



4th May 2017

Dear Parents,

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests are to be conducted on Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May 2017 (Week 4). To assist in this process, parents/carers are asked to keep these dates free from interruptions to the normal school routine.

As you know, these tests are undertaken by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia. They are used to assess student performance in the areas of literacy (including reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar) and numeracy (number, measurement, chance and data, space, working mathematically, algebra function and pattern). The tests help to inform us how students are performing against the national benchmarks for literacy and numeracy.

It is important to recognise that the National Assessment Program is not the sole criterion for measuring student performance but rather part of a broad range of measures used by teachers to inform the learning and teaching process. All teaching and assessments conducted in secondary schools, including NAPLAN, are designed to assist students and teachers in working towards optimal results.

At the College we have been undertaking some preparation with students prior to the tests. This preparation has been designed to make students comfortable to sit the tests by making them familiar with the type and style of the tests. Given that the vast majority of students have been through it all before with the Years 3 & 5 Tests, we don't feel that there will be any major issues. However if you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me as soon as possible.

Please note, all students will require the following equipment for the tests:

- 2B or HB pencils (please note that "Pacer" type pencils are **not** permitted.)
- eraser
- pencil sharpener
- blue or black biros (for *Writing* test)
- calculator for the *Numeracy (calculator)* test on Thursday

The schedule for the tests is below:

Tuesday	Period 1 and 2	Language Conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes *students go straight to parade at 8.40am
Wednesday	Period 1	Reading 65 minutes *students go straight to the testing room at 8.40am
Thursday	Period 1	Numeracy (calculator) 50 minutes Numeracy (non-calculator) 10 minutes *students go straight to under Learning Centre 6

Please ensure your son/daughter has a good breakfast each morning next week, they bring the required equipment and they are at school on time as listed above.

If there are any absences during the week, tests will be caught up on Friday.

Many thanks,

Sharyn Crookes
Deputy Principal (Junior Secondary)