Principal’s Message
As this is our first official newsletter for 2016, I would like to welcome everyone back to a new year at Seaham Public School. In particular, to our new families and our new Kindergarten students, welcome to our school. It was fantastic to see our Kindergarten students start their school journey so positively on Monday.

I mentioned last week in the information note that some of our staffing is in limbo until permanent positions are finalised. Thanks again to Mrs Imber who is taking 1/2I and Mr Bennett who has taken on our support/RFF teacher role. At this stage we are not sure how long before the 1/2I class position is finalised.

Last year we surveyed our Years Three & Four and Five students to determine what PSSA sport competitions we would enter in 2016. This information, along with coach and equipment availability was all considered and the following sports were chosen. Boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, netball and rugby league. Recently we have entered into local and PSSA cricket competitions. As basketball was a more popular option amongst our students this year we will look to re-enter the Reg Kelly cricket shield in 2017.

Family Afternoon Pickup: The Department has particular WHS guidelines that staff and families must follow. Families are asked to wait in the undercover area of an afternoon for their child/ren if collecting children. Therefore we are asking families not wait on classroom verandahs or to wait at the classrooms. If you need to approach the classroom, please sign in at the office and get a blue visitors badge. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Visitors to the School: As you are aware, all visitors to the school must sign in at the office and wear a blue visitor badge if visiting during the school day. This is a mandatory Departmental Policy. All volunteers must complete either Working with Children Check or the Statutory Declaration as outlined in last week’s letter.

Staff Carparks: Further to the above WHS guidelines, children and families are not to walk through staff carparks. It is essential that we have family support with this matter to ensure the safety of your child/ren at all times.

Students in Canteen: Due to WHS regulations, students are not permitted to enter the canteen to assist our canteen volunteers at any time. We understand that sometimes our volunteers are very busy, however insurance and public liability does not allow for students to help out in this area. We do understand that students are very happy to see their families when they are in the canteen, but all contact must be over the counter. We thank you for your support with this matter.

Parent Online Payments: Just a reminder to families to please DO NOT USE THE DIRECT CREDIT OPTION TO OUR BANK ACCOUNT AS DONE IN PREVIOUS YEARS. We now have the Parent Online Payment option. Details about this process were forwarded last week. Please contact the office for further details if required. PLEASE NOTE THAT CASH AND CHEQUES ARE STILL RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE.

Due to enrolled children’s life threatening Anaphylactic Allergic reactions to all nuts and peanut products, we would like to encourage families not to send these products to school with their children. These include peanut butter, nutella, sesame seeds, loose nuts, muesli, nut or chocolate bars or any products containing any type of nuts. We appreciate your support in this matter.
Canteen News: The canteen will be closed on Friday 12 February due to the swimming carnival.

New Price List: Please refer to the new canteen list that was sent home last Thursday. It is also available on our web page for your convenience. The canteen has absorbed several price rises over the past few years and we have adjusted our prices accordingly. We have placed price rises on processed foods only. Sandwiches and salads remain at the same price. **Chicken Goujons are still for sale as a hot item for $2.50.** We apologize this has been left off the price list and we will update it later in the year. There are some new items, and non-selling items have been removed.

Fundraising: The Canteen had a successful year last year. We’d like to thank everyone for supporting our fundraisers and red days. In our last red day at the end of Term Four we made a record $830.50 in one day!! We were able to transfer $5500 from 2015 takings to the P&C to be invested in our school. This was quite an achievement as the canteen experienced many closures last year due a shortage of volunteers. Thanks again for your support!

Roster: The term one roster has been sent home today with the newsletter. We continue to experience a shortage of volunteers. We hope our existing volunteers will continue, and we welcome new volunteers. If you can volunteer just one day a term that would be great. Please write your name on the dates you are available on this roster and return it to the school office.

Information will then be collated and dates clarified. Master copies of rosters will be available in the canteen and school office. Please see times below in relation to opening hours of the canteen. Anyone wishing to volunteer in our school canteen can please contact Peta Salter on 0438 432 167.

**Canteen Volunteer Hours:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday is 9 am - 2.30pm
Tuesday and Thursday 1pm - 2.15pm

School Leaders for 2016: Congratulations to our school leaders which were elected at the conclusion of 2015. Clare Moroney and Harrison Roberts are Seaham Public’s School Captains and Maddison Johnson and Oskar Mella the Vice Captains. All four students are wonderful representatives for our school and we look forward to their growth as leaders as the year progresses.

Sporting Houses: The 2016 House Captains and Vice Captains have been elected. Congratulations to everyone. The first official duty is fast approaching with our annual swimming carnival. It will be great to see their enthusiasm, passion and leadership on the day.

Office House Keeping: We appreciate that families have been inundated with paperwork since school commenced for 2016. However your support with these matters is important and your prompt response is very much appreciated.

Family Records Update: Early next week we will be sending home all current family details that we have on file. It is essential that these are read carefully and changes made on the form and given back to the office as a priority. This ensures that we have on file all current contact details, emergency contacts and medical history which ensures the safety and wellbeing of your child at all times. If your child does not receive a green family update details report, please contact the office.

