Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that next week we will be heading into the silly season month of the year where we all try to make sure that we have no date free on the calendar!

As mentioned in previous emails the staff worked together over two twilight evenings to prepare the 2015 Annual Implementation Plan (school learning focus plan). One of the areas that will be a focus for us over the next 12 months and for the next four years is 'enhancing student voice'. From the twilight session the facilitator encouraged us as a staff to think about enhancing student voice through 'creating a listening culture'. This created some great discussion that centred around the ways that we can better listen to each other. In a sense students can't have a voice unless we take the time to listen better to what they have to say.

Over the weekend I decided to see how well I actually listen to my children! So I made a conscience effort to listen better to what they had to say to learn more about what they were thinking. My first listening assignment started on the Saturday morning when I invited my youngest daughter to come with me for a trip to the coffee shop. Now as many coffee drinkers could understand, sometimes the listening skills of a person that enjoys a morning coffee is not functioning to its optimal performance! My wife as a non-coffee drinker doesn't understand this.

But I thought I'd challenge myself. So off we headed. It probably took about 3 seconds for the first question to be thrown my way.

'Dad, what's that?'

'What?' I reply.

I reply.

That', my daughter replies.

I'm not sure about everyone else but questions like this, while driving a car can be a challenging experience. I decided to probe further to ensure the 1 minute trip to the coffee shop wouldn't feel like a 30 minute adventure! I turned my head and asked my daughter what she was referring to. She pointed to the cigarette lighter in the car.

'Oh that! It's a cigarette lighter.'

'What does it do?'

'You push it in and it heats up so people who smoke can light their cigarette'

'Oh. (short pause) So... does it make a fire?'

'No not a fire but it gets really hot. Not many cars have them nowadays because they don't like people smoking in cars anymore'.

At this time we arrived at the coffee shop and parked the car. As we got out of the car my daughter starts to become animated.

'You know Dad...it's because we are smarter nowadays...we know things better nowadays...like smoking is not good for you yeah...and you know we just know things...you know we're just smarter...like you see the grass?...nowadays we know that the grass is green...see nowadays because we have colour we know when we look at grass we can see that its green so we know straight away that's it's grass because grass is green...in the olden days it was hard for them to know things because it was black or white...just black or white...now we have colour...see look at the grass...it's green...it the olden days it was black or white...'

This conversation could of gone on for another 3 days but I had to say something.
'Ava, you do know that people could always see things in colour and that it was just TV that was in black and white until they worked out how to make TV images in colour?'

As quick as a flash my daughter responds with, 'I thought so!'

That simple conversation made me realize once again how much we discover about children when we give them the opportunity to speak and we take the time to listen. I'm excited with where we are going as a school and it is a direction that we can all play a role in achieving.

Over the next two weeks a team of ten staff will be released from their classroom role to work together to finalize our 2015 plan. This is referred to as our Annual Implementation Day. These days over the past four years have proven instrumental in ensuring teachers understand and share the expectations that we strive to achieve in the coming year.

**Preparations for 2015**
Moving into the month of December also means that we are well into preparations for the 2015 school year! Classes and teachers for 2015 will be shared with the students and their families in the final week of the school year when enrolment numbers and staffing has been finalised (hopefully!).

In the final week of the year on 17th of December students will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and visit their new classroom. Over the next couple of weeks the teachers will begin working together to prepare classes. There are a number of factors that the teachers consider when preparing classes. This includes positive working friendship groups and mixture of academic abilities and social needs. It is important to note that sometimes students may get along well with each other socially but have difficulty working in the classroom environment together. This may mean that the teachers may feel that it is best for both children's development that they are placed in separate classes. We want students to develop the ability to work with different types of people which is something that they will encounter when they move into secondary school and into the work force. We appreciate in advance your trust and understanding in the development of classes for 2015. If you have any questions regarding your child's placement for next year please have a chat to your child's current teacher.

**Festive concert and Art show December 11th 2014**
Reminder that the Festive Concert and Art Show is fast approaching! World4Kids have kindly offered to end the evening with another fireworks show! Bring along some drinks and picnic dinner! The Festive Concert has been a highlight of the school year as the students showcase their artistic talents and share their Footstep dance!

