to Mr Toumazou for being the successful applicant for this new teaching position. Mr Toumazou has been teaching at Sefton Infants School for the last seven years. During this time, he has worked with an outstanding level of care and commitment to provide high quality teaching and learning programs for the many students in his classes and Reading Recovery groups. He built a strong rapport with his students and their families, treating them with the utmost professionalism and respect whilst ensuring each child achieved their personal best in all learning areas. On behalf of the Sefton Infants School Community, I would like to express our deep gratitude to Mr Toumazou for all of his hard work and wonderful teaching at our school. He will certainly be missed by everyone here at Sefton Infants School. We wish Mr Toumazou much happiness and success at his new school and look forward to him visiting us some time in the near future.

Our school will be hosting a ‘Parent Meet and Greet’ afternoon on Wednesday 18th February from 4:30-5:30pm. This is an excellent opportunity for our Kindergarten to Year 2 parents and caregivers to meet their child’s class teacher and find out about their learning programs for 2015. It is also a wonderful time to meet and network with other parents at the school. These information lessons will take place in the classrooms and only parent/caregivers need to attend. A complementary afternoon tea will also be served as part of the afternoon. I look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing you and your child all the very best for a great school year filled with good health, happiness and successful learning.

Kind regards,
Sharna Labbe
Temporary classes

As it is very difficult to predict the number of students who may enrol or transfer at the commencement of a new school year, our classes at this stage are temporary. This means that if student numbers change during these first few weeks of the year, our class structure may also need to change and your child may be placed in a different class with a different teacher. The teachers and students have been made aware that current classes are temporary. We hope that student numbers are finalised by Friday 6th February and your child’s class placement will then be confirmed with a letter sent home via your child.

Thank you for your understanding and patience with our temporary classes during the first weeks of school.

Meet the teacher afternoon

All parents and caregivers are invited to a special ‘Meet and Greet’ session involving the teachers of Sefton Infants School. This informative session will take place on Wednesday 18th Feb from 4:30—5:30 pm. Come along to meet your child’s class teacher, find out about your child’s class routines and expectations, as well as the key concepts and topics he/she will be learning about in 2015. It is also a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents at the school. The meetings will be taking place in the K-2 classrooms and an informal afternoon tea in the school playground. Parental involvement and interest in schooling is a positive factor in children’s learning success. This meeting is just for parents and carers. Please find alternative care arrangements for your children. We hope to see you at our 2015 Parent Meet and Greet.

School website

It is important for our parents to keep informed of programs and events taking place at Sefton Infants School. Our school newsletter, which is a valuable source of information, is produced each fortnight and distributed to the eldest child of each family on a Wednesday. Other notes are distributed as required. Notes printed on yellow paper need parent replies and should be returned to school as soon as possible. This newsletter as well as lots of other worthwhile information and photos from our school are also available on the Sefton Infants School website:

www.seftoninf-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Concert memories

Our 2014 end of year concert was such a wonderful evening of entertainment and fun. The musical and drama items, as well as our supportive audience certainly reflected the concert’s theme of ‘Friendship and Happiness.’ Congratulations and commendations to all of our students and their talented teachers for their great performances and hard work with prop and costume preparation. Many thanks also to our school community for their support of this very special whole school event. Here are some photos of the lovely evening. Many more photos can be found on the school website.
School rules

Currently, all of our students are learning our school rules for positive behaviour at Sefton Infants School. These rules operate for all students and in all settings of the school. We encourage our families to also discuss these rules at home to help reinforce the school’s expectations for positive behaviour. The rules are as follows:

At Sefton Infants School we are safe, respectful learners.

SAFE: Be in the right place
* Move safely
* Keep hands and feet to yourself

RESPECTFUL: Follow teacher instructions
* Be kind to others. Let others learn.
* Care for our school.

LEARNER: Try your best
* Be responsible for your own behaviour.

Thank you for supporting our school’s rules and positive behaviour strategies.

Term 1 learning topics

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)**
- Health & Personal Development - *Social Skills / School Rules*
- Sport - *Fundamental Movement Skills*
- Creative Arts - *Music & Drama*  

**Years 1 & 2:**
- Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) - *Transport*

**((Stage 1)**
- Health & Personal Development - *Social Skills / School Rules*
- Sport - *Fundamental Skills & Minor Games*
- Creative Arts - *Dance & Visual Arts*  

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