Next week we have the **Home School Liaison Officer** visiting our school to identify attendance issues.

Our school’s attendance rate matches the state average of about **94% attendance** – so that’s pretty pleasing. However, on more careful review it is clear that we could be even better if FRIDAY was not overrepresented as a day with lots of absences. For example, over the last two weeks it appears that **1/3 of total absences occurred on a Friday**. All things being equal, Friday absences should only account for 1/5 of total absences. I know that a five day working week is hard for some but we pace the curriculum and our class timetables to take this into account. So please be careful about allowing your child to take a “sickie” especially if there is a Monday or Friday “long weekend habit” developing.

A few new families have joined our school community recently. As they approach me to enrol their child(ren), I will always ask what they know about our school. Invariably, they say that they have heard that our school is “pretty good”, “It has a good reputation”. Some parents ask about our “standard of education” and focus on academic performance, other parents are more interested in the social and emotional aspects of our curriculum, other parents are keen to know about our sporting program, or the Arts (drama, art, music). Some parents don’t ask any questions. Maybe that’s because they trust us implicitly, or they don’t know what to ask, or they are frightened to ask.

If you have questions about our school, just ask! If you don’t want to ask me or a teacher, ask other parents, or, **ASK OUR WEBSITE.**

Our school website is a mine of information about our school. If you take the time to explore our website, you will get answers to most of your questions. Our website has a fantastic GALLERY of photos showing aspects of the life of our school. It also has copies of Annual School Reports, our School Plan, Class Pages, copies of permission notes, links to online learning, policies and more recently includes a facility to make online payments for things like fees, excursions, sport, etc.

I always try to impress our new families with the message that our **school delivers a rich and broad education** and that our **scorecard is pretty balanced.**

**What do you think?**

Thanks for those voluntary contributions and payments for Resource Packs. If you haven’t paid your school fees, remember they are due now.

If for some reason you can’t pay or you are in financial difficulty, contact me to respectfully work something out.

Resource Packs will be made available to your child as soon as a payment is made in full, or in part.

Payments for Resource Packs should take preference over payments for Excursions.

Regards

Ray Rincheval, Proud Principal

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

KE Sienna Rothacker
KG Taj Waters
1B Cruz Versfeld
1C Lila Farley
2E Tanhai Briggs
2M Harley Hayes
Star Solver Billy Franz
3A Abby Stokes
3C Ellyce Smith
4C Luke Bell
4H Gemma Ettles
5M Makhani Briggs
5/6R Riley Saban
6M Amelie Louis

**Our very best wishes to Sam Hodgson who will be representing the school tomorrow at the Regional Swimming Carnival.**

Reminder that **FRIDAY 14TH MARCH** is the final day to place an order for a **YEAR 6 T-SHIRT**. All money needs to be at the office by 9.30am.

**WE CANNOT PLACE ADDITIONAL ORDERS.**

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

15th March  P&C Trivia Night
24th March  P&C Meeting
6th April   School Garden Working Bee
9th May     School Fete

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**NEWSLETTER 11TH MARCH, 2014**

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**SANDY BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOL**

19 Saye Close, Sandy Beach NSW 2456
Phone 02 66 561 777  Fax 02 66 561 624
Email: sandybeach-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.sandybeach-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Ray Rincheval
A big thank you to all my wonderful volunteers for coming in and taking the load while I was ill for two days last week.

Big thanks must go to the Monday ladies, Cathy and Diane and our Tuesday ladies Janet and Mel, if it wasn't for you guys we might have had to close down so my appreciation is heartfelt.

Looking for budding artists for our “Lunch Bag Art Show”. All artwork must be done on a lunch bag, their will be a daily prize for the most creative bag. The bags will be displayed at the Art Show at the Fete. Please make sure you put your child's name and class on the bag.

At the fete there will be several prizes then awarded. Looking forward to seeing some fantastic art.

Jody Phillis
Canteen Supervisor

School Fees are now overdue

School fees 2014: $80 for one; $150 for 2; $185 for 3 or more with a voluntary component in each case. $50 per student is a Subject Contribution for a Resource Pack that used to be called “Book Pack” but now applies to more than books, e.g. stationery, e-textbooks, iPad apps, subscriptions and ABC Reading Eggs.

1 X child = $80 broken up as $30 voluntary component and $50 subject contribution (Resource Pack)

2 X children = $150 = a $50 voluntary component and 2X $50 ($100) subject contributions (Resource Pack)

3 X children = $185 broken = a $35 voluntary component and 3X $50 ($150) subject contributions (Resource Pack)

Payment of fees can be over the counter in cash or cheque OR you can now pay securely online via our website following the ‘$ Make a Payment’ button at the top of the homepage next to “Contact Us”.

Snack Shack News

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