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Monday 22nd April Teddy Bears Hospital Visit

On Monday, the Monash University Medical students visited our school to check the health of our “Preps and visiting Kallay Kinder children’s Teddy Bears.” Our Prep teacher, Fairlie Halligan, organised this sensational learning experience for our wonderful preps and she invited the local Kallay Kindergarten children to bring their teddy bears for a medical checkup.

Unfortunately, due to the rain, the kinder children were unable to attend. There were some lucky Year 1 students (that missed out last year) who really enjoyed the day.

What a delightful time they had using the stethoscopes, putting plaster on their fingers, using gloves and covering their mouths with masks to operate on “big ted” taking out his heart, lungs, intestines and kidney etc.

The photos to the right and on the following page tell the story!
Entertainment Booklet

Please understand this is a fantastic booklet that I have used for many years and it saves so much money on restaurants, theatres, holidays and fast food outlets. It is a terrific fundraiser for the school. If you would like to know more please see me. An example of this is in the office for you to view. We have our own individual secure online payment page. The benefit of this page is that you can easily log onto your page and pay securely online. You then receive a confirmation email to let you know who has purchased through you and you can collect the books from the office.

NAPLAN News

The Federal Government’s NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) will be held in the week commencing Tuesday, May 15th.

I take this opportunity to stress that NAPLAN is just one part of our assessment regime, and that individual student and cohort results will very much be viewed in the broader assessment context.

In the weeks leading up to NAPLAN, our Grades 3 and 5 teachers are exposing the students to the format, language, the response types and the time constraints of the test before they sit it. With this in mind, we have planned to take the students through some practise tests in order to familiarise them with the format.

I would stress that these activities are not in any way, shape or form administered to pre-empt content. I am in fact professionally proud that our results are very much reflective of our students’ abilities and achievements; not any attempt to ‘teach to the test’.

The individual results are confidential and will be given to families in late September, with Clayton South Primary strictly adhering to the guidelines provided by the ACARA (Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority).
**NAPLAN News continued**

As all Grade 3 and 5 teachers will be making students familiar with the test, there is no need for any further parent driven practise at home. Please note that NAPLAN *style* tasks are included in Grades 3 and 5 homework in the weeks leading up to the testing, to reinforce the response types and timing of the test.

Parents are, of course, encouraged to support their children with these tasks, but it is extremely important that students are not burdened with any increased pressure that might inadvertently evolve from unrealistic expectations. NAPLAN results must be kept in perspective, they are just one part of our broader assessment regime; and cannot and must not be viewed as life changing data upon which a child’s academic progress will be forever judged.

If you want your child to be exempt or withdrawn from the NAPLAN you must inform Lynne Foster of your intentions. You are asked to fill in the exemption form and the form must be signed by me, as the principal, too.

**Signage**

You may have noticed that new signs have been placed on some doors in the school. These signs indicate that Clayton South Primary School, in association with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) and WorkSafe, has installed these labels to comply with recent Government legislation. In addition, there are labels on some eaves, splashbacks and access points to sub floor areas that remind contractors to contact the Facilities Manager, Lynne Dickins, before proceeding with any work.

This initiative will ensure that there is a higher level of awareness by contractors doing maintenance in our school. The labelling system also ensures that an additional layer of care is provided for students, staff, visitors and contractors.

The school already has a robust asbestos management plan to ensure that before any building related work commences on site, there is a contractor induction and that the appropriate processes are implemented to ensure the safe removal of asbestos material.

A recent asbestos audit was carried out on this site and all asbestos containing material that was identified *is considered to be safe* in its present condition. Please be aware that a health risk may only exist when safety precautions are not observed. In addition, as part of the asbestos management plan, visual checks are conducted on a 3 monthly basis. Any damage or disturbance is noted and acted upon immediately.

The purpose of this message is to avoid any perception that, with the appearance of the labelling, there has been an increase in the risk. It should be emphasised that the asbestos labelling, in conjunction with the current management procedures, is designed to reduce the risk associated with managing asbestos containing materials.

While the school’s asbestos management system has been operational for some years, the Department’s Occupational Health & Safety Management System has implemented systems to enhance the overall health and safety of all school communities. Regular inspections are undertaken in relation to safety and asbestos matters and records are kept. These are made available to WorkSafe on request. In addition, the Department’s OH&S advisors visit the school on a regular basis.

The school of course would prefer that all asbestos be removed from the school and will work with the Department towards this objective. Should you have any concerns on this matter, I will be available to discuss this further with you. Thank you, Lynne Dickins
I want to inform our Clayton South Primary School Community of the School Maintenance Condition Assessment of government schools in Victoria. Two years ago, in 2011, the Victorian Government announced a state-wide condition assessment of all Victorian Government schools.

This is a snapshot of the general condition of all schools across the state. A Victorian Government appointed Strategic Asset Management Company, McDuling Young Pty Ltd, conducted the assessment.

The assessment consisted of a walk through visual assessment of the external and internal building fabric, fixed fittings, plant and equipment. The score was calculated out of a possible 5. We did not have any area that was rated excellent. Refer to the table below to see how our school fared in the assessment. Please note that the condition threshold is the standard that the Victorian Government would like all Government schools to meet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infrastructure Item</th>
<th>Our School</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core buildings (classrooms, toilets, libraries, etc)</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-core buildings</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Infrastructure</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What does this table mean?

Therefore 46% of the school is good, 17% is fair, 17% is worn and 20% is poor. This is lower than all Victorian Government Primary Schools at 12% excellent, 57% good, 21% fair, 6% worn and 4% poor.

What will happen now?

- The Victorian Government has announced an initial program of funding valued at $51.5 million to improve the condition of Victorian Government Primary Schools.
- A schedule of schools included in the program will be available from 22 April.
- Schools will be advised by letter if they have any buildings prioritised in the $51.5 million program.
- We have $55,113 allocated to improve the Art Craft Building this year.
- Our school has a core building that needs more than $200,000 refurbishment so we will be classed in the capital expenditure future year’s program.
- During May and June in this term, I will be attending workshops to respond to the Condition Assessment Reports. Schools receiving additional capital or maintenance funding will be supported to develop a maintenance action plan, using the Condition Assessment Report’s findings.
Congratulations to our Girl’s Basketball Team who made it through to the District Finals at the end of last term, after losing only one match during the season.

This was an excellent achievement, as none of our girls have played basketball before and, although they lost to Silverton Primary School 24 – 4, I was proud of the way they kept trying their best right up until the end of the game.

Thanks to Mrs Monk for refereeing on the day. Thanks also to the Boy’s team, who trained with the girls and taught them to be competitive.

Team members were: Kristiana and Shinta (co-captains during the season), Ellie (captain for the semi-final), Chelsea, Anna, Daphne, Shanice and Raquel.

Well done girls!

Heather Douglass

Interschool Sport Coordinator
Footy

Go Cats! What a great start to the season with 4 out of 4 wins! I was thrilled to know that Melbourne won last weekend at the "G." For all those Collingwood and Essendon supporters I hope you enjoy a fantastic match on ANZAC day. Enjoy and see you on Friday 26th April.

Keep smiling

Lynne Dickins
Principal

May
1 Nicholas
1 James R