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# Sackville Street Public School

Term 1 Week 8



21 March 2019

## *From the Senior Executive*

It seems fitting that after the tragic news in Christchurch, that this week we are taking time to participate in Harmony Day and our National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Our community is culturally unique and that is what makes us so special. Our students show values of compassion, understanding and acceptance. This starts in the home and we thank our parents for instilling these values.

Our anti-bullying launch has a culmination of forums with all stakeholders in our community and has been an exciting time to talk about a subject that can cause angst. Today students will be working on strategies to help them to call out bullying when they see it and have it dealt with by adults. Information will be shared with our whole school community on effective strategies for **preventing and responding to bullying**. They will learn about being an 'up-stander'. Up-standers use strategies to stop bullying and to support the victim. We believe this to be an extremely effective way to empower victims and their friends to say "NO!"

### Parent Partnerships

A big thank you to all of the parents who participated in our Parent Partnerships session on Monday. Our informal meetings allow parents to discuss the current learning in our school and ways to improve our practices as a school community. As always there were lots of laughs, food and a real focus on being proud of our school. The topics discussed were on the effectiveness of Seesaw, our upcoming community space and roll out of school grounds improvements.

### Year 6 Learning Links

Our Year 6 students are currently attending Uniting's "Links to Learning" each Wednesday. This awesome program helps students to build growth mindsets, resilience and self-regulation in preparedness for high school.

.....From the Leadership Team

### Year 6 Learning Links- continued

The first session was yesterday, the students had such a great time with Michelle the facilitator. Through games and team work they left yesterday with a plan to write down what they are grateful for each day. We can't wait to see what else Michelle has in store.

### Representative Swimming

Last week the Regional Swimming Carnival was held. Congratulations to Alyssa Hinton for reaching the finals events at the carnival. A big thank you also to Ms DeManincor and Mrs Lynch for attending.

### Shave For a Cure

Well done to Imogen Payne for donating her hair for "Shave for a Cure". The 35cm length of hair will be used to make a wig for cancer patients. This selfless young student embodies the values we hold so dearly at our school. Imogen's hair was cut in front of the K-2 assembly. The hairdresser, Deanna, is a former student of Sackville Street which made it even more special. The total amount raised was \$1500.00

## Diary Dates

### March

- 21 Harmony Day & National Day of Action Against Bullying
- 29 Gala Day

### April

- 1 Naplan Online Practice Tests
- 3 NRL Clinic Day K-6
- 4 School Photos
- 11 Easter Hat Parade K-2 1:45pm
- 12 Last day of Term 1

### ASSEMBLY DATES:

K-2: 28 Mar, 11 Apr

Y3- Y6: 22 Mar, 4 Apr

### Shave For a Cure- Imogen Payne





## CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to recognise one of our students, Brady Cook-Williams who through hard work and commitment sees him placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Under 10's Scooter competition. That then enabled him to participate in the NSW State titles where he was placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Brady is now able to compete at the Australian National Titles which will be held this April in Brisbane. We wish Brady the best of luck.



## CHAIRS FOR SALE

SSPS have used plastic children's chairs for sale. The cost of purchasing these chairs is a gold coin donation which will then be passed on to "The Silver Coin Project". Please contact the office staff if you are interested.



## SPORT TROLLEYS

Our K-2 students love having new sport equipment to play with at lunch and recess. A big thank you to the Year 2 students who take the sport trolley's to and from the playground each day.

Mrs Bryant  
Rel. Assistant Principal



## SSPS UNIFORM

The School Uniform Shop now stock maroon and blue scrunchies. The price per scrunchie is \$2.

## PHOTO DAY

School Photo Day will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. Each student should have received their own photo payment envelope. Envelopes and payments should be brought in on the day of the photos and handed to the class teacher.

Sibling photo envelopes are available from the office.

# NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

## Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

## What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

## How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

## Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

## Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

## What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

## How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at [myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au)

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](https://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](https://nap.edu.au)

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit [nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy](https://nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy)



## Definitions of bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence

Bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence are all interpersonal behaviours that can create or contribute to negative social environments. All school communities should have clear definitions outlined in their school policies and procedures for bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence.

### Bullying

The national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include:

- mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- not liking someone or a single act of social rejection
- one-off acts of meanness or spite
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.

However, these conflicts still need to be addressed and resolved.

Likewise not all online issues are bullying. (Online bullying is sometimes referred to as cyberbullying and refers to bullying that is carried out through information and communication technologies.)

## Harassment

Harassment is behaviour that targets an individual or group due to their:

- identity, race, culture or ethnic origin
- religion
- physical characteristics
- gender
- sexual orientation
- marital, parenting or economic status
- age
- ability or disability.

It offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates a hostile environment. It may be:

- an ongoing pattern of behaviour or a single act
- directed randomly or towards the same person(s)
- intentional or unintentional.

## Discrimination

Discrimination occurs when people are treated less favourably than others because of their:

- identity, race, culture or ethnic origin
- religion
- physical characteristics
- gender
- sexual orientation
- marital, parenting or economic status
- age
- ability or disability.

## Violence

Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against another person(s) that results in psychological harm, injury or in some cases death. It may involve provoked or unprovoked acts and can be a single incident, a random act or can occur over time.

These definitions outline key characteristics and have been taken from Student Wellbeing Hub <https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/resources-and-help/Glossary?origin-host=www.safeschoolshub.edu.au#/>

At Sackville Street Public School we have the services of a speech pathologist every Wednesday. These are some activities that she has shared with us to assist your child.

### **Busy Bees SPS Top Tip: How you can help your child's language and learning?**

- As you may be aware, we all have a role to play in helping our children's language and learning skills.
- Our Teachers carefully plan and deliver lessons based on the curriculum to the whole class. They also identify student's who require further support and make referrals to relevant support staff e.g. school counsellor, speech pathologists etc.
- Speech pathologists assess, plan and deliver therapy sessions needed to support children who have difficulty speaking and using and understanding language.
- As parents, you have a very important role in ensuring your child comes to school each day ready to learn new things.
- You can support your child's learning by:
  - Having their hearing checked by an Audiologist to ensure they can hear what the teacher and their peers are saying to them
  - Having their vision checked by an Optometrist to make sure they can see the writing on the board and worksheets
  - Having regular check ups with a Paediatrician to ensure they are meeting developmental milestones such as physical growth, intellectual development (thinking), general language and social skills. They can also make sure there aren't any medical reasons preventing your child's learning ability.
  - Completing any specific requests made by the speech pathologist or class teacher e.g.
    - Seeing an Ear Nose and Throat (ENT's) specialist to investigate any physical changes to your child's ear, nose and throat. This is really important for speaking and listening. ENT's treat cleft lips and palates, swollen tonsils etc.
    - Seeing a Dentist to ensure your child's teeth aren't making it difficult for them to say sounds clearly. Things that may make it hard for your child to say sounds include open bites and missing teeth.
  - Referrals to the above health professionals can be made by yourself or through your family doctor.
- If you have any specific questions or requests for tips, please send them through to [info@bbsps.com.au](mailto:info@bbsps.com.au)

Dania Mohammed  
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Busy Bees Speech Pathology Services

