Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Cheltenham Primary School

Next week our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be participating in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). In 2016 NAPLAN testing will be held on Tuesday, 10th May through to Thursday, 12th May.

NAPLAN is a national program to assess the literacy and numeracy skills that students have already acquired through the school curriculum. The program compares your child’s results against the national mean. It also allows us to compare your child’s achievement with other children across Australia – giving us a snapshot of how our children are doing in these important core learning areas. The results provide additional information, which can be used along with our regular school assessment and testing, to help us improve teaching and learning programs in the classroom.

At Cheltenham Primary School our students have achieved above state mean results in all levels and have maintained this excellent standard over several years. Our results indicate excellent growth in Numeracy, Spelling and Language Conventions. Although our results in Writing are above the state mean, we have made a commitment to further improve student outcomes in this area of the curriculum. At Cheltenham Primary School we aim to develop for our students a solid and consistent framework across the school to support, build on and nurture growth in writing. The ability to write confidently and competently is essential. Real writers are passionate about what they do and use writing to communicate ideas in all styles and forms to an audience. We want all of our students to develop a personal voice and a passion for writing.

In light of this we have been researching programs that would promote student engagement in writing tasks and significantly improve the quality of writing that our students produce. As a result of our research, we introduced two programs, Seven Steps to Writing Success and VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers, Punctuation). Both of these programs have been implemented and are embedded in our curriculum across the school. By continuing to support students and by enabling them to explore and refine their understandings of writing techniques, we expect our students will have a greater basis to assess their performance. They will be able to develop the ability to decide on the direction they need to take to further enhance their learning.

In addition to this we have also introduced a lunchtime Writer’s Club and hope that we can celebrate some of the wonderful writing samples with you through our school newsletter.

We are very proud of our programs and the curriculum we provide at Cheltenham Primary and we work hard to foster independent and enthusiastic learners.

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN or our writing programs, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Tanya

Tanya Wells
NAPLAN Co-ordinator
Senior School Area Leader
SIBLING ENROLMENT FOR 2017

Does your child have a younger sibling eligible to start Cheltenham Primary School in 2017? Please come and collect an Enrolment Form from the front office. It is essential for forward planning that we ascertain this data as soon as possible.

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2016

Tuesday, 14th June
Friday, 16th September
Monday, 31st October

Congratulations to Clay J (5B) and Vinny P (3/4B) for completing the Premier’s Reading Challenge! Just a reminder that there are some great picture books in the school library, which are part of the PRC. Prep-2 have a yellow sticker and Years 3-4 have a green sticker on the book spine. A number of these books can be read over a lunch hour. So encourage your children to go over to the library (maybe when it’s cold and wet outside) and read a book to add to their challenge list.

Happy reading!

Nalini Bradford & Miranda Brett
PRC Coordinators

PRIMARY SCHOOL WEAR

The Cheltenham store in Mills Street, Cheltenham will be closed on Monday, 14th June for stocktake. Please go to www.psw.com.au for their regular trading hours.
**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

School Council would like to acknowledge the contributions of Jen Jakobi and Andy Williams to the school community for their years of service as School Councillors. Jen and Andy have retired from School Council after serving terms of three years and two years, respectively.

**Our School Council members for 2016 are:**

Peter Cutting (President)
Geoff Geist (Vice President)
Bernie Ladds (Treasurer)
Bronwyn Morgan (Executive Officer)

**Parent members**

Lionel Brett
Paul Beeston
Allison Chambers
Debbie Feben
Kath Shields
Suzie Norwood

**Department of Education members**

Chris Day
Bronwyn Moline
David Senior

School oversees the following sub-committees:

- Buildings and Grounds
- Community Partnerships
- Education
- Finance
- Canteen

If you are interested in joining one of these sub-committees, please contact Bronwyn Morgan on 8585 3200.

School Council will be participating in two professional learning sessions this term, in Governance and Finance, alongside School Councillors from neighbouring schools. We are interested in the discussion and learning that will ensue from this training.
HARRY POTTER AND THE

By Poppy P

The Book!

HARRY POTTER
and the Philosopher's Stone

PLOT

Harry Potter thinks he's a normal boy until.... A letter drops on 4 Privet Drive. The letter is from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry had found out he was a wizard. He starts at school and solves a mystery.

CHARACTERS

Harry and his friends Ron, Hermoine. My favourite character is Harry because he solves all the problems.

My Opinion

I liked this book. My favourite part is when he played Quidditch because it was exciting and funny!

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend this book to adults and children 8 and up because there is lots of action.
Cheltenham Primary School presents
“Trip of a Lifetime” DVD Order Form

The 2016 Cheltenham Primary School Junior Concert, to be performed on Tuesday 3rd May at Mentone Girls’ Grammar School, will be recorded professionally by Video Essentials using two cameras. The end product will have a highly professional look with a variety of wide angle and close up footage.

If you would like to order a DVD of the concert return this order form to your classroom teacher by Friday 6th May at the latest. The cost of the DVD is $25. These will be available for pick-up from school the following week.

The slip below should be placed in an envelope with the cash, cheque or credit card details. Write your name and class on the envelope along with the amount enclosed.

Students name: ___________________________ Class: ______

I wish to purchase ___ DVD/s @ $25 per DVD I wish to pay by:

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque (payable to Video Essentials) ☐ Credit Card (VISA / Mastercard only)

PLEASE DEBIT MY CREDIT CARD

☐ VISA ☐ MASTER AMOUNT: $__________

CARD NUMBER: ____________________________

Expiry Date: ____ / _____

Card holder’s name Card holder’s phone no. Card holder’s signature Date
LIBRARY NEWS

Students enjoyed nominating books for YABBA awards with 160 nominations made last term. The final list of picture fiction stories will be available for students to read. All students will participate in reading, discussing, judging and finally submitting a vote for the best of the ten picture books.

National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by Australian professionals is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centers, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.

In 2015 Cheltenham Primary School joined over 500,000 children at over 3,100 locations across Australia to participate in the National Simultaneous Storytime. By facilitating National Simultaneous Storytime, we aim to:

- promote the value of reading and literacy;
- promote the value and fun of books;
- promote an Australian writer and publisher;
- promote storytime activities in public libraries and communities around the country;
- provide opportunities to involve parents, grandparents, the media and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion.

Book Fair is on this Term with our open day on Wednesday, 8th June. Details of how to purchase will be clearly outlined in the official invitation which will be sent home two weeks previous to the fair as well as available on all further digital newsletters this month.

Isobel Rose
Library Technician