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Literacy - The Sandgate Way

A message from the Principal...



Literacy is the key to students being able to learn and maximise their life chances. At Sandgate we believe that literacy is the concern of every teacher, every subject, every student and that literacy skills should be core to every lesson.

All teachers are expected to teach curriculum literacies including: genre, context, purpose, role, audience, mode, medium and vocabulary focus. If you have students in the junior school, you will have noticed that the assessment task sheet template is common across all subjects. Consistent literacy

practices across the curriculum help reinforce literacy no matter what subjects students are studying.

Next year, Year 7 teachers will have a particular focus on developing student literacy. Currently, a number of strategies are being put in place to teach reading. Students deemed to be struggling with key aspects of literacy after testing will receive targeted support. For example, if a student is struggling with sounding out letters or groups of letters (i.e. they cannot decode), this will be the focus of the intervention. The intervention could be delivered by a learning support teacher or by teacher aides working one-on-one with the student for 3 x20 mins per week.

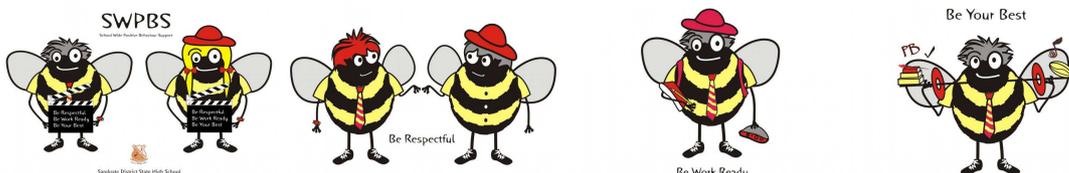
Four approaches will be utilised in the teaching of reading:

- QAR (Question Answer Relationship): This strategy divides questions about texts into two broad categories: "In the Book"- text explicit questions; and "In My Head" - text implicit questions.
- Reading to Learn: This is a guided process-approach to reading, followed by joint and individual practice of writing based on the subject matter, text structures and language features of the core text.
- Reciprocal Reading: This collaborative strategy involves a dialogue between teacher and students regarding segments of the text. The dialogue is structured around the use of four strategies: summarising, question generating, clarifying and predicting.
- The 12 Reading and Comprehension Strategies: Finding the main idea, recalling facts and details, understanding sequence, recognising cause and effect, comparing and contrasting, making predictions, finding word meaning in context, drawing conclusions and making inferences, distinguishing between fact and opinion, identifying an author's purpose, interpreting figurative language and summarising.

At home you can assist your student to develop their literacy skills by getting them to read every day, asking questions about what they read and encouraging them to tackle harder texts as they progress. Interestingly, there is some research coming out which suggests if people read things in hard copy, they are better able to elicit meaning and retain what they have read.

This is my last principal's report before I start long service leave on 17 September. I return to work on 27 October. Mr Jim O'Neil (DP Studies) will act as principal in my absence.

Mrs Jeanette Gentle PRINCIPAL



**P&C MEETINGS | THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
6.30PM | STAFF COMMON ROOM | ALL WELCOME
NEXT MEETING **WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2014****

What's On

8 September - 10 October 2014



SEMESTER 2	2014	TERM 3
Week 10		
Mon 15-Fri 19 Sep	Math Camp	
Wed 17 Sep	P & C Meeting 6.30pm	

Thurs 18 Sep	Academy of Sport Dinner Kedron Wavell RSL 6pm - 10pm
Fri 19 Sep	Yr 12 Hospitality Palazzo Versace
22 Sep - 3 Oct	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Monday 6 Oct	Labour Day Public Holiday
SEMESTER 2	TERM 4
Tues 7 Oct	School resumes

[CLICK HERE](#) TO VIEW OUR CAFE IBIS MENU

[CLICK HERE](#) TO VIEW OUR UNIFORM PRICE LIST

P&C News

Making a move and joining the Sandgate P&C

At the start of term this year I put my hand up to become President of the Sandgate District High School Parents and Citizens committee. New to the area, I thought here is a chance – new school, new area, new community – I wanted to contribute to making a difference. The executive committee was in need of members and I put my hand up for the role of President – I think they call that jumping in with both feet! Since this “leap of faith”, each meeting I learn something new about the school and community at large, so I thought I would share what we have been focusing on in 2014 to date.