**Twitter**
Reminder to everyone that you can keep up to date with what is happening in the school by following our twitter site that can be accessed via the school website!

Hope everyone had a great week!
Alex Artavilla
Principal
STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Presentation at Friday Assembly
Prep:
A Pranesh Naikar
B Anni Nguyen
C Ziad Tutakhil
One:
A Mallak Dib
B Mary Onah
Two
1/2A Selena Mehmet
2A Chan Uthum
Three:
A DJ Newman
B Yianna Lascaris
Four:
A Sam Mesto
B Maria Christodoulou
Five:
A Ben Luong
B
Six:
A Nasstaja Phillipou
B Dimitra Halkidis
Sport: -
Art: Phylisha Do
ICT: -
Congratulations Everyone
Great Achievement!

FUNDRAISING NEWS
Easter Raffle $1,135.00
Mothers’ Day Stall $ 578.26
Fathers’ Day Stall $ 793.95
TOTAL $1,713.26

Instrumental Lessons at School
Did you know that Music:
Develops mind, hand & eye co ordination
Enhances listening skills
Improves self esteem
Is fun!
Lessons starting from $14.00 5% Discount to Parents wishing
to enrol more than 1 child.
Enrolment forms are available from the School Office or contact
Genesis Music School Direct on 0421 426 674.

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PAGE 3
Planning for 2015

Students leaving Sunshine Heights PS in 2015

Effective planning for 2015 is reliant on ensuring that we have accurate projected student enrolment numbers.

To support us with finalising our plans and employing the correct number of staff for 2015, if you know that your child will NOT be attending Sunshine Heights Primary School next year could you please complete the tear off slip below and return it to the office as soon as possible. We do understand that family circumstances will change from time to time and as such children need to move schools. 

(Note we do not need notification from our current year 6 students).

Please detach and return to office

Plans for 2015

My child/ren .............................................. of Year .............................................. will not be returning to Sunshine Heights Primary School in 2014.

At this stage I anticipate they will be attending: ............................................................ Primary School.

Signed: .............................................. Date: ..............................................

Print Name: ........................................................................................................
As a self-funded student group, the Uplift Collective are continually fundraising to enable them to provide positive experiences, activities and spaces for the students at SHPS. This raffle is our biggest fundraising effort to date with 27 prizes up for grabs.

**PRIZES include:** Basketball ring, fast set pool, boogie boards, Bobble Art voucher, drawing kits, book vouchers, books and audio books, AMF bowling family pass AND MORE.

Tickets are $2.00 EACH or 6 for $10.00.

Please see Miss Francine Sculli or the Uplift Collective members to purchase tickets. Tickets will be sold at the Art Show & Festive Concert.

Winners will be drawn in the last week of Term 4.
GRATITUDE
TO OUR SPONSORS & GUESTS

Sunshine Heights Primary School, the Uplift Collective & the S.H.P.S Writers Group would love to give special thanks to the generous sponsors and guest speakers who have supported our ‘Be Yourself, Express Yourself, Love Yourself Day’ and the ‘2014 S.H.P.S Writers Festival’. Their generosity and community-mindedness allowed us to provide two successful and amazing events, prizes to the winners of the writing competition and raffle prizes to help fundraise for Uplift Collective events. Please help us thank them by supporting their businesses and services.

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to Kimberly
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** with special thanks to Felice Sculli & Pat Patterson – family and friends of
SHPS staff – for their kind personal donations to the raffle and causes **

QUESTS

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bell/
SUNSHINE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Cnr Hampshire & Derby Roads, SUNSHINE

SATURDAY
29 NOVEMBER 2014
Election Day

- Sausage Sizzle
- Cake Stall
- Coffee Van
- Bric-A-Brac Stall
- Tupperware Stall
- Candles Stall
- Clothing Stall

COME ALONG & GRAB SOME BARGAINS

OMG OMG OMG—LOOK who’s coming to Sunshine Primary on Election Day...... OLAF from FROZEN
Come along and have your photo taken with OLAF