THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

“It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves, that will make them successful human beings.”

– Ann Landers

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

It’s Not OK to Be Away... or To Be Late!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS ABOUT STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance enables students to maximise their full educational potential and to actively participate and engage in their learning. At Sandon Public School, it is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

When children miss school or are regularly late, not only is their learning and academic progress impeded, they also miss important interactions with their peers, which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. If your child is half an hour late to school every day that amounts to two and a half hours learning time that they miss each week. If your child is away for just one day each week that equates to ten days of learning each term.

As a school community we have high expectations that all students with the support of their parents/carers will attend school every day and arrive on time to begin learning.

Government legislation requires students between the ages of six and seventeen to be enrolled at a government or registered non-government school and to attend school on each day that instruction is provided. It is the duty of the parent or caregiver of these students, under the Education Reform Act 1990 to ensure these obligations are fulfilled.

Under the legislation, our school is required to contact parents for all unexplained absences and seek reasons for the absence after 2 days. I am aware that sometimes parents do forget to inform the school as to why their child has been away. We would ask that parents / carers are vigilant in contacting the school via note or phone call to explain any absences.

Each term, the NSW Department of Education and Training Home School Liaison Officer visits the school to inspect our attendance records and will follow-up on significant patterns of non-attendance and also on large numbers of unexplained absences.

As a school, our key message is that “IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY.”

Of course there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances which result in absences from school but these should be a rarity rather than the norm. We would ask that all parents/carers support their children in regular attendance at school.
WELCOME BBQ
This week you received a special invitation from your children (as well as an invitation from me) to attend our ‘Welcome BBQ’ on Tuesday. It would be wonderful to see as many families as possible, both old and new, come along. The BBQ is provided by the P & C and is a great way to catch up with old friends as well as meet new ones. Please return the RSVP slip on the note so that we can organise the catering.

Food Allergies
Some children attending Sandon PS have food allergies and intolerances. In particular, a few students have severe allergies to peanuts and tree nuts... (For example almonds/walnuts). For this reason students are prohibited from SHARING FOOD with friends and we ask that parents / carers reinforce this with their children.

We also ask that food containing peanuts and nut products not be sent to school in your child’s lunchboxes to assist in avoiding /preventing what can be life-threatening anaphylactic reactions for those children affected.

If your child does suffer from allergies of any kind, please ensure that the school is made aware of this.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Parents / carers will have received the packages regarding our annual school photos. These will be taken NEXT WEEK on Wednesday 11th February.

Sandon students always look superb in their uniform each day but we would remind parents / carers to please send their children to school in full school uniform so that classes look really smart for their photo. Thank you for your assistance with this.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Thankyou to all who were able to attend (and assist with time-keeping) at our annual Swimming Carnival on Wednesday.

As well, sincere thanks to Mrs Frizell and the teaching staff who both assisted in the organisation and attended the carnival. We can only hold this event at twilight due to the goodwill of the staff.

Finally, congratulations to all students who participated in the carnival events. I am very proud of you. Special congratulations to the age champions who are listed below:
Junior Girl – Paige
Junior Boy – Caleb
11 Years Girl – Emily
11 Years Boy – Taju
Senior Girl – Bridget
Senior Boy – Braith

COMING EVENTS
WEEK 3
Monday 9th February
STUDENT LEADER BADGE PRESENTATION 2:00pm
Monday 9th February
2:30pm Canteen Meeting
Monday 9th February
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 6:00pm
Tuesday 10th February
Welcome BBQ
Wednesday 12th February
SCHOOL PHOTOS
Thursday/Friday 12th/13th
Year 6 Leadership Camp – Thalgarrah
Friday 13th February
Year K – 2 SCHOOL ASSEMBLY 2:30PM
Live Life Well – Water!!!!!
Tap water makes the best drink!
Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer:
- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

Library Helpers Needed!!!!
The library has a large number of readers that must be covered before they can go to the classrooms. If you are able to help with contacting some readers, please talk to Mrs Strijland. Thankyou

Books
If you have found any home readers or library books over the holidays please return them to the office as soon as possible. Thankyou

Sandon Chess Club
If you are interested in playing chess at school or representing Sandon at chess competitions, please see Mr McLean in the 1T classroom.

