Dear Parent/Guardians,

Child Safe Standards
On 26 November 2015, the Victorian Parliament passed the Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Child Safe Standards) Bill 2015 to introduce child safe standards into law. The standards commenced from 1 January 2016 for most organisations working with children, with the aim of promoting cultural change in the way organisations manage the risk of child abuse and neglect.

The child safe standards are part of the Victorian Government’s response to the Betrayal of Trust Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and other Non-Government Organisations. The Betrayal of Trust Report found that while the majority of children are safe in organisations and in the community, more work could be done to strengthen existing approaches to child safety.

The child safe standards aim to drive cultural change in organisations that provide services for children so that protecting children from abuse is embedded in everyday thinking and practice.

To create and maintain a child safe organisation, an entity to which the standards apply must have:

**Standard 1:** Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements

**Standard 2:** A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety

**Standard 3:** A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children

**Standard 4:** Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel

**Standard 5:** Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse

**Standard 6:** Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse

**Standard 7:** Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children

The Department, staff and School Council have been working on out Child Safe Policy over the last few months and this is being made available to the school community via our school website. If you would like a hard copy of the policy please come into the school office and request one and we will print one off for you. From time to time in the newsletter, we will include our Statement of Commitment to the Child Safe Standards as we promote an organisational culture across the Department that manages the risk of child abuse and neglect. If you have any questions or queries about the Child Safe Standards you can contact Barb Heeney (Student Well Being) or myself.

**FEAST**
The big day has finally arrived. As this newsletter is being produced we are at the George Jenkins Theatre rehearsing for tonight. All of the grades in the school have been putting in a lot of time and effort, along with the band and school choir getting ready for tonight. We look forward to seeing you at FEAST, starting at 7pm sharp. A reminder that photography and video recording are not permitted.

**Footy Day**

Friday 16/9

Get dressed up in your footy gear and support your team.

Remember to bring along your coins for our annual coin line.
not permitted in the theatre. The show will be video taped and made available for sale after the performance for a small cost of $5. An order form will go home after FEAST and the DVD will be made during the school holidays ready for collection at the beginning of term.

**Friday 16/9 - End of Term**
The last day of term is upon us. We have a busy day planned for Friday. We will start the day with our final assembly for the term to be held in the hall at 905am. We will present the Aussie of the Month, Mathletes of the Month and 100% attendance certificates for the term.

At around 10am, we will have our Footy Day parade on the basketball courts, weather permitting. After the parade, we will have our annual Footy Day Coin Line, where the money raised will be donated to State Schools’ Relief. State Schools’ Relief offers a simple solution - their practical service ensures that every student, regardless of their background, can fully participate in education. Having a uniform and looking like everyone else ensures that all students feel included and valued. It provides everyone, regardless of background, with the opportunity to participate fully in schooling. State Schools’ Relief is unique; no other Australian State has a similar organisation. They have supported tens of thousands of young Victorians and their families, clothing 1 in 60 kids for school each year. They remain the leading agency providing material support to young people in Victorian government schools.

After recess, the PFA have organised our Footy Day end of term lunch—hot dogs and pies are on the menu and everyone is looking forward to this.

As it is the end of term, we will be finishing at 230pm and students should be picked up at this time. On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable term break. We look forward to seeing you on Monday October 3rd.

Until next time,

Brian McFall (Principal)
Our school will implement the Child Safe Standards to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students at the school and promote an organisational culture that manages the risk of child abuse and neglect.
On Friday the 24th of August we had our Annual Basketball Lightning Premiership. We had a girl’s team which was coached by Mrs Smith and a boy’s team which was coached by Mr O.

In the girl’s team we had Monique, Jackie, Cadence, Kayla & Maddie.

In the boy’s team we had Jordan, Mathew, Ryan, Jai, Ky & Jack.

We were pretty pumped about the whole day. We played 11 games each....it was tiring but lots of fun, we were exhausted by the end.

After we had all finished playing basketball we had a presentation.

The girl’s team came 2nd and boy’s team came 3rd

Well done FEPS!!!!

P.S Thanks to all our parents & Grandparents who came to watch and support us!!!!!!
**Mind their *#!!*!# language**

by Michael Grose

**What do you think when you hear kids swear in public?**

If you’re like me, you feel decidedly uncomfortable when kids of any age turn the air blue with profanities. Swearing shows lack of respect for others, and also a lack of awareness for their surroundings.

Teaching kids to use appropriate language is trickier now than in the past. For a start, standards have changed where many words, such as the F word, that were deemed inappropriate in the past are often heard on radio and seen in mainstream newspapers. And words that everyone agrees are inappropriate are frequently used in public forums, to the point that the boundaries of appropriateness have become blurred.

Standards may change, but the job of parents hasn’t altered. That is, to teach kids to use language that doesn’t offend others. Whether it’s teasing or swearing it’s all the same. If it’s offensive then choose other words, or say nothing at all is the message to get across to the next generation.

**Socially-smart kids alter their language**

Socially-skilled kids of all ages will adjust their language to suit the situation they are in. They may speak one way with their friends, but use a completely different vocabulary when they are with adults. They are aware that what works with their best friend just won’t cut it when you are in grandma’s company. This awareness shows social acuity, and a flexibility to adjust to different environments. It needs to be extended to all sorts of situations including where adults and younger children are present.

