

# Newsletter



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*This year in our staff meetings, we have rostered teaching staff to source a professional reading to share with their colleagues and we have allocated time to discuss the article. It can be an article about anything to do with teaching or working with children or child development .....anything relevant to our work. Last term I was rostered on and I shared the following article. I hope you enjoy reading this short article and it makes you reflect upon the words that you speak to your child. The words we choose are of great significance and can have a great impact upon our children.*

### One Thing to Never Say To Your Kids by Bryan Ward

Your preschooler proudly shows you his latest crayon drawing. Your daughter eagerly asks you to rate her volleyball serve on a scale of 1 to 10. Your son calls you to the computer to show you his latest stop-animation short film.

Every time your child presents their work for feedback, you face an essential crossroad: you must choose whether to praise the ABILITY or the EFFORT that produced the work. It's easy to praise ability. There's something about it that feels fittingly grand, aspirational. But when you choose to praise your child's ability—telling your daughter what a good volleyball player she is, or calling your son a great artist—you are planting a dangerous seed... what psychologist [Carol Dweck](#) calls the "fixed mindset."

Subtly yet powerfully, you are reinforcing the idea that the world of experience is divided into two categories: things your child is naturally good at, and things they aren't.

In time, your child will unconsciously gravitate to activities that come easily to them, and avoid those that do not. The world of work and experience becomes less about exploration and challenge, and more about finding a reliable set of "things I'm good at" they can cling to. In a world that rewards pioneers, creators, entrepreneurs, risk takers—those willing to first fail before they succeed—this behaviour is disastrous, and leaves them fundamentally ill-equipped.

In contrast, when you praise your child's EFFORT, you praise something directly within your child's control. "Wow, your serve has really improved... all your hard work is starting to pay off!" "I love this drawing... I can tell you've been practicing: keep up the good work!" By doing this, you give your child one of the greatest gifts a parent can give: a healthy relationship to risk and the unknown. You have separated love from performance, and thereby unlocked the world for them: "I love you, and that love has nothing to do with your performance and everything to do with who you ARE. Nothing you do or don't do can ever change that. So go nuts! Try it all! Fail, succeed, suck at first... none of it matters. None of it is a threat to your place in the world, or in my heart. Fail freely, fail fearlessly."

"Good boy!" is dangerous. "Good work!" is empowering.

The words we choose... they matter. ESPECIALLY the words we speak to these bright-eyed children... to these little creators-to-be in our charge. So speak wisely. Their future power is in your hands.

*Cathy*

Cathy France –Principal

### Happy 147th Birthday Maria Montessori!

Last week we celebrated Maria Montessori's birthday by dressing up in "Italian inspired" costumes. Pasta, pizza and gelato featured heavily along with fashion designers, racing car drivers and green, red and white! We raised \$160 for the Montessori Children's Foundation which supports Montessori programs for indigenous children in Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands.



# School News

## BOARD COMMUNIQUE

The Governance Risks section of the Risk Management Plan was reviewed. The Chair of each sub-committee presented a progress report against their action plan. The following updated policies/procedures were reviewed and ratified:

- Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Funds (*policy and procedure*)
- Fees (*procedure*)

Paul Daly –Board President

## 2017 BIG FUNDRAISER

This year The Hills Montessori School will be holding a HUGE garage sale, in conjunction with 'The Garage Sale Trail'-Australia's biggest reuse event. This is the school's main fundraiser for the year with proceeds raised going directly to the school and we'd love your involvement.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21st 2017  
YULTIWIRRA CAMPUS 10AM - 3PM

Garage Sale Trail is about creating a national movement to encourage us all to consider what we use, what we can reuse and the impact we all make on the planet. *If you're about to do your spring clean, please think about what you could put aside for the Garage Sale.*

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- **DONATE** second hand goods
- **VOLUNTEER** for a few hours on the day
- help with **SETTING UP** in the week before the event
- **PACKING UP** the event on the day
- **BAKING** cakes or biscuits for the cake stall or café

### GOODS TO DONATE

ITEMS NEED TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION

Please **don't** donate anything you **wouldn't** buy yourself.

