**Principal’s Report**

**Reminders:**
- Parent Cyber safety Information session Tuesday 17th November 6.30pm at PD Centre
- Wednesday 11th of November - 2016 Prep Transition Program – session one

The 2015 Sunshine Heights Primary School ‘Writers Festival’
Tuesday 17th to Friday 20th of November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last year we launched our first ever ‘Writers Festival’ where the students had the opportunity to meet aspiring writers and to participate in a number of workshops. In 2015, from the 17th to 20th of November we will once again celebrate the joys of writing thanks to our own group of aspiring writers!

The ‘Writers Group’ are a small team of senior students that have demonstrated a passion for writing and work with Francine Sculli once a week to enhance their creative ability.

The group has been busy over the past month planning the ‘Writers Festival’. This includes the ‘Once upon a time there was an amazing story inside of you. You wrote that story and entered it into the.... Sunshine Heights Primary School Writing Competition!’ Entries close for the competition on 27th of November. It would be fantastic if every child in the school entered the competition! This is something that you may want to talk to your child about! The biggest challenge for writers is thinking of ideas! Taking the risk to write is an amazing story in itself!

Writing is a priority of the school and I love reading about the work that the students produce. So I thought as part of the ‘Writers Festival’ we as parents should take use the week to learn more about our own child’s writing journey! I thought I’d give it a go over the weekend and share some of the responses with everyone. You may even want to use the same questions with your children! You may even want to share some of the responses with your child’s teacher!

I must point out that my daughters took this very seriously! They asked me to turn off my music and requested thinking time for a couple of the questions. They even suggested I grab them both a glass of cold water.

**What do you love most about writing?**

Lyla: Well, you see, you get to use your imagination and you get to be free.

Ava: Because you get to do whatever you want and you get to write about anything.

**What is the biggest challenge about writing?**

Lyla: You have to make sure that you have a plan or else you are thinking for a long time about what to write about. And you can’t think too long or else you want have time to write anything.

Ava: Well. When you are in certain grades. Like Grade 4 or 5 you have to write paragraphs (me – but you’re not in Grade 4 or 5). Yes that is right. But if I was in Grade 4 or 5 then I would need to write paragraphs (me – but you’re in Grade 1). Yes, you’re right again. Anyway, if I was in Grade 4 or 5 then I would need to write paragraphs and sometimes it’s hard to know how many lines are in a paragraph.
What do you like to write about?
Ava: I like to write stories about little people and just people. Stories that make people feel different feelings. Or about anything.
Lyla: Animals. Because they are just easy to write about and you can write from a different perspective. An animals perspective - what they might be seeing and/or thinking.

If you could pass on some advice to a teacher about writing, what would you tell them?
Lyla: Don’t put so many rules in writing! Except for full stops, spaces, and capital letters!
Ava: and paragraphs
Lyla: No not paragraphs, they are really hard!

What do you want to do better as a writer?
Lyla: Thinking of better and really cool ways to start.
Ava: Maybe write about more exciting stuff.

Where do you get your ideas for the stories you write?
Lyla: Um...I normally think of a topic. Then I write about the topic. The topic might come from something that has happened in the past few days or something that I like.
Ava: I get ideas from other people or things that have happened in my life. I just get them from anywhere.

Hope you are able to also gather some valuable insights into the way your child thinks and feels about writing using some of the questions above! I would also love to hear some of your child’s responses!

Parent Cyber Safety
Tuesday 17th November 6.30pm in the PD Centre
Reminder to families that a Parent Cyber Safety Information session notice was sent home last week. The Cyber World is an every changing, complex and exciting world! Knowing about this world is the most important thing we can do as parents to ensure our children are able to enjoy this world safely! We are hoping to have as many parents come to the session as possible!

Welcoming our 2016 Prep students!
On Wednesday next week from 9:15am to 11:00am we welcome our 2016 Prep students for the first of three sessions to support their transition from kindergarten to Primary school!

Alex Artavilla
Principal

UPLIFT COLLECTIVE FUNDRAISING NEWS

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

Easter Raffle $1,155.20
Mother’s Day $812.37
Father’s Day $588.00

Instrumental Lessons at School
Did you know that Music:
Develops mind, hand & eye co-ordination,
Enhances listening skills,
improves self-esteem, AND IS FUN!

Lessons starting from $14.00, 5% Discount to Parents wishing to enrol more than one child. Enrolment forms are available from the School Office or contact Genesis Music School Direct on 0421 426 674.

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PAINTING, GARDENING, FIXING GIVE JOHN A CALL!

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Did you know that Music:
Develops mind, hand & eye co-ordination, Enhances listening skills, improves self-esteem, AND IS FUN!

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Parent Information Session

‘Cyber Safety’

Dear Parents of students in Year 3-6,

On Tuesday November 17 at 6:30 p.m. we have organised an important information session that will be focusing on supporting parents to better understand the challenges and benefits of the cyberworld. We want the students to be able to enjoy the cyberworld. However, there are a number of things that both students and parents need to know about keeping children safe online. A member of the Victoria Police Cybersafety Education Team, Matt Mudie, will be facilitating the presentation.

The session will focus on:

- Providing strategies for parents to ensure their child is safe online
- Enhancing parent’s understanding of the online world and the challenges that may arise
- Knowing how and when children can access social media sites
- The types of social media sites available and the challenges parents and students need to be aware of when accessing these sites
- The legal requirements of social media sites
- What to do if you are concerned about your child’s or another child’s online behaviour

We are all responsible for ensuring all students enjoy the online world. However, a concerning fact is that a number of students Years 3 to 6 have access to social networking sites (such as Instant Messaging, Facebook, Snap Chat and Instagram) which are only to be used and accessed by children over the age of 13 years. This is why we are wanting to ensure that all parents of children in Years 3 to 6 take the opportunity to attend the information session. Our goal is to have as many parents as possible attend the session as the online world has created new challenges for students emotionally and socially.

If you are able to attend please complete the notice below and return it to your child’s teacher by Friday 13 Nov.

Staff
Sunshine Heights Primary School

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Parent Information Session ‘Cyber Safety’ Tuesday Nov 17 at 6:30

Please circle

- I will be able to attend / I will not be able to attend

Parents name:..............................................................................

Parent’s signature:...........................................................................

Date:..............................

Learning for Life
Planning for 2016
Students leaving Sunshine Heights PS in 2016

Effective planning for 2016 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 2016, 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 2016

My child/ren ................................................ of Year ......................... will not be returning to Sunshine Heights Primary School in 2015.

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

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

Print Name: ........................................................................................................

OUR SPANISH WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS
Once Upon a Time

there was an amazing story inside of you

you wrote that story and entered it into the 2015

Sunshine Heights Primary School
Writing Competition

as part of the SHPS Writers' Festival

4 Categories: Prep, Grade 1,2, Grade 3,4 and Grade 5/6

Any Genre

Prizes to be won

Entries close: 27/11/15

The Writers' Group presents the

SHPS Writers' Festival

Tuesday 17th to Friday 20th November 2015

with Writers Sue Hrozynski, Meg Dunley
Matt Schulz & David Meakin

Featuring:

SHPS Writers' Bar
Writing Workshops
Student Writing Competition

Lunchtime Writing Games & Activities