As a school we do the best we can possible do to support the individual needs of every student. This is something that I always share with prospective parents as I believe it is important to be upfront about the diverse needs and abilities that come together in all schools.

There are many different factors that support a child's ability to read. The main factors that have a positive impact is the support and messages a child receives at home. This includes such things as being read to each day or seeing parents read. For various reasons, some children are fortunate to arrive at school for their first day of Prep having been read to every day from the day they were born. While others come without being read to at all or with challenges that are out of their control that affect their ability to read and learn. Some have been exposed to the joys of reading through visiting libraries and bookshops, or through listening to quality authors.

Our goal as a school has been to accept that every child in every class is working at different stages. This is why we continually review the strategies that we use in class to support the different needs of the students. This includes supporting students working below the expected level and supporting the students that are working well above the expected level. One of our main strategies in doing this is to have as many conversations as possible (conferences) with students about their learning so that we set goals on what they need to work on to move to the next level of understanding.
If we want them to enjoy reading then we need to be exposed to quality authors/books, we need to be role models for them, and most importantly we need to be mindful that their conceptual understanding matches that of the books that they are reading.

Schools use a variety of assessments to ensure that students are developing as learners. In reading, in the early years, you would have heard your child moving through a colour system. Some students move through these stages slowly, while some move through them very quickly. If you have a child in Year Prep, 1 or 2 that is working well above the level in reading, be mindful that there will be stages where your child’s ability to read words on a page needs to match their ability to not only read words on a page but to deeply understand the information they are reading about.

My daughter spent over 6 months working at the same level. During this time her conceptual knowledge developed and she refined her reading strategies on books that she enjoyed and could understand. She didn’t go backwards as a reader, and if anything she has become an even better reader. To the point where she read all 13 books of Lemony Snicket’s ‘A Series of Unfortunate Events’ in two weeks.

If you have a child that is working well above the level and you have any questions about their development please take the time to speak to your child’s teacher. If you want to know about books that they can read at home chat to your child’s teacher or Brenda in the library or the local library or a good book shop!

Details of the Parent Teacher meetings Tuesday 23rd of June

The meetings will be held from 1:00pm to 7:00pm. To allow teachers to meet with parents from 1:00pm the specialist teachers will be supervising the students so that they can be sent home from school at 3:15pm. As the meetings will be held in the children’s classrooms we have organized the following using other spaces in the school:

- 12:30pm to 3:10pm students in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be heading over to Sunshine College for a Discovery afternoon. During this afternoon they will have the opportunity to experience a Secondary setting and participate in a variety of activities.
Hi Parents and Guardians

We are coming to the end of semester 1 with only one inter school sports game left to play this Friday the 12th of June. We will be playing against Sunshine North. It will be an away game at Sunshine North, so wish all our teams the best of luck.

Athletics

Athletics is fast approaching and training will start next term for each event, so just something to think about you might want to start practicing at home your jumping and running as only a few students will be chosen to represent Sunshine Heights in athletics this year.

Swimming

There are limited places left for our Swimming Program so please complete the permission notice and return with your deposit by Friday 19th of June, to guarantee your child’s place.

Enjoy the rest of your week….Rasha.

Regards
Alex Artavilla
Principal

UPLIFT COLLECTIVE FUNDRAISING NEWS

Raising extra funds for kids, thanks to the work of our students!

Easter Raffle $1,155.20
Mothers’ Day TBA
Easter Raffle $1,155.2

EMA / CESF

Parents/Guardians that have a Current Health Care Card are entitled to $125.00 provided by the Government. This can only be used for Camps, Excursions and Sports. You must complete the application form that was sent home last week. If you need another form please contact the office. Forms need to be handed in at the office before Friday the 26th June – If you have any queries please call the office on 8311 7100.

SAVE THE DATE

Book Fair is back again this year. It will be held in the Library from June 15th – 19th. Put your thinking caps on and come up with a costume on the theme of “Kings, Queens and Castles”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPLIFT COLLECTIVE FUNDRAISING NEWS</th>
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STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Presentation at Friday Assembly

Prep:
A  Ading Gob
B  Cooper Montgomery
C  TBA
D  Marisa McMullen

One:
A  Hillary Phung
B  Ardian Azi

Two
1/2A  Mica Gavrilovic
2A  Youssef Mesto
2B  Lily Tran

Three:
A  Kneisha Gray
B  Zali Belmont-Wickliffe

Four:
A  Shuab Mahamed
B  Rayan Abdiwahab

Five:
A  Vuk Sobot
B  Geogre Onah

Six:
A  Jason Bui
B  Hunter Corcoran-Taylor

Multimedia:  Anna Marabeliotakis
Sport:  Jackie Tran
Spanish:  Hillary Phung
Art:  Andy Tran

Congratulations Everyone
Great Achievement!

