

## Principal's Update



### NAPLAN RESULTS

The individual student NAPLAN results have arrived and will be posted home to families this week.

For our school, moving to the online platform has seen an increase in the number of students who completed all of the assessments, which is a good outcome.

Overall, our mean scores improved in 4 of the 5 assessments, with the largest improvement occurring in writing. Congratulations to the English learning area and to everyone who has made literacy a focus this year. It appears to be having a positive impact.

Of the 5 assessments, the Department for Education focuses on two in particular – Reading and Numeracy.

**Reading** – the number of students who met the Department's Standard of Educational Achievement (Band 7 or above) has increased from 64.1% in 2018 to 66.7% in 2019. The 2019 result is the second highest for the last 7 years.

**Numeracy** – the number of students who met the Departmental Standard of Educational Achievement (Band 7 or above) has increased from 64.5% in 2018 to 72.2% in 2019. This is a significant improvement and congratulations are extended to the Maths team for having such a positive impact on improving student achievement. This is the highest result for the last 7 years.

### WHOLE SCHOOL ICT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE

I am pleased to announce that I have just signed off on a whole school ICT infrastructure upgrade that will include:

- Optic fibre cable connection to each building in the school = faster speeds!
- Upgrade of switches and wireless access points = faster speeds!
- Broader, more robust wireless access and a reduction in dead spots around the school
- Greater use of cloud storage space and a significant reduction in the number of servers located on the school premises
- A cheaper, flat rate for our internet service
- Software that will make the on-boarding process for new devices much smoother and simpler

Our partners in this upgrade are the Department of Education (they have been very generous with their support – both financial and physical) and Nuago.

We anticipate all of the upgrade work being completed and ready for use from the beginning of the 2020 school year.

### TOILETS

Recently we have had to lock the student toilets during lesson time because of the increasing frequency of vandalism, graffiti and disrespect for our school facilities, which is not acceptable and needs to stop. We took this step because previous actions were not having the impact we were seeking. However, it was never our intention that this would be our long-term approach. Since we have been locking the toilets during lesson time we have had only one incident and this resulted in a suspension and an invoice being sent home for the family to pay for the damage.

We have consulted with the Governing Council and they are fully supportive of the future actions we are planning. Our Student Voice Homegroup are designing an extended student voice homegroup session focussed on this issue, to be held early in Term 4. I am also happy to provide funds to improve the state of our student toilets, if sensible and doable suggestions are proposed via the extended homegroup student voice session. We are also exploring having security cameras installed over the entrances to the toilet blocks. Hopefully, these actions will see an immediate improvement in how our students treat the school's facilities.

### PRINCIPAL VISIT TO SETO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, JAPAN

This week I am joining Liam Davis and travelling to our sister school in Japan - Seto Junior High School to signify the value I place on our long-standing relationship which is now 26 years old. This means that Tania Duff-Tytler will be the acting Principal for the week and Matt Zviedrans will be her back-up.

I thank you all for a wonderful Term 3 and wish you all the best for the upcoming school holidays. I look forward to seeing everyone at the start of Term 4.

Peter Kuss  
Principal