**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Passion Sunday** The Lukan Jesus is the rejected prophet who trusts utterly in God and into whose hands he entrusts his spirit. He dies with the same sort of dignity that has characterised his life.

There are several unique features in Luke’s account this weekend. The most remarkable to my mind is Jesus’ readiness to forgive his executioners even while they continue to mock him. Another is his capacity to reach out to others: to ‘turn towards’ the women of Jerusalem, to receive their compassionate mourning, and to express his own concern for them. In line with his overall intention to demonstrate that Christianity is no threat to the Roman Empire, Luke repeatedly points to the innocence of Jesus. The Jesus in Luke is the rejected prophet who trusts utterly in God and into whose hands he entrusts his spirit. He dies with the same sort of dignity that has characterised his life.

It is easy to let our own hurt find expression in criticism or mistreatment of others whom we fail to understand. It is also easy to retaliate in the face of unjust accusation and insult. It takes more courage than most of us can muster to name unjust treatment for what it is, to truly forgive, to retain our peace of mind in such circumstances, and to trust in the power of God to break through the ignorance that engenders violence.

As we enter into the mysteries of Holy Week, we might pray for the grace to act with the dignity of the Jesus in Luke’s account and thus circumvent the cycles of violence in our own contexts.

**P & F Election Results: Congratulations to Our New P & F board Members:**

President: Ricki Saunders  
Vice President: Greg Sowter  
Vice President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Peter Livermore  
Secretary: Jodie O’Loughlin

Some positions remain vacant and as always, there is room for the casual visitor to come along and share some insights, experience or thoughts about how to take the College forward. They have certainly hit the ground running with preparations for new and exciting fund raising opportunities. I wish them all the best in their new roles and know that our parent community will support them in their endeavours.

**Parent Surveys for School Improvement** This year we will be surveying staff, students and parents as part of our ongoing data collection for school improvement. The implementation of the student, teacher and parent opinion surveys, to support school improvement, has provided a rich source of data for all diocesan schools. The Lismore Catholic Schools Office is committed to continuing to support schools in their ongoing pursuit of improving learning outcomes for all students.

The surveys are co-ordinated by Insight SRC and all individual responses from staff, students and parents will be kept confidential and will not be identifiable to any other person or body outside of Insight SRC. There is no way that individuals can be identified from the results or the information provided by the survey consultants. All schools will be provided with the opportunity to survey all staff, a random sample of students in years 5-12 and a random sample of parents. All staff and student surveys will be conducted online and parents will be provided with the choice to complete either an online or paper based survey.

**P & F EASTER RAFFLE**

The P & F would like to thank everyone who has made donations to our Easter Egg Raffle. A reminder that prizes are being drawn at Assembly on Wednesday 23 March. Could all tickets and money be returned prior to this date.
The Macleay Valley Catholic Parish

Thinking of becoming a Catholic? The Macleay Valley Catholic Church, Kempsey is running a program to introduce and explain the Roman Catholic Faith.

The Program is called Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and will commence later this month.

Enquiries to Fr Joe at the Parish Office on 6562 5182
9am to 4pm Weekdays or email: cathkemp@midcoast.com.au before 15 March, 2016.

Palm Sunday
Weekend Mass
Saturday 19 March
6 pm All Saints Church, Kempsey

Sunday 20 March
7.30 am Our Lady Star of the Sea, South West Rocks
9.30 am All Saints Church, Kempsey
St Joseph’s Primary School
with the Parish Children’s Choir

Holy Thursday 24 March
9.30 am Mass All Saints Church, Kempsey
6 – 6.45 pm Reconciliation
7 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper All Saints Church
Kempsey

Good Friday 25 March
10 am Stations of the Cross
Kempsey and South West Rocks
3 pm Celebration of the Lords Passion
Kempsey and South West Rocks

EASTER VIGIL
Saturday 26 March
6 pm All Saints Church, Kempsey

Sunday 27 March
7.30 am Our Lady Star of the Sea, South West Rocks
9.30 am All Saints Church, Kempsey

Youth Group
Bring snack food and board games to share.
Loads of fun with friends. Come and join us!
this Friday night Church Hall
6 - 9 pm
Ask Zoe or Mrs Stubbs for more information

