Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Lots of crossing of fingers for fine weather for our carnival on Friday please!

**Nationally Consistent Collection of Data** - A few weeks ago I sent home a letter about the collection of data across schools in Australia which will identify needs of students with disabilities as described by Disability Discrimination Act.

The disability categories include adjustments that are made for students that require:

* curriculum adjustments
* teaching/learning adjustments
* environmental adjustments
* personal care adjustments
* support from teacher aides
* individual learning support

Another important aspect of this collection of data is that parents/carers are aware of the adjustments that are made for their child(ren). I am very confident that communication between our teachers and families via our one on one consultations, 3-way conferences and reports satisfies these requirements. I thought it would be beneficial to send home, with this newsletter, a fact sheet from the organising council. It is very important to note that all information is strictly confidential. If you have any questions or queries or do not want your child included in the data collection please let me know.

The data will be collected from our system early next term.

Please see the attached document at the end of this newsletter for more information about this very important data collection being carried out in all our Public Schools.
**PSSA Knockout Soccer Match** - A heart stopping match that saw Lansdowne emerge as the victors. It doesn't get much closer than that. Thank you to our supporters and to Mr Price for his expert coaching. Well done to the team members who didn't buckle under pressure. Their next round is against Smithtown Thursday 12th June. Good luck! Permission Notes are going home today with the team members with information. Please return these as soon as you can for organisation of this next knockout match.

**Athletics Carnival** - Friday is the big day and we hope the weather does not cause us any grief. Of course if a postponement is necessary we will make the call as timely as we can. See everyone on Friday.

Kind regards, Christine Wild

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**P&C ASSOCIATION NEWS**

**NEXT P&C MEETING** - will be held on Tuesday evening 17th June. The meeting will be held in the seniors' room and will commence at 6.00pm

**SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL** - The sports carnival is on this Friday 6th June at the school. Donations of cakes and slices would be appreciated so that they can be sold on the day. A Menu of what will be sold from the canteen on Friday has been sent home.

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**2014......TERM 2 – CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 6</th>
<th>Wednesday 4 June</th>
<th>Whole School Assembly commencing at 2.20pm – everyone is welcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 6 June</td>
<td>Our School Athletics Carnival on our Oval commencing in the morning</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>Monday 9 June</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thursday 12 June</td>
<td>PSSA Soccer Knockout Match in Smithtown – Mr Price going with team</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 8</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 June</td>
<td>P&amp;C Monthly Meeting at 6.00pm at the school – everybody welcome</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 18 June</td>
<td>School Assembly commencing at 2.20pm</td>
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**Community News:**

LANSDOWNE LIONS FOOTBALL CLUB – TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday 28 June 2014 @ the Airport Tavern
Bistro is available from 6.00pm
Free Team Nominations (8-10 people)
RSVP by 22/6/14 to Scott Morrison on 0419 943329
7.00 PM Start

**Attachments to this Newsletter:**
- Family & Community Services/Catholic Care brochure for parents
- Nationally Consistent Collection of Data parents information sheets
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data
School Students with Disability

Information for Parents/Carers

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability.

The data collection is being introduced in stages over three years, and started in 2013. From 2015, this information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year.

All Australian governments have agreed to this.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. It shouldn’t matter what the individual child’s circumstances are – every child should have the same opportunity to succeed at school.

The aim of the new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia.

Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

There is nothing new about schools collecting information about students with disability – in fact, schools have had to do this by law for some time. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory.

With the new data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect this information – that is, a government school in another state will collect and report the same data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information collected through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will also help put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO?

Every school in Australia is likely to have a student with disability at some point. Schools need to be able to support students with disability by removing any obstacles for them to participate in their education.

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the school does now and this won’t change.

The new data collection will record students who have been identified by a school as meeting the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, and provided with an adjustment.

WHAT IS AN ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (like ramps into classrooms) or at an individual student level (like extra tuition for a student with a learning difficulty).
WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Your child's school will collect and report information every year about:

- the level of adjustment provided
- the number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- where known, the student's broad type of disability.

Some students who are not provided with an adjustment at the time of the collection will meet the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and will be eligible to be included in the data collection.

WHO WILL COLLECT MY CHILD'S INFORMATION?

Teachers and other school staff from your child's school will collect the above information based on:

- consultation with parents/carers
- the school team's observations and professional judgments
- any medical diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for making sure that the information collected about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD'S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important. With the new data collection, this will be done in the following ways:

- Personal or confidential information will not be given to anyone not authorised to see it.
- When the information is sent by your child’s school to the local or federal education authority for combination with information from other schools, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.
- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE DATA BE AVAILABLE?

When all Australian schools are taking part in the new data collection, the information will be reported on the My School website from 2018 onwards. It will be by school only – no student names are recorded as part of the data collection.

CAN I DECIDE WHETHER MY CHILD'S INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

It's your decision about whether you want your child's information to be included in the national reporting or not.

Including every school child who is being provided with an adjustment because of disability in this new national data collection each year will help schools, education authorities and governments to better meet students' needs.

Your school will tell you what you need to do if you don't want to have your child's information included in the national data collection.

Even if your child's information is not included in the national data collection, your school is still required to provide support to your child with disability and any adjustments that may be needed to help him/her participate at school.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may affect your child.