Dear parents, family and friends of our school,

All children will lie. Sometime. Most adults will lie. Sometime.

It’s adults who teach children to lie, through what we do before, during and after the lies are told or by modelling.

When people lie they tend to do so to protect themselves, or somebody else, from the consequences of the truth.

Remember, when your child tells you their version of events, they will tell you their version of the truth. Rarely is it the whole truth and often they will add anything but the truth. They will leave out stuff and they will add in stuff to put you off the scent of the real truth. And blaming others is the most common strategy, after straight out denial. “I didn’t do it”

In my experience the real truth usually lies somewhere between one child’s truth and the other child’s truth. A child’s version of the truth will often align with what they think the listening adult wants to hear, or might believe.

Kids can often wield considerable power over adults. They use different but often effective techniques to get parents to do, or not do, exactly what they want them to. Children quickly learn to manipulate adults - especially at the times when you are at your busiest or your point of weakest resistance. Advertisers know that. So do kids. You know it.

Remember, as we approach the colder months, a common complaints about school emerge, like this example….

“I don’t wanna go to school today” [usually tearfully and sadly composed from underneath the bedclothes]

“You’ve got to get up and go to school!” “Now!”

“I’ve got a pain in the tummy”, “I’ve got a headache” [Cracked voice] You’re OK. There’s nothing wrong with you. C’mon.

“I don’t want to… they’re mean” [whimpers]

Who? What do you mean, mean?

“The teachers are mean” “They don’t like me”

Really?

“I’ve got no friends” [changing strategy]

“C’mon, get up”

“Nooo!” [followed by tears]

“You’ve got to get up and go to school, NOW!, … You have to go. For goodness sake, you are the principal!”

Truly, winter isn’t always an easy time to get your kids out of a warm bed and off to school. It’s a classic time for excuses, manipulation and if necessary, lies.

But as the author George Eliot said, “Character is destiny” and so we face reality, we face the challenges of a new day, and we make the most of it. And we’re usually stronger for it.

If we have a bad day, we suck it up, learn from it and build our character.

If we have a bad day, think about Nepal, Think of the Ebola and HIV ravaged African communities, or think about the those kids in Sydney Children’s Hospital and their families.

If it’s a good day, be grateful and congratulate yourself for jumping on board the ride of the day!

Help your children to be strong and resilient. Let them know that facing the truth and facing challenges is an essential part of having a good life.

That’s why our school vision states that our school is a place where we all learn…. to understand…. to accept challenges … to be the best that we can be”.

Cheers!

Ray Rincheval, Proud Principal
Did You Know?
Our School Plan 2015-2017 and our Annual School Report 2014 are both posted on our school website.

Did You Know?
Our Junior Choir competed in the Coffs Harbour Eisteddfod yesterday. They were Highly Commended and the girls and boys felt very special in representing our school. We are all very proud!

Did You Know?
Our school is 30 years old this year. We want (some nice) stories from ex-students and staff about their experience of Sandy Beach Public School over the last 30 years. Ex-student and now Kinder teacher at our school, Ashley Esposito, is keen to hear from you with stories or photos.

Did You Know?
Next week is Reconciliation Week. Our Years 3-6 students will be involved in a local walking excursion to Sandy Beach on Monday. We will leave at 11.45 and expect to be at the beach for a picnic and games by 12.15pm and should be back at school just after our regular lunchtime. (Subject to weather). Our Aboriginal families most welcome.

Did You Know?
To save time and money and to make copies readily available, from next term we intend to only distribute our Newsletter electronically on the school website and the school’s official Facebook page. Hard copies will only be made available to families that specifically request one. Let us know what you think?

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EMERALD BEACH COMMUNITY FAIR SUNDAY MAY 31 — 9.00 till 3.00

9.30 Kids Decorated Bikes – everyone gets a prize - meet at the boat ramp for the parade
11.00 Fling the Golden Thong – primary / high school / adult male and female divisions
12.30 Pooch Parade – best dressed dog / cutest dog / dog and owner lookalike
1.30 Kite Flying on the beach - buy a $5 kite at school from Mr Guihot - or buy one / bring yours on the day
2.00 Sand Modelling comp – primary / high school / family groups

A GREAT DAY FOR ALL THE FAMILY !!!
visit: emeraldbeachfair.info

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Reminders

Our Book Character Parade is on tomorrow … PARKING will be available in the area below the Years 5/6 building. Please enter and leave the school safely and ensure that any little children are holding on to your hands in the busy area.

Apart from the Book Character Parade, tomorrow is a normal day. After the parade we will have lunchtime and then the school will be back in class for the afternoon. Parents should not take children home early after the parade.

Tomorrow the Nepal Earthquake Victims Raffle will be drawn. Please make sure that all sold and unsold tickets are returned tomorrow morning. Be in the running to win one of the fabulous prizes and help the people in Nepal. Thank you for your support.

Call 66594150 or go to CoffsHarbour@interrelate.org.au for more information.