College Calendar
March
21 Year 11 Science Study Field Trip
22 Year 7 Vaccinations
23 Year 7 Aboriginal Students
'I Believe'
'A Day in the Life at St Paul's - Macksville/ Bowraville
24 Passion Play
Holy Thursday
25 Good Friday
28 Easter Monday
29 Year 12 Mid Course Exams Commence
22 Year 7 Vaccinations

Canteen Roster
21 March
Mon Terry Alsford
Tue Maureen Wolf
Wed Rani Nagra
Thur Sue Young
Fri GOOD FRIDAY

29 March
Mon EASTER MONDAY
Tue Maureen Wolf
Wed Rani Nagra
Thur Sue Young
Fri Sue Young, Di Whalen

Baking Roster
21 March
Mon Natalie Chadwick
Tue Naomi Keast
Wed Donna Patterson
Thur Git Sadler
Fri GOOD FRIDAY

29 March
Mon EASTER MONDAY
Tue Alicia Smart
Wed Maree Ward
Thur Cate Madden
Fri Debbie Hackenberg
Parking on College Grounds  I would like to remind Year 12 students onsite parking is a privilege offered to them while spaces exist. At no time was any space built specifically for students. Building works during 2012-13 established the North Street parking and bus bay to accommodate the extra staff and visitors the student growth created. Some spaces in the North Street parking have been offered to Year 12 students (Leaders and Ministry) as this is manageable and safe with the buses in the afternoon. This then creates more opportunities for spaces in the Sea Street staff carpark available for those Year 12 students who arrive early.

Cars must be driven at a safe speed otherwise students may lose their right to park on the College grounds. Once cars are parked, students should not return to them until the end of the day.

Opening of the New St Patrick's Macksville  On Thursday I had the pleasure of visiting the newly opened St Patrick's Primary School in Macksville. On the invitation of Principal Mr Vin Butler, I was able to take along with me ex-students and former school captains Jacob Halam and Evronia Allan (our current school leader) for a wonderful celebration of their new facility. I took great delight in meeting families and students and would like to congratulate Mr Butler on this joyous occasion. Many students at St Paul's spent their formative years at St Pat's and have contributed significantly to the life of our College over many years. I look forward to this continuing into the future.

On the Calendar  In the coming weeks we will be welcoming Year 6 students to our ‘Day in the Life’ program as part of their transition into high school. Year 12 will move into their mid-course exams. Good luck to all students involved.

Easter Show Success  Congratulations to former student and now current staff member (Youth Ministry Officer) Zoe Clarke on her recent success with her major work textiles piece from last year’s HSC. Zoe entered her Major Textiles Project into the Under 20 years old Needlework section at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. She placed 1st and also received a Standard of Excellence Award. Zoe also entered a quilt she made and placed 2nd, and was highly commended for her child's dress from Year 11. Outstanding work Zoe and congratulations to your teacher Mary Walker.

Athletics Success for Lachlan Davidson  Last week our school leader and Athletics champion, Lachlan Davidson attended the State Multi-Event Titles in Dubbo and was the winner overall of the Pentathlon. To achieve this title Lachlan placed 1st in 110m hurdles, and high jump, 2nd in javelin, 3rd in long jump and 4th in the other three events. Lachlan beat twenty five other competitors from across the state and now will participate in the NSW Little Athletics State title this weekend in Homebush at Sydney Olympic Park. We wish him well.

God Bless

Mr Kevin Lewis – Principal
klewis@lism.catholic.edu.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

National day of Action Against Bullying and Violence  The following is from the ‘National day of Action Against Bullying and Violence’ site:

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence was held today Friday, 18 March 2016. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say ‘Bullying. No Way!’ and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

The National Safe Schools Framework defines bullying as repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyber bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

In short, bullying is a repeated pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour which involves the misuse of power. Cyberbullying is bullying through the internet or mobile devices.

Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour need to be addressed, it is

SUBJECT LEVY

Thank you to the families who made the payment of subject levies their priority. Please remember that the due date for subject levies is 8th April 2016.
important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying.

The definition of bullying has three critical aspects - a repeated pattern, the misuse of power within relationships, and behaviour which causes harm; all three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

More information for students and parents can be found at: http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/. You can also refer to the College Anti-Bullying Policy on the website by clicking on the parent tab, then forms, then policies (web link below).


All students have access to, and have been informed of the google doc ‘Being Bullied’, which allows all students at any time to report to me incidents of bullying around the College.

I thank all parents for their support.