**They didn’t hear that from me!**

What do you do, when you know your children swear despite your best intentions? Don’t over react. Try to work out its purpose. *Children swear for many reasons,* including to experiment with language; to attract your attention; to make themselves appear bigger or older than they are; and even as a challenge or expression of personal power.

Inappropriate language can also simply be a reflection of your children’s peer groups. “Everyone else swears so there’s nothing wrong with it” is a common attitude of many children and young people.

Teach them that language may be appropriate in one context or be accepted by one group but it is not acceptable in every situation. While not condoning swearing get across to children that they need to learn to control their use of language and adjust it to suit the situation they are in.

**When swearing becomes a habit**

If swearing has become a habit for kids, *make up alternative words to replace the swear words.* One family I know had replaced certain words with fruit. They had a fruit for every situation! Alternatively, use a penalty of fine system to make kids aware of their poor language. When you hear a family member swear fine them an agree amount. At the end of the week or month give the money to a worthy cause. Of course, this strategy is easier to implement when parents join in as well.

**Take a long, hard look at er...yourself!**

It’s also helpful to *examine your own choice of language* to judge if it is an acceptable model for your children. Yep, sometimes kids will pick up their parents’ language and repeat it at the worst possible time such as when relatives are over.

The job of adults is to develop a sense of social awareness in the next generation so they can easily navigate a variety of different groups and social situations. Teaching appropriate language use is at the very heart of teaching kids to be socially-skilled.
Dear Parents/Guardians

As the school holidays are approaching, you may have plans to travel on Victoria’s roads. Significant rain is expected to fall over much of Victoria over the next few days, which may result in flooding.

Because of this rainfall, there is an increased risk to those travelling on our roads, and it is possible that houses across the State may be impacted as well.

I urge you to heed the following advice from emergency services:

- You should never drive through floodwater – it only takes about 15 centimetres of water to lose control of your vehicle.
- Drive to the conditions around you and be aware of road hazards such as mud, debris, damaged roads and bridges.
- Roads in your area could be damaged by the bad weather so plan your journey and monitor VicTraffic for road condition updates and any road closures, see: Vic Traffic
- Never swim, walk or play in floodwater, it is dangerous and may contain hazardous debris or toxins.
- If your property is at risk of flooding, please raise belongings onto tables, benches or beds and if you are on a farm, consider moving your livestock to higher ground.
- Remain informed with emergency broadcasters to ensure you are up-to-date with the latest conditions and if possible, make sure your neighbours are aware of the situation. For more information, see: Vic Emergency

Many thanks, and have a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Barb Heeney – Student Wellbeing Manager

School Choir

We are very proud to present four students with our Choir Member of the Month awards for August 2016. They are:

- Zalia R. 1/2B, Martha M. 1/2H, Maki-Maru A. 4/5W and Lily H. 4/5W.

In the countdown to FEAST, these choir members have all shown amazing effort, dedication and enthusiasm both during choir lessons and with their practicing at home.

Congratulations Zalia, Martha, Maki-Maru & Lily, keep up the great work!

We would also like to congratulate the following choir members on receiving attendance awards for;

- **25 lessons**
  - Zalia R., Martha M., Andjelija S., Lilah H., Mia R., Lily H., Jaclyn R.-H., Kayla D.
- **20 lessons**
  - Jaxton E., Blessing T.
- **15 lessons**
  - Cabrielle T.

We are so excited to see you all at FEAST tonight!!!

Until next time........FEPS Harmony

That’s something we all should swear by!

Things to remember when kids swear:

- Avoid over-reacting when your kids swear. Look for the reason.
- Discuss with older children the concept of matching their language with the audience.
- Nip it in the bud before it becomes habit-forming.
- Use a penalty of fine system when kids swear in front of you. Model the language you want kids to use.

Have a fantastic two week break. Enjoy yourselves and come back for an exciting and busy Term Four.

Barb Heeney – Student Wellbeing Manager
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To provide the Frankston East Community with a friendly and dynamic learning environment that engages students who work to achieve their personal best in an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation.

Frankston East Primary School promotes itself as an “Established School with Modern Ideas, based on Traditional Values”

We Value:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPECT</th>
<th>We respect the rights of each other and our environment.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOLERANCE</td>
<td>We accept individual differences in every way.</td>
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<td>EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE</td>
<td>We believe in the right of every child to excel to their personal best.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONFIDENCE</td>
<td>We instil in the child the confidence to approach the unknown.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMMUNITY INTERACTION</td>
<td>We encourage honest and open community interaction and involvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUN</td>
<td>We never lose sight of the fun and enjoyment of learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSICAL APPRECIATION</td>
<td>We incorporate musical awareness, appreciation and performance throughout our programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPORTING INVOLVEMENT</td>
<td>Sporting involvement at all ages provides a wonderful insight into the development of people skills</td>
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Our commitment to child safety

Frankston East Primary School is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers. We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our robust policies and procedures. We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child’s safety, which we follow rigorously.

Our school is committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early, and removing and reducing these risks. Our school has robust human resources and recruitment practices for all staff and volunteers. Our school is committed to regularly training and educating our staff and volunteers on child abuse risks.

We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from a culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

We have specific policies, procedures and training in place that support our leadership team, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments. If you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse phone 000.