Instrumental Lessons at School

Did you know
that Music:
Develops mind, hand & eye coordination
Enhances listening skills
Improves self esteem
Is fun!

Lessons starting from $14.00
5% Discount to Parents wishing to enrol more than 1 child.
**Literacy and Numeracy Tips of the Week**

**Literacy Tip:** Write a shopping list or add items to the list and tick off the items as you buy or unpack them.

**Numeracy Tip:** Count days on a calendar. Count days down to a special event.

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**Useful Literacy and Numeracy Websites**

**Literacy Websites:**

3. [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)
4. [www.tumblebooks.com](http://www.tumblebooks.com)

**Numeracy Websites:**

4. [www.coolmath-games.com](http://www.coolmath-games.com)

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*Sonia Papadopoulos* - Literacy  
*Gail Liakoureas* - Numeracy
Our aim is to enhance the school grounds using sustainable plants and methods. Run by parents, we will help to reconnect the students with nature and become environmentally responsible.

The Sunny Bees recently visited Newport Lakes Native Nursery to stock up on indigenous plants to fill in some gaps around the school grounds. This is keeping us busy this month. The Nursery has given us vouchers for a free tube plant valued at $2.95. If interested collect your voucher from the office.

With school composting now in full swing check out our compost poster overleaf for tips on composting.

Winter planting

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<th>Winter planting:</th>
<th>Parsnip</th>
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<th>Radish</th>
<th>Rhubarb (crows)</th>
<th>Rosemary</th>
<th>Sage</th>
<th>Shallot</th>
<th>Spinach</th>
<th>Spring Onion</th>
<th>Thyme</th>
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Veggie patch update

Keep a look out for a fresh planting of salad seedlings by the Preps in June, ready for harvesting in Term 3!

Are you wanting to contribute to the Sunny Bees efforts but can’t make to our gardening sessions on a Friday? We’re in need of a couple of people to help with watering the veggie patch during the week. Contact Lisa for more details.

Friday mornings 9-10.30
Tel: Lisa 0423 329 734
Email: vinlisa@optusnet.com.au
Pinterest www.pinterest.com/sunnybees/
How to Compost

Composting is the combining of specific waste materials so that they decompose. Worms and microbes in the soil breakdown the waste and turn it into nutrient-rich material (compost) that helps plants to grow.

What you will need:
- Brown material to produce carbon:
  - Dead leaves, small branches, straw, sawdust,
  - Wood chips, BBQ ash, pieces of paper and cardboard,
  - Paper plates, newspaper, nut shells etc.
- Green material to produce nitrogen:
  - Grass clippings and leaves, weeds (without seeds),
  - Fruit and vegetable scraps and other food scraps,
  - Manure from domestic animals (chicken, horse,
    guinea-pig etc.), hair, tea and coffee grounds etc.
- Water

1. Buy a compost bin, build one out of timber or bricks, or just isolate an area of ground for your compost heap (approx. 1m x 1m). Cover it up with a lid, carpet or plastic. Put it near a water source if possible.

2. Add brown and green material in alternate layers; roughly 3 parts browns to 1 part greens. Chop or shred larger pieces.

3. Keep the compost moist (but not too wet). That helps with the breakdown of organic matter.

4. Turn your compost occasionally with a pitchfork to provide aeration (extra oxygen). This speeds up the composting process and keeps things airy, which stops things getting smelly.

5. Help! What’s that crawling around in my compost?
   - Snails, slugs and slaters?
     - They’re ok. They’re chewing through the compost, helping it to break down more quickly.
   - Ants and caterpillars?
     - Your compost is too dry. Add water.
   - Mice, maggots and cockroaches?
     - Your compost is not warm enough. Add grass clippings or straw.
   - Flies?
     - Add a little soil or brown material and cover it up.

6. What NOT to compost:
   - Metal, glass, plastic, and other products that do not easily breakdown.
   - Meat and fish scraps (these attract mice).
   - Diseased or insect-ridden plants, weeds gone to seed, cat and dog poo.

7. As materials breakdown, the pile will get warm. There might even be steam. That means it’s working. Now wait at least a few months (or even quicker in summer). When it’s nearly ready you can sprinkle some compost on the lawn to sweeten (make it more alkaline) the compost with valuable nutrients such as calcium and magnesium.

8. The exciting part! When it looks like soil your compost is ready. Add it to gardens, lawns and or anywhere that could benefit from some good soil.

When compostable materials are added to landfill, they produce methane, a gas which is 25 times worse than carbon dioxide, in contributing towards global warming.