Week 8 of the first term is behind us and hopefully all students are now utilising their study time and putting in the hours necessary to achieve their personal best. Thank you to the parents who are assisting their children in putting together a realistic and consistent study program. It is always pleasing to see the many students who have an excellent attitude towards their work and as a result are performing very well. Our goal as teachers/learners at St. Paul’s College, is to support all students to achieve at their very best. I am sure that if we work together on this we will see an improvement, not only in the work ethic of all students, but also in their performance and results.

Earlier this term, all students at the College performed personal Academic Goal Setting. The results of this are easily accessible in student diaries. Students should be monitoring when their minor or major goals have been reached, or when they are either staying on track or moving away from achieving their goals. Parents, if you have not already done so, please ask your children about these goals, and discuss them further if required. Students were encouraged to set SMART goals. SMART goals are goals which are: Specific; Measurable; Attainable; Realistic and Timely. We encourage all students to refer to these goals at times throughout the year.

Photo Catch Up Day will be the morning of March 21. All students who have not had their photos taken this year and/or students who have not brought their photo envelope in are to do so this Monday.

Thank you for your continued support in the education of your children.

Mr Guy Campbell – Assistant Principal

RECI MINISTRY

Years 7 and 8 Sunday Mass This Mass was held on Sunday, 6 March. A big thank you goes to the Year 7 and 8 students, as well as their parents, who made the effort to attend on the day. A special thanks to Mrs Mainey and the hospitality students who organised a beautiful morning tea afterwards.

Year 12 Retreat The Year 12 Retreat will be held at Bonny Hills, 5 - 7 April. Return slips and $50 deposits were due 26 February - some are still outstanding. The full cost is $185. All students are expected to attend. If a student cannot attend the retreat for any reason, they need to get approval from the principal as soon as possible; otherwise the full cost of the retreat will be charged.

Project Compassion Students and teachers are supporting CARITAS Australia through Project Compassion, during this period of Lent. Students fundraise and donate money through the collection boxes that are in their PC rooms. The students have been putting in a big effort to raise funds this year. Thank you.

Passion Play The Play will be performed in the College Hall from 11 – 11.45 am on Holy Thursday. Parents and friends of students at the College are warmly invited to attend.

Mr Conrad Tamblyn – Leader of Evangelisation

A Year With the Saints: Mary

Even though we do not call her Saint Mary, the Mother of Jesus is considered to be the greatest of the saints. As His Mother, Mary also has special favour with the Lord. Catholics
show a special reverence for the Mother of God in a number of ways: the Hail Mary and the Rosary are often prayed by Catholics; the Marist Brothers and Fathers are religious orders founded in honour of Mary; May is the month of Mary when special devotions are carried out; Pope John Paul II encouraged devotion to Mary in his early days as a priest and throughout his papacy.

Mary’s life gave her much experience of both the difficulties and the joys of life: she had to trust that Joseph would look after her; she gave birth to her son amid farm animals; she was honoured as shepherds and kings alike came to honour her son; she was a refugee when they had to flee to Egypt for safety; she had all the happiness of raising a child; she endured the concerns of losing her child when Jesus was left behind because he was teaching at the Temple; she shared in the joy of Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding feast; she saw Jesus arrested and crucified. There is very little that Mary could not understand if we pray to her for help and ask her to intercede for us with Jesus.

Sometimes we are spiritually like children and at these times we can turn to Mary to protect us and comfort us just as our earthly mothers protect and comfort us. For this reason Mary has been given many names such as Mary Star of the Sea. She is even the Patron Saint of Australia under the name of Mary Help of Christians.

Mrs Danuta Puzas – Teacher

PEDAGOGY

An important role that parents/carers can undertake to assist their child to achieve both at school and with life is to ensure they have a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset.

In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits. They spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them. In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point.

This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. Virtually all great people have had these qualities. (http://mindsetonline.com/whatisit/about/).

Based on years of research by Stanford University’s Dr. Dweck, Lisa Blackwell Ph.D., and their colleagues, we know that students who learn this mindset show greater motivation in school, better grades, and higher test scores.

Over the next few newsletters, we will have a look at ways to change or improve our growth mindset.

Mrs Lesa Morrison – Leader of Pedagogy

CURRICULUM

Year 12 Parents and Students Most institutions that participate through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) have an Educational Access Scheme for applicants who have experienced long-term educational disadvantage due to circumstances beyond their control or choosing, which has seriously affected their educational performance. A long-term educational disadvantage should normally be experienced for a period of at least six months. If you think you’re eligible, you should apply for EAS through UAC in addition to your UAC application for admission by downloading a copy of the 2016 EAS Booklet and the application form and calling UAC on (02) 9752 0200 if you have any questions.