Shine Awards
Purple
Taju
Green
Wade
2/3D
Juri
3/4L
Lacie
Paige
Johnathon
Vinnie
Bethan
Alex
Angus
3/4P
Isaac
Caleb
Laine
Dan
Kara
5/6H
Crystal
Kiralee
Neisha
Jessica
Braith
Emily
Tashae
5/6R
Waleed
Aliyah
Mia
Cooper
Ashley
Hannah
Isabella

Live Life Well – Water!!!!!!
Tap water makes the best drink!
Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer:
- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

Library Helpers Needed!!!!
The library has a large number of readers that must be covered before they can go to the classrooms. If you are able to help with contacting some readers, please talk to Mrs Strijland. Thankyou

Books
If you have found any home readers or library books over the holidays please return them to the office as soon as possible. Thankyou

Sandon Chess Club
If you are interested in playing chess at school or representing Sandon at chess competitions, please see Mr McLean in the 1T classroom.

Shine Awards
Purple
Taju
Green
Wade
2/3D
Juri
3/4L
Lacie
Paige
Johnathon
Vinnie
Bethan
Alex
Angus
3/4P
Isaac
Caleb
Laine
Dan
Kara
5/6H
Crystal
Kiralee
Neisha
Jessica
Braith
Emily
Tashae
5/6R
Waleed
Aliyah
Mia
Cooper
Ashley
Hannah
Isabella

Live Life Well – Water!!!!!!
Tap water makes the best drink!
Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer:
- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

Library Helpers Needed!!!!
The library has a large number of readers that must be covered before they can go to the classrooms. If you are able to help with contacting some readers, please talk to Mrs Strijland. Thankyou

Books
If you have found any home readers or library books over the holidays please return them to the office as soon as possible. Thankyou

Sandon Chess Club
If you are interested in playing chess at school or representing Sandon at chess competitions, please see Mr McLean in the 1T classroom.

Shine Awards
Purple
Taju
Green
Wade
2/3D
Juri
3/4L
Lacie
Paige
Johnathon
Vinnie
Bethan
Alex
Angus
3/4P
Isaac
Caleb
Laine
Dan
Kara
5/6H
Crystal
Kiralee
Neisha
Jessica
Braith
Emily
Tashae
5/6R
Waleed
Aliyah
Mia
Cooper
Ashley
Hannah
Isabella
Armidale Junior Rugby League Club is holding registration days Friday 6th February and Tuesday 10th February 4.30-5.30pm at Rugby League Park. Registration fees are $100 for the first child playing and $90 for other children in the same family. Fees are to be paid on Registration. Registrations can be completed online and to access the link people are asked to email adjrl@outlook.com

For enquiries please call Shane Kingdom on 0431482966.

SCHOOL BANKING NOTICE
A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be at Sandon on the 24th February from 2:30-3:30 to open new accounts for any students who would like to become involved in school banking. Parents just need to bring some ID for themselves (e.g. Driver’s licence) and, if possible, a Birth Certificate for your child (not absolutely necessary, it will just make it quicker). The process should only take a few minutes. Once your child has a deposit book, they can bring it in to their classroom on a Thursday morning and it will be collected, processed and then returned to them. If you have any other questions about banking or opening an account, please contact the School Office.

Pam Dawson
School Banking Coordinator

United Hockey Club Trial Day
United Hockey Club would like to invite any students who wish to play hockey this year to come to our trial day on Wednesday 11th Feb from 4pm - 4.30pm at the Hockey Complex UNE. Registration day will be held at Curtis Park on 15th Feb from 12pm - 2pm. If you require further information please contact Emily Hammond on 0401359668 or email unitedhockey@live.com.au

Armidale Minibasketball
Armidale Minibasketball will begin the new year on Monday 9th February from 4pm at “The Den”. Come along and try it out for a week to see if you like it.

School Uniform Order
We will be placing the first uniform order for Term 1 on Tuesday 17th February.
If you have any requirements please collect an order form from the Office or the Clothing Pool and return it to the office with a deposit of 50% by Tuesday afternoon the 17th February. Please bring correct money.

Clothing Pool Co-ordinators
Robyn Johnson & Sarah Hillier

TWILIGHT SOCCER STARTS 17TH FEBRUARY AT SPORTUNE.