Parents, caregivers and friends of the school, 
As some may be aware, our school Administration Block was broken into on Tuesday night last week and, whilst the Police are doing their best to catch these weak and heartless people, once again it is the students and staff of our wonderful school that suffer! The theft of school property greatly affects the operation of our site and in the time that it takes to replace equipment, students miss out! So in an attempt to find perspective after such a sad event, I thought I’d share an email that the school received from a retired couple travelling around Australia. It warmed my heart and reinforced what I already know….. That Sandy Beach Kids and Sandy Beach Public school is amazing!

Sam Murgatroyd, Relieving Principal

Hello there,

This is a long overdue letter to highly commend you on your students who visited The Mint in Canberra last September.
We have observed many school students at various sites of interest and very few have displayed behaviour that has been even pleasant, let alone good. These sites are shared by others, including adults, who want a good experience so, positive and courteous interaction should be the norm to appreciate what we are all there for.

Our visit to The Mint had been marred by particularly badly behaved students who did not listen to the guide, “showed off” and were very loud and disruptive - all completely ignoring other people there to enjoy the exhibits. We saw many adults disappearing and avoiding these groups.

We ended up doing the same and went to watch a movie about The Mint and came out when we could hear less noise. As we came into the large exhibit room we noticed a group of your students so, at first sight, decided to retreat! Then we realised that we were looking at something very different.

All the children of your school were sitting or standing in a considerate way and not disrupting each other. The next impression was that each one was listening intently to the guide and then we observed that they politely held up their hands to ask questions. Some of them had to do that for quite a while but they patiently and persistently waited for their turn or when the guide decided to acknowledge them.

Their questions were outstanding, intelligent, insightful and well thought out. Their questions showed that they were not just listening but also thinking about what they were hearing. The other students were responding well to their class mate’s questions and were supportive and there was no hint of one upmanship or belittling because one of their peers had the courage to ask questions. In fact, it encouraged more of them to participate.

We lost interest in the exhibits for a time as we were so taken with observing this class of children who were a credit to themselves, their families and, of course, their school. It was a delight and impressed us greatly.

We did go to one of the adults who turned out to be a teacher and asked which school their children had been to. They were a credit to themselves, their families and, of course, their school.

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NEWS FROM THE SNACK SHACK

ATTENTION: Friday 11th December—SAUSAGE SIZZLE, CAKE STALL AND RED DAY

Canteen will be running a Sausage Sizzle on Friday 11th December after the Presentation Day Assembly. Your child may pre-order on the morning or just buy one at lunch. We will also have a cake stall with a range of cakes, slices and muffins available and a RED DAY at the same time with lots of chocolates for sale. Please support our canteen and P&C.

Sausage Sizzle $2.00
Cake Stall
with Muffins, slices and cakes for you to take home $2.50—$6.00

Thanks again to all our volunteers: Pete, Janet, Celia and Cheryl. Thanks also to Fran for jumping in when we are busy. Special thanks to our Treasurer, Katrina.

Happy Holidays to all our families, have a great break.

Jody Phillis
Canteen Supervisor

Intensive Swimming

Many thanks to the parents of Intensive Swimmers Yrs 2-5 who ensured their children were organised every day for swimming. The students have come on in leaps and bounds with their confidence in water, swimming stroke and water safety. A huge thanks to our attending teachers Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Eggleston and SLSO Cassie Cowling.

Mrs Jessie Patterson—School Intensive Swimming Coordinator

If children will be leaving our school at the end of the school year could you kindly contact the office with the relevant details. Many thanks in anticipation of your co-operation.