Applications for 2017 admissions will open in August  http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/eas/

Year 12 Mid Course Examinations Week 10 and Monday Week 11, Term 1 Students should actively be preparing and revising for the Mid Course examinations, remembering that last terms work is just as important as this terms.

Please remember that these exams are a part of the school’s internal assessment process for the HSC, and as such must be taken seriously in all aspects. If a student misses an exam, he or she must apply for misadventure and present a Doctors certificate or other suitable documentation. Please refer to the HSC Assessment Guide for 2016 (Illness-Misadventure Provisions) or see me if you need more clarification on this matter or on any other rules and regulations. All Mid-Course Examination Assessment notifications are available on the College Website under STUDENTS/Assessment/Study Guides/Year 12 Mid Course Assessment Notifications.

**Year 10-12 Assessment Tasks**

Students and Parents, please be aware that all year 10, 11 and 12 Assessment Task submissions are to have an Assessment Task Coversheet attached. Please refer to the relevant (Year 10, Preliminary or Higher School Certificate) Assessment Guide for 2016 for more information, or see the relevant class teacher and/or KLA Coordinator.

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<th>Important Diary Dates</th>
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<td>Year 12 VET Work Placement</td>
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<td>Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN</td>
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**Mr Leon Robinson – Leader of Curriculum**

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**8 February 2016**

Mrs Jan Stubbs  
Additional Needs Teacher  
St Paul’s College  
115 - 145 Sea Street  
WEST KEMPSEY 2440

Dear Jan

Thank you very much for your generous support of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Over the lifetime of the project, thanks to donations like yours, we have:

- delivered more than 120,000 books and literacy resources to over 230 remote communities
- funded Book Buzz, an early literacy project, in four remote communities
- published and or funded in partnerships, more than 40 community literacy projects
- travelled with ambassadors and authors to conduct writing workshops in remote schools across Australia
- launched a writing mentoring workshop in Alice Springs with a bequest from Pamela Lofts Estate

In 2015-2017 our Foundation will focus our resources on early literacy and we look forward to updating you on our work.

Thank you again for helping us to make a difference. Please contact us if you have any questions about your donations.

Yours sincerely  
Karen Williams  
Executive Director
Overdues  Those with overdues (especially from last year) can expect letters home soon as we escalate our efforts to locate missing resources. Those with clean records (the vast majority of you) will soon be contributing points to your respective houses.

Premier’s Reading Challenge  This year’s challenge has now been officially launched. Congratulations to Miss Clarke’s 9/1 English class, ALL of whom have signed up this year. History in the making! Once you’ve been given your user names and passwords, you’ll be able to go online and start recording the books you’ve read. Remember, the rules allow you to go all the way back to Term 4 last year. Look for those books with the green dots on their spines, many of which will be on display.

Senior Study  The Library will be an iPad free zone for the next two weeks, so that seniors can concentrate on their exam study and revision without distraction. The only exception is 1) you have Library staff permission 2) you’re sitting at the tables and 3) you’re using your device for reading or study only. And remember, Year 12, we’ll be open from 8.15 am for the next two weeks with free orange juice on offer.

Happy Reading!
Mr Peter Garty – Teacher/Librarian 😊

Homework Club:  Homework Club is continuing every Wednesday afternoon from 3.25 pm till 4.25 pm in Student Services. Students can complete homework or assignments with the support of a teacher and with access to computers and reference books. The Library will also be open five days a week until 4.30. All students are welcome and encouraged to make use of this valuable service. Those being picked up should do so from the car park behind the Science Block.

Please complete the form below and return it to the Student Services Centre.

Mrs Jan Stubbs – Additional Needs Teacher

I give permission for .............................................. to attend Homework Club on Wednesday afternoons.

He/she will be collected/ walk home (cross out whichever does not suit).

Parent’s name: ........................................................... Phone no.: ..................................................

Parent’s signature: ..........................................................

