**Seaham Public School P&C**

**Principal’s Report – May 2015**

* **Calendar** – The calendar has been updated
* **School Plan and Annual School Review –** Documents are now available on the school website.
* **Action Items**
* Tanya and Kerri met with me on at the end of term 2 and concerns re athletics carnival were raised. I have asked to have another meeting closer to carnivals so issues can be resolved and solutions put in place during the organisation of the next Athletics carnival. Teacher conduct was dealt with and is being monitored.
* Issues that came up in ‘other business’ were disappointing. My advice would be a phonecall if you require clarification or are unsure about anything. The year 4 boys who attended the cricket trials were told that they couldn’t play at the moment but were welcome to continue to train with the team as the competition lasted all year and when they turned 10 they could play. Policy was followed on that occasion and has been since during other trials. I also went through the policy with year 4 on Tuesday. I am not sure when I refused to create a basketball team or who the coach is. My message was we were looking at gala days this year because in the May period we have soccer and Rugby league, adding another team would be a real issue as some students would be expected to juggle schoolwork and three teams. We went with touch because boys and girls had been asking for it. It is also important to remember that primary school sport is not just about PSSA teams. For each team I need a teacher to volunteer to organise the team. Having a parent helper is great but it doesn’t lighten the load in terms of organisation. Personally I don’t have time to run Rugby League and Cricket but I do it because the students enjoy it. Finally junior teams are for students who are in at least yr 3 and have not turned 10. In a school our size that is a small group. These students usually only have to wait 12 months before they are eligible for senior teams.
* Hunter trial dates are known at the start of the year. Zone trial dates depend on the organising teacher. We knew some early – Rugby League, Hockey, basketball. Soccer and Netball came after the carnival date was set. If we changed our carnival date to after the holidays that venue and little athletics would not be available to help us.
* In response to data about families leaving I could think of 4 families that have indicated they have an issue with the school. We have lost another 6 families due to other reasons not related to the school and kinder numbers were 10 down on last year so straight away we are roughly 30 down. All of the issues were different ones not really related to one issue. In term 3 we are doing a pretty comprehensive review called ‘Tell them from me’ which involves gathering information from students, teachers and the community. Currently we are also gathering data on the stage 3 classroom so that might tell us more.
* Thank you Kellie for doing a great job with the mural. The plan was to have an interest group painting the mural towards the end of term 2.
* We were moving forward with replacing the air conditioner in the library but have stalled due to asbestos. Because of this assets management protocols have to be followed.
* **Staff News** – It looks like staffing are now moving quickly on filling Mr Barnes’ vacant position. Mrs Reilly will be finishing up at the end of week 4 and hopefully we will soon have word on who the replacement is. It depends on whether a teacher is available and matches our criteria.
* **Aim High** – The Newcastle Uni open day was postponed due to the weather. Currently year 4 are involved in another University project involving science grads teaching them Science over 3 weeks, 4 sessions in all. The first session was fantastic and we are looking forward to the remaining sessions.
* **Clean up** – I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and parents who were able to get to school and assist with the cleanup after the big storm event.

Craig Partridge

Principal