**IDEAS FOR GOODS TO DONATE** • baby gear • kids' clothes (*clean & in good condition*) • toys (*in good condition*) • sports equipment • bikes • household items (*cutlery, crockery*) • furniture • music • books • plants • gardening equipment • tools

**WE DON'T WANT** • electrical items • stockings/ tights, swim wear • stained/ torn/ damaged clothes

### DROP OFF TIMES

Week 9 and Week 10 of Term 3 • **SCHOOL HOLIDAY**

**DROP-OFF DAY** Friday 13th October 9am-11am

A storage container will be left near the entrance of the school gym from Monday 18 September.

*Also on the day there will be • Sausage Sizzle • Café • Face Painting • Cake Stall • Bouncy Castle*

*Speak to the office or your class rep for more information*



## MARIA MONTESSORI'S BIRTHDAY

Dr Maria Montessori was born on the 31st August 1870, 147 years ago (last Thursday!) Many of you will have some knowledge of Maria Montessori and her extraordinary life. She graduated as the first female physician in Italy, she was a professor of anthropology at the University of Rome, she studied psychology and philosophy and was



nominated for three Nobel Peace Prizes. She founded the first Casa dei Bambini, or "Children's House" in Rome in January 1907. What ultimately became the Montessori method of education developed in that first Casa dei Bambini, based upon Montessori's scientific observations of those children. She worked tirelessly throughout her life observing children and teaching teachers her method of education. Her work & legacy lives on through the many Montessori schools throughout the world.

Every year the school celebrates Maria Montessori's birthday by raising money for the Montessori Children's Foundation which provides money to Montessori programs being run in Indigenous communities around Australia.

## GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL PERSONS DAY

This year Grandparents/Special Person Day will be held on:

- **Wed 20th September for Cycle 1 students (Preschool & Primary)**
- **Thurs 21st Sept for Cycle 2 & 3 & Preschool Thurs/Fri groups**

Grandparents & Special People will be asked to congregate in the hall at 9.30am. The visit finishes at 11.30am.

An invite has been sent home so that all families can arrange for their children to address the envelope/s and post or hand deliver to grandparents &/or special people. Grandparents/visitors are requested to RSVP to the school to assist us with catering.

Student performances will entertain our visitors, a morning tea will be provided and they will have an opportunity to spend time in their grandchildren's classrooms. A photographer will be present to take photos of guests/grandparents with their grandchildren.

*We ask that parents act promptly in delivering the invites so that grandparents & special people have plenty of notice of these days.*

We have also emailed the invite for those parents who wish to email it onto Grandparents/visitors.



## NAPLAN RESULTS – WHOLE SCHOOL

Parents with children in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 are asked to contact their child's class teacher to make a time to discuss the results in conjunction with other school records.

# Cycle News



## INFANT PROGRAM

Using Glue is a focus in the Infant Program this term and the children are enjoying experiencing lots of sticky situations. Matilda is using tissue paper and glue to decorate her butterfly.

## CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

To celebrate Book Week in the preschool we dressed up as either a book character or in our pajamas 'ready for a bedtime story'. Students also brought in their favourite story to share with each other and to create their own page for our collaborative class 'Book Week' book. The children love seeing themselves and their peers in this special book that now lives in our book nook.



*"My favourite part is the butterflies in the clouds with the Gumnut babies. I like all of them!"* - Harriet on Tales From The Billabong

*"My favourite part is when he buries his brush"* - Eloise on Harry The Dirty Dog

*"My favourite part is when he gives out all the shiny scales to everyone."* - Tabby on The Rainbow Fish

## CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

On Thursday, the Cycle One Primary children enjoyed a session with guest speaker Allen Edwards, a Kurna / Kokatha representative. Allen told us about his family and experience as an Aboriginal man in Adelaide. He shared some of his knowledge of Indigenous culture and the importance of reconciliation. The children asked lots of questions about his life, culture and his favourite things. During a later class discussion Lily and Molly described how he taught us the steps to playing a didgeridoo; the breathing, what you do with your lips and the sound that you make with your voice. Amber and Charli described how traditional people caught birds. "You have a net and you get a small boomerang and throw it and the birds fly up after it and they get caught in a net". Dusty really enjoyed learning to dance like a kangaroo and an emu.