Mrs Jan Stubbs – Additional Needs Teacher

SPORT NEWS

Swimming  Last week St Pauls held the Lismore Diocese Secondary Swimming Carnival. It was a great day with more than 200 competitors. Our College swim team consisted of the following students: Finn Askew, Liam Askew, Emily Brenton, Olivia Brenton, Charlie Brenton, Erin Cook, Tom Fletcher, Adam Grant, Jessica Grant, Rebecca Grant, Lachlan Harris, Angus Howden, Tayla Maybon, Caitlin Rudder, Cara Rudder, Radley Schubert, Hugh Shannon, Carla Silvia, Luke Sutherland, Zac Ward and Jye Woodger. Each and every one of these students should be congratulated on their efforts and the competitiveness shown throughout the day.

Congratulations to Adam, Jessica and Rebecca Grant as well as Hugh Shannon who placed and will now compete at the NSWCCC Swimming Championships in Homebush next month. Jessica Grant was also awarded Girls 16 Years Runner Up and also broke two records on the day in the 50m and 100m butterfly. Adam Grant was awarded 12 Year Boys Age Champion. Congratulations Adam and Jessica.

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped out on the day including; Mr Salter, Mr Crowley, Mr McGregor, Mr Wilson, Mr Pugh, Mrs Single, Mr Bramley and Chris Hawtin. A special mention must go to the following Year 10 students who were amazing helping out on the day; Rhiannon Bolton, Damon Green, Caitlin Harris, Corey Page, Mackenzie Allen, Andrew Scott, Tegan Swan, Erin Whalen, Liana Tyne, Nathan Farawell, Henry Gambrill and Angus Crofty. Without all of these people the carnival would not have ran as smoothly as it did. Thank you also

Some of our SPCK Swim Team, showing off their new swimming caps.
to all the parents who came to support their children and the College on the day. It was great to see so many familiar faces around the pool deck.

Finally, thank you to the P & F for helping our students to purchase College swimming caps. They looked great and our students were easily spotted in the pool.

**Rugby League**  St Paul’s College entered five teams in the NRL 9’s Rugby League Gala Day at Tuffin’s Lane, Port Macquarie last Thursday, 10 March. Forty three players, many of whom do not play club rugby league represented the College in what can only be described as sweltering weather conditions. The 13 Years won two, drew one and lost three games, the 14 Years were short of numbers and lost all three games, the 15 Years won one and lost two games and the 16.5 Years won all three games contested.

Congratulations to all boys who showed great sportsmanship and represented the College with distinction. We were very lucky to get through the day with no serious injuries and I would like to thank Mr Mitchl Picker, Mr Corey Stocks and all the students for their excellent efforts throughout the day.

Still on rugby league. Last weekend Kaine Parkinson attended the U15’s NSWCCC Rugby League Development Camp in Narrabeen. Kaine thoroughly enjoyed this experience and has gained valuable knowledge of the game and ways in which to improve his own.

**Golf**  Last week Malcolm Ramsay and Angus Bird competed in the Southern NSWCCC Golf Championships in Tuncurry. Both boys played well, however both felt it was far from their best. Thank you to Mr Garty for assisting in transport for the day.

**Netball**  This week we have four teams, both boys and girls competing in the NSW Schools Cup at Kempsey. We wish them well and a full report on their performance will be in the next newsletter.

**Winter Trials**  Congratulations to the following students who were successful in their application to trial for the Lismore Diocesan teams: Lindsay Morrison and Abbigail Baker (Open girls soccer), Lachlan Jay (Open boys soccer), Jack Keough, Kaine Parkinson, Nathan Phillips and Joel Stocks (Rugby League). They will travel to Lismore next week. We wish them all the best.

**Miss Dianne Lawrence and Scott Edwards** – *Sports Co-ordinators*

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**ST PAUL’S COLLEGE P & F NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING SPONSORSHIP**

The Newsletter cover sheet has room for eight (8) more sponsors. The advertisement is approximately 9.5cm by 3.5 cm and costs $50 for the year. There are approximately 16 newsletters published per year. If you are interested in advertising, please complete the form below and include a business card for scanning, or ring the College on 6562 7200.

A receipt for taxation purposes will be issued on payment.

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**Hotline for Carers**

The Australian Government has launched a new hotline and website dedicated to supporting carers. Carer Gateway is intended to provide support, advice and information to the 2.7 million Australians caring for friends and family in the community. The free call line, 1800 442 737, is contactable between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, and can provide call backs. The website, carergateway.gov.au, is accessible 24/7. The main objectives of the services are to provide practical tips on how to care for particular conditions, access respite services and support groups, cope when caring changes or comes to an end.
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

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<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
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<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
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- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.
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