Anaphylaxis Plans: All new Anaphylaxis plans will be forwarded home to our students next week. If you did not get a new plan, please contact the office. Your assistance with getting the revised plans, health care plan and medication authority completed at your earliest convenience is much appreciated.

Asthma Plans: Asthma plans will also be forwarded home to our families that have indicated that their children have asthma. Having current plans and information is essential to managing your child’s condition and it is also a Departmental Policy.

Family Invoices: We anticipate that family statements will be forwarded home in the next few weeks. This is not a demand for payment. It is a summary of expenses that include work books (text books), sporting activities and other events that we can now plan for. Excursions etc will be invoiced as they are planned. We encourage families to fit in with personal budgets to pay weekly or fortnightly regular small payments off their balances. Of course full payments are receipted gratefully. We do ask families to please finalise their workbook payments by the end of March due to supplier payment commitments.
**Reading Eggs:** Below is some tips for our new families or for those families that have not utilised the reading eggs program from home previously. If you are experiencing difficulties, please contact the Reading Eggs Program on 02 8585 4020. Reading Eggs is available for all K-6 students. Please see your student’s teacher if you have any questions in regard to this fantastic program.

1. Go to the “Reading Eggs” home page, www.readingeggs.com
2. Register now for a free trial—parents click here
3. Fill out the information required and submit
4. Check your emails and follow “log in” instructions
5. Go to “Add a Child”
6. Click on No.3 and fill out “log in” details from details supplied by the school. Children’s username and password.
7. You should then be able to just log onto the home page each time

**Whole School Assembly:** Our full school assemblies are now taking place on Monday afternoon from 2.15m to 3pm. Dates scheduled for term one for the whole school assemblies are; Monday 15 February and Monday 7 March. Families and friends are welcome to attend.

**School Swimming Carnival:** Our annual swimming carnival will be held next Friday 12 February at Clarence Town Pool for Years 3-6 (and those students turning 8 Years in 2016). Notes were sent home on Monday of this week for all students. Lunch order details for this day will be sent home next Monday. Please complete the orders and return to the office by Wednesday 17 February.

**New Families:** We have had some new families (Years 1-6) commence at Seaham Public School for 2016. A formal welcome and photos will be published in next week’s newsletter. Thank you to our existing students for helping not only our new students but our Kindergarten class settle in.

**Community News: Glen Oak Netball Club** - We are looking for players to join the club for the 2016 netball competition at Port Stephens. If you are 10, 12, 13 years old or ladies interested in playing, please contact Sonia Todd 0423 112 165 or Tegan Xenos 0411 542 604 Email: glenoaknetball@gmail.com

**Seaham Netball Club Registration Day:** Saturday 6 February from 9am-11am at Brandon Park Seaham. If you are new player to Seaham Netball Club, we will need to sight your birth certificate at registration. On top of the below registration fees players need to add $60 which covers Coach Manager, Rego Levy ($5), Umpire Fees ($30 per child for first 2 players in family only), Fundraising Levy ($25).

- Net Set Go—Strand 1 (no play) $60
- Junior (11-17yrs) $13
- Senior (18+) $144
- Strand 2 Netta (<10yrs) $97
- Junior in Senior (under 19 in Senior) $128

**Seaham Bowthorne Football (Soccer) Club:** Player Registration Days for Season 2016 at Seaham Community Hall (Back Hall) Warren Street Seaham. (Please see below dates). Registration cost includes weekly Match Fees. **Full payment required with registration.** All new registrations require proof of age & current FFA number if applicable. On Line Registration & Payment available at www.myfootballclub.com.au. For more info please contact either: Ken Williams (Registrar) 4988 6808 - kwilliia2@bigpond.com or Tim Griffiths (Secretary) 4988 6638 - trgriff@bigpond.com

- Saturday 6 February 10.00am – 12.00pm
- Saturday 13 February 10.00am – 12.00pm
- Small Sided Football $120.00 (U6 – U7)
- Competition $170.00 (U12 – U18)
- Small Sided Football $140.00 (U8 – U11)
- All Age & Over 35 Men $310.00

**Maitland Football for All:** Maitland Football for All provides opportunities for children with additional needs to enjoy the benefits of participating in a team sport. Join for fun, fitness and friendship in an inclusive environment. For more information or registration please visit Greenhills McDonalds on 4 February from 5.30-7.30pm or 13 February from 9.30-11am. Games are played every Saturday morning at Robins Oval in Maitland from 8.45am to 9.40am. Non compulsory training during the week. Please refer to their facebook page for more details.

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Please note for this week only, every student will receive a hard copy of the newsletter. Our email distribution and eldest family list will be available next week.
Clare Moroney  
Captain

Fisher:  Alex Murphy (VC), Will Richards (VC), Madalyn Greentree (C) & Ben Vasic (C)

Harrison Roberts  
Captain

Carmichael:  Max McCulloch (VC), Brooklyn Clarke (C), Jasmine Clarke (VC) and Jordan Bennett (C)

Maddison Johnson  
Vice Captain

Oskar Mella  
Vice Captain

Warren:  Emity Bridge (VC), Cody Hancock (C), Rhianna Brooker (C) and Matthew Edwards (VC)

You Sport Captains and Vice Captains

Dixon:  Hayden Flynn (C), Jasmine Armitage (VC), Ellie Marquet (C) and Harper Collins (VC)