## CYCLE 2

The last 2 weeks have seen much activity in Cycle 2. We began our Overnight Camp with a visit to the Stirling Library for Book Week, to hear Phil Cummings speak about writing. The students were quite enthralled with his stories, and jumped when the chicken (not the snake) bit his leg! From Stirling we took the bus to Woodhouse Activity Centre for our annual overnight camp. The students took part in a variety of activities including orienteering, water testing (Thanks again Emma!), crafty stuff and frisnet golf as well as team building sessions. We all enjoyed the campfire and most of us tried some well-cooked and some not-so-well-cooked damper on a stick!



## CYCLE 3

On Monday the 28th of August Sci World visited our school. Cycle 3 enjoyed participating in a work shop which focused on energy and forces. Students looked at different forms of energy such as sound energy, light energy and electricity. They learnt about the difference between kinetic and potential energy and that forces can be push or pull. Small groups got to work their way through 8 hands on experiments and experience these forces and different types of energy in action. In the afternoon Sci World put on a Science Spectacular Show for the whole school with many fascinating and exciting demonstrations.



## CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

The Cycle 4 students have been sleeping rough this week! Slum Survivor is a simulation exercise in which these young people have slept in cardboard boxes, made hundreds of paper bags to earn just enough money to eat and had to deal with unexpected disasters and fluctuating markets.

*It has been really eye opening to see how nearly a billion people live in the world. The whole Slum Survivor experience has been really awesome! Although my "family" and I struggled to earn money to eat it made all the difference that we had other families to help us get a roof over our heads and food for our stomachs. (Neneh, Year 8).*

*I feel like it is really unfair that some people have to live like this all the time. As a lucky country we should do something about this. It would be so hard to be an old person living like this, or a young child. I feel that I am quite fortunate to have such a good life. (Ethan, Year 7).*

*A few things that happened were really unfair but it helped make the experience all the more real. For example, my family worked really hard to earn money to eat and another family made the same amount of money in an instant from begging. I felt cheated and betrayed at the injustice. (Renad, Year 8).*

## INDONESIAN WITH LYNDAL

The whole primary school recently enjoyed a performance of Balinese dance from the INDOfest In Schools Committee. Students were invited to try on costumes and join in some of the dances. Parents are thanked for their support - with \$48.20 being raised in gold coin donation. In Cycle 3 and 4, students are now developing strategies for fluent delivery of 12-20 'stock phrases' in particular concerning animals and pets. They are also studying different provinces of Indonesia with Cycle 4 preparing in Term 4 to welcome a Flinders University Ambassador to Indonesia from Malang in East Java.



# School Dates & Info

## TERM 3 DIARY DATES

### Sunday September 10

Tournament of Minds – Cycle 3

### Tuesday September 12

Facilities Meeting 8am @ Wairoa

Finance Meeting 6pm

### Thursday September 14

Sharing Assembly 9.30am Cycle 2,4 & Music sharing

Parent Rep meeting 2.30pm

### Friday September 15

Fundraising Meeting 8am

### Tuesday September 19

Executive Meeting 6pm

Board Meeting 7pm

### Wednesday September 20

Grandparents Day for Cycle 1

### Thursday September 21

Grandparents Day for Cycle 2 & 3

WHS Meeting 4pm

### Sunday September 24

Working Bee @ Yultiwirra 10am-12noon

### Tuesday September 26

Year 8 Immunisations

Special Finance & Facilities meeting 6pm

### Thursday September 28

Policy meeting 4pm

### Friday September 29

Snap Shot Books home for Yultiwirra students

End of Term 3 – 2pm finish

## KEY DATES FOR TERM 4

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### Monday October 16

Pupil Free Day

### Tuesday October 17

Term 4 Begins

### Wednesday November 1 & Thursday November 2

School Photos

### Tuesday November 7

Full day Transition Visit @ Wairoa for Yr 6 students

### Thursday November 16

Wairoa café 9.00am

## EARN & LEARN

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Whenever you shop at Woolworths, collect the stickers at the checkout and place them on sticker cards available in the school office (1 sticker for every \$10 spent) and drop into the collection box located in the office and help get valuable resources for our school. We have until 19<sup>th</sup> September to collect them; ask work colleagues, neighbours, grandparents and friends to collect them for us too!!

## 2017 TERM DATES

TERM 3: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September

TERM 4: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

## 2018 TERM DATES

TERM 1: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April

