



Thursday 21st April, 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2016 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 10 May, Wednesday 11 May and Thursday 12 May 2016. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. Catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days, up to and including Friday 13 May 2016.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for **support** due to disability or an **exemption**, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before exemption is granted.

Students may be **withdrawn** from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Kilpatrick
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