Dear parents, carers and friends of our school,

I write this as a break from reading and signing nearly 350 end-of-year school reports.

Hopefully I will have that job done in time to get reports out at the end of next week but in the meantime I am enjoying the opportunity to review the progress of our students this year.

As you know our reports give you feedback of our observation of your child’s performance across academic and social domains and offers our insights into how your child is developing generally. You know that seeing SOUND on your child’s report means that your child HAS ACHIEVED THE SYLLABUS OUTCOMES at the level expected of them. SOUND is not average, it is the achievement of the standard.

I am pleased to report that the vast majority of our students do achieve SOUNDLY. Some achieve at a BASIC standard, some achieve a HIGH standard. A few students only achieve a LIMITED standard but that might be the best they can do. Only a few students achieve at an OUTSTANDING standard, beyond expectations for their stage and it might not be the best that they can do!

A high achieving student might still not be making the most of their abilities and opportunities while a low achieving student might be giving it their best. That’s where EFFORT comes into the equation.

I know I was always more interested in seeing my son and daughter’s EFFORT grades than their ACHIEVEMENT grades.

I also know that I loved to try and decode the teacher’s comments too! Sometimes their comments were obvious. At other times I detected codes for “he’s lazy” (could do better/not achieving to the level of his ability), “he’s a pest” (always seeks attention), “he’s hard work” (he constantly needs reminding and correcting). And that was just me in Year 4 and Year 5 and…hang on! Is that my wife talking??

I know that our Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students can’t wait to show off their learning in the upcoming musical next week. They are probably nearly as excited as Year 6 who will have their big high school orientation today and their graduation assembly and dinner dance this Thursday! It’s a pretty special time for them all!

Regards

Ray Rincheval
Principal
**SPECIAL AWARDS**

**EMERALD**  Addersen Bartley, Lucca Needham Coleman, Madelyn East, Ella Dudgeon, Jazarra Moore

**RUBY**  Tony Mezher, Carlee Gillard, Brayden Flannery,

**SAPPHIRE**  Mya Lebrocq, Taeyah Hampson, Kelsy Ettles, Tanhai Briggs, Adam Klazem, Arabella MacDonald

**JADE**  Rhys Swain, Sasha Smith, Elijah Vickery, Beau Dean, Diem Mason Woods

**TOPAZ**  Sam Hart, Max Kinsela

**OPAL**  Lamayha Hart

**DIAMOND**  Quinton Threadgate, Latiesha Romans, Nic Casey

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**Did You Know?**
We now have two volunteers trained to run Primary Ethics and an alternative to Christian SRE. It is likely that from 2015 we will be able to run one or two of these classes during Scripture time on Wednesdays. Of course, the Christian SRE (Scripture) will still run for the majority of students whose parents have not withdrawn them from these lessons. Priority for Primary Ethics will go to students whose families have already expressed interest.

**Did You Know?**
You can pay your school fees (resource pack and voluntary contribution) online. Go to our school’s webpage and look for the Make a Payment tab.

- $70 for one child (including Resource Pack)
- $120 for two children (including Resource Packs)
- $160 for three or more children (including Resources Packs)

**Did You Know?**
End of Year reports will be distributed next week (Friday 12th Dec).

**Did You Know?**
Parent-Teacher interviews for 2015 can be scheduled for any time in the first half of the year – by mutual arrangement with your child’s teacher(s). Some parents love to have a parent-teacher interview earlier rather than later to set the scene and discuss any issues.

**Did You Know?**
We have a Meet the Teachers opportunity at the beginning of each school year. These are not parent-teacher interviews but social gatherings to get to know each other.

**What's New or Different for 2015?**
- Sun Shelter over the glaring concrete on our top quadrangle
- Improved provision for students with dyslexia (entrenched reading difficulties)
- Improved provision for teacher professional learning through collaboration, coaching and mentoring
- Introduction of Primary Ethics alternative to Christian SRE
- Move to electronic newsletters rather than paper-based newsletters
- More parent-information sessions around new syllabuses
- More spending money from the government that will improve our ability to cater for different types of learners in our school - expect some innovation in how we deliver learning opportunities for our boys and girls
- A new class teacher, Donna Williams, on Year 3 from the beginning of the year and a new teacher to be selected Term 1 and begin in Term 2.

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**The highly entertaining Infant’s Musical Performance “The Penguins’ Christmas Journey” will take place on:-**

- Tuesday 9th December at 12.00 noon
- Tuesday 9th December at 6.30pm
- Wednesday 10th December at 6.30pm

Every student in Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 are involved in this production and are expected to attend all performances.

Ticket prices for all performances are adults $5.00 and children $3.00 (pre-schoolers to high school) and are available from the office between 8.30 to 2.45 each day. We cannot accept POP payments for this event, cash and cheques only please.

We urge you to purchase your tickets early as they WILL SELL OUT and we won’t be selling any at the door nor are we permitted to have people standing in the hall, it is a strictly seating venue only. So, please don’t leave it to the last minute as we hate disappointing people.

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**Jane Crooks**

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**Canteen Voucher Winners—congratulations to the following successful students.**

- 1st Prize  Erin Buckler Steel
- 2nd Prize  Sasha Smith
- 3rd Prize  Beau Patterson

Congratulations to our three lucky winners.

Stock is being run down in our lead up to Christmas, please be understanding if we sell out of some items.

Thanks to all our volunteers who’ve helped throughout the past year.

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**Jody Phillis—Canteen Supervisor**