SDSHS P&C 2014 - What are we doing?

Membership: The immediate focus is building our members base. Being part of the wonderful district which is so community minded is vital to the operations of the P&C, as we seek to revitalise the district's schools and civic spaces as arenas for open discussion and community input. We meet the third Wednesday of every month from 6.30-7.30pm at the school library.

Community Promotions: There are many events which happen in the Sandgate region, including Einbunpin festivals, Open Days, ANZAC days etc. The P&C are committed to promoting a positive image of the school at these events, as a place of inclusion, multi-faceted learning and excellence.

Building a Better School: Did you know that we have a building fund? Past projects include the completion of the Depot Road School Entry redevelopment Welcome Wall, which visually communicates our school values. A centrepiece for discussion is the creation of a new creative arts block. The current music, arts and performance blocks are at the end of their lifetime and we are committed to representing these strong curriculum focus areas with the creation of new state of the art facilities.

If you would like to contribute, please come along to our monthly meeting, or alternatively join our mailing list for regular updates! Contact us on pandc@sanddistshs.eq.edu.au to register your interest.

Justyne Wilson | P&C President

QCS TEST

Congratulations to the 89 year 12 students who sat the Queensland Core Skill (QCS) test last Tuesday and Wednesday. The students enjoyed a sumptuous and healthy breakfast courtesy of Mandy Tempus (the school nurse) and a band of moonlighting kitchen hands whose day job is to educate them. A huge thank you to Mandy and all who helped out! The students arrived at the first session eager to begin and are to be congratulated on their exemplary behaviour and attitude over the two days. Well done! We look forward to learning your results.

Judi Robinson | HOD Senior Schooling | QCS Chief Supervisor





'Excellence for Effort' morning tea

Congratulations to all of our students who achieved "Excellence for Effort" in every subject on their Semester 1 Reports. A formal presentation and morning tea was held on Monday 1st September to recognise their efforts and was enjoyed by the students and their families.





Year 7 and Year 8 2015 Students

Athlete Development Program Testing Day

Sandgate District State High School Athlete Development Program 2014 Testing Day



If you are interested in being enrolled into the School Athletes Development Program, you are required to attend the compulsory Athlete Development Testing Day. The day will consist of a range of *Athlete Physical Fitness* tests that will determine your suitability for the program and guidance on any issues that may be of a concern.

In accordance with our School's mission statement and core values, there are several requirements in the entry process that need to be met by applicant to be admitted into the Athletes Development Program.

The minimum requirements for the Athletes Development Program are;

- You must be registered with a sporting club in your chosen sport
- Demonstrated ability to follow the behavioural expectations of the school
- Demonstrate an enthusiasm and desire in being part of the program
- A desire to further advance their techniques, skills and personal fitness
- A final opportunity to submit a reference from your coach

Location:	Sandgate District State High School (Sports Hall)	
Date:	25th October, 2014	
Time:	10:00am -10:30am	Registration
	10:30am – 12:00pm	Physical Testing
Equipment:	Athletes are required to wear suitable training clothes and running shoes	

Performing Arts News

Welcome

The SDSHS Music Department would like to welcome Mr Sam Mitchell as our new instrumental (percussion) teacher.

Estelle Huxley | Music Teacher



Literacy Tip #9

Some kids hate to read. It's unfortunate, but sometimes understandable. In today's educational environment, a lot of curriculum content needs to be covered in classes in such a short space of time. This sometimes does not foster deep learning. Deep learning comes with reading, thinking about what is read, talking about the text, sharing ideas and applying new knowledge in ways to extend learning. And all of this takes time. If you find that your child has lost the passion of reading for pleasure, here are a few tips that might help at home:

- Talk about books that you have read to generate interest in books. This includes encouraging siblings to talk about books they have read too. As a parent, try to model the love of reading.
- Read aloud portions of the book and stop at a 'good' part, so your children will want to find out what happens next.
- Create a stress-free, relaxing area to read, even if this includes eating snacks.

- Find out your child's interest and let them choose books that they might like.
- Encourage your child to read anything eg magazines, internet articles, comic books – anything that will spark their interest.
- Share a wide variety of texts and genres to help your child get an idea of the wealth of material that is out there for them.

Kirsti Lines | Literacy Support Teacher

Student Environmental Leadership Network (SELN) Program

Environmental Fact #6

Approximately five (5) million tons of oil produced in the world each year ends up in the ocean.

This is not only polluting the water, but harming the animal and plant life in our oceans.



Emma Venzke | SELN Representative

School Nurse News

Why Teenagers skip breakfast and what you can do about it

As mentioned in the last newsletter, teenagers need to eat breakfast.

Reasons why teenagers often skip breakfast include:

- No time, want to spend extra time in bed
- Too tired to care
- Weight conscious
- Not liking breakfast foods in the house
- The thought of food in the morning makes them feel sick

Ways of changing these bad habits are:

- Setting the alarm 5 to 10 minutes earlier each morning and encouraging them to get out of bed
- Some teenagers find food in the morning makes them feel sick. Encourage them to eat a small portion of food and then eat a more substantial meal at morning tea. They may actually feel sick in the morning because they are not used to eating breakfast
- If possible, eat breakfast with your teenager

- Create a weekly breakfast menu – ask your teen to offer suggestions for this. This will create some sense of responsibility and ownership to the plan
- Teach them to cook and what is healthy and what is not healthy. Sometimes, teenagers actually don't know this information.

This information is from www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au and www.breakfastfirst.org

Next newsletter will include food ideas for breakfast.

Mandy Trempus | School Based Youth Health Nurse

Become a Volunteer Host Family

Become a Volunteer Host Family



Gain A Friend From Another Country!

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Imagine the look on your new brother's or sister's face as you introduce him/her to Vegemite for the first time. Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

Arriving in January:

Ilaria (17) from Italy tells us that she is incredibly fond of animals, and that if she had her own way, she would turn her house into a zoo! She enjoys drawing in her spare time, as well as travel. She believes that living so far away from home will help her broaden her mind, and she can't wait to live with a welcoming family.

Marco (17) from Italy is an animator at his local church group and enjoys playing both football and basketball with his friends. He also enjoys staying active by going to the gym for an hour or so after school. He is looking forward to sharing his Italian culture with you, and hopes you will share your culture with him here 'down-under'.

+ MANY MORE

Find out more!

Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly

Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs

Phone: 1300 884 733

Email: info@wep.org.au

Online: www.wep.org.au



Absentee Phone Line 3869 9802

Sandgate District State High School has established a phone line to report student absenteeism. Please phone **3869 9802** directly to advise the school that your child will absent.

You will be directed to a message bank, please leave a message ensuring you clearly state the students name, year level, reason for absence, dates absent and your relationship to the student.

Subscribe to our ENewsletter

We are excited to introduce you to our interactive, graphically rich, full colour, professional electronic newsletter.

To receive this service you will need a computer with internet access and email.

If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically, please use the link below to add your contact details.

http://mailouts.austnews.com.au/subscription/sandgate_district_subscribers.html

This link is also available on our School Website at www.sanddistshs.eq.edu.au

Paper copies are available for collection (each fortnight) from the student foyer, for families who do not have access to the internet.

Sandgate DSHS Online Communities

In 2012, Sandgate DSHS has launched into the 21st Century and have set up official Facebook and Twitter accounts. Regular updates from the school calendar and messages about upcoming events are fed into the social network. During the school closure in January this year, Twitter and Facebook served as a fundamental tool to keep the community up to the date with the flooding in surrounding areas. Direct links to the official Sandgate High Twitter and Facebook pages can be accessed through the school's website (<https://sanddistshs.eq.edu.au/>). Alternatively, please click on the links below to access the portals.



Community Notices

2014 Qld Schools Badminton Championships



Queensland Badminton Association Inc

2014 QUEENSLAND SCHOOLS BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Saturday 11th October 2014

BRISBANE STATE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL

ENTRIES CLOSE: Midday Wednesday 8th October 2014

Saturday 18th October 2014

**BRISBANE BOYS GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
MA HOWELL SPORTS CENTRE**

ENTRIES CLOSE: Midday Wednesday 15th October 2014

**Play is expected to commence as per the schedule and
conclude at approximately 3.45pm**

All schools – public, private or independent are welcome to participate.

Referee: Andrew Greenway

The Queensland Badminton Association is proudly supported by the Queensland Government



Click [here](#) for more information and Official Entry Form.

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