



# OVERPORT NEWS

*From the Principal's Desk.*

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## Dates to remember:

### TERM TWO

#### TOMORROW—

Frid 14th May- Cyber Safety  
Dress-up Day  
(Gold coin donation)

Frid 28th May - Yr4,5 & 6  
Athletics Trials (Ballam Park)

**Frid 4th June -  
Curriculum Day**

*Thought of the week*

*Don't wait for the light to  
appear at the end of the  
tunnel,  
stride down there...  
and light the thing  
yourself!*

*Sarah Henderson  
1936-2005.*

## The Big six for Reading!

*To be effective readers children need to be able to use six components of language in combination. These are:*

**Phonological Awareness**- *the ability to focus on the sounds in speech such as rhyme, rhythm, sounds and syllables;*

**Phonics**- *being able to recognise the relationship between letters, or groups of letters and their sounds;*

**Vocabulary**- *knowing the meaning of words children are more likely to be able to read it and make sense of the text;*

**Fluency**- *the ability to make reading sound like spoken language and have an effective flow;*

**Comprehension**- *effective readers understand the meaning of the text and can adjust reading behaviours and strategies;*

**Oral language**- *children can only understand the written word if they have been exposed to a wide range of vocabulary from very young. Oral language, therefore, provides the foundation for learning and is directly linked to overall reading achievement.*

*How can you help and support your child to become an effective reader.*

*Developing strong oral language both during pre-school and at school is vital. Reading to your child regularly and discussing the language in the text is one way of strengthening their oral language. If children don't know the word, they are not likely to be able to read or write it. Therefore, try to expand their vocabulary with a special word of the week; increase the language you use such as: The cat was 'contented' instead of 'happy'. Talk about words in the text they are reading when you come across a less familiar word. 'What does it mean? How else could we use it? What other words mean the same?'*

## Let's Chat Oral language

*Shortly you will see advertised the "Let's Chat" program for pre-schoolers and junior students. This will be held at Delacombe Park Pre-school. I strongly advise you to book in as this will provide you with excellent strategies and understanding to help your pre-schooler as well as your young school-age children.*

## Care on the roads—speak to your children.

*Recently a driver called to report two young girls running across Overport Road in an unsafe manner. As I truly believe "it takes a village to raise a child", I am pleased she told us. We would be all very distressed if one of our children was hurt on the roads. Please discuss with your children the importance of using the crossings and crossing the roads carefully if it is outside manned crossing times. Protecting them takes all of us.*



To all students celebrating their birthdays this week, next week and during the holidays

Alec 2A, Ruby 3D,  
Lily 6B, Ellen 2A,  
Archie OE, Olivia 1C,  
Amelia 6B, Levi 6C,  
Aleksandra 6D,  
Sophie 1D, Jade 6A,  
Liam 4E, Torres 4E,  
Zalen OE, Saya 5A,  
Scarlett OA,  
Noah 2A, Abbey 1C,  
Riley 3C, Ava OA,  
Pepa OA.



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## Principals Report (cont)

### Bringing items to school.

Poppets have become a favourite craze at school. However, children are becoming quite upset if something happens to them. Sometimes there is “trading” that may seem unfair, sometimes they might get lost or damaged. Teachers are finding them quite

distracting in the classrooms at times as well. Some classes have had to ban them from school. Any item that is brought from home is the child’s own responsibility.

Therefore, please help your child to understand this and that they should not bring very precious items with them to school in case of loss or damage. Thank you.

### Bullying—what it is and what it is not!

As we work together in partnership, families and school, to help young people develop and understand effective social behaviors, it is vital that we understand the different social

interactions. When talking about bullying, it is very important for parents, teachers and children to comprehend what is and what is not bullying. Many times, a single act or

behaviour is concerning, but it is not necessarily bullying. Some think that bullying is **any** physical, verbal or aggressive behaviour causing distress or exclusion, and although such behaviours are a source of worry and need attention, it is important to separate them from bullying. **Bullying is reoccurring and deliberate abuse of**

**power.** There are many definitions of bullying, but they all consist of the key words “power”, “aggressive” and “repeated”. However, many children do not really know what bullying is. Due to recent focus on bullying, children refer to acts done by mistake only once as “bullying”. **The Not Bullying List: 1. Being selective with whom they play.** While we encourage students to be kind, they all select those friends they like to play with and may not like everyone. **2. Accidentally bumping into someone.**

**3. Making other children play things a certain way.** While this is normal behaviour, children may choose to play with others if they perceive someone as “bossy”. This is a learning for that child, too, as they develop their understanding that others like to

contribute to the game. **4. A single act of telling a joke about someone or some teasing of friends.** Making fun of others is only okay if they are happy with the teasing as well. It is important to teach children that things they say as jokes should be

amusing for the person as well and if they are not, it must simply stop. **5. Arguments or disagreements.** Arguments are just heated disagreements between two (or more) people (or groups). It is natural that people have different interests and disagree on many things. It is good to teach children to eventually “agree to disagree”. **6. Isolated acts of**

**harassment, aggressive behavior, intimidation or meanness.** The definition of bullying states that there is repetition in the behavior. Bullying is a conscious, repeated, hostile, aggressive behavior of an individual or a group abusing their

position with the intention to harm others or gain real or perceived power. Therefore, anything that happens once is NOT an act of bullying.

As a parent, it is important that you pay attention to what your children are telling you and find out if things are happening more than once. From the website “Family

Matters—Practical Parenting Blog” there are many helpful ideas and explanations of what bullying is and isn’t. I trust that this will help both your child and you as they learn good social skills.

<https://www.ronitbaras.com/emotional-intelligence/personal-development/what-is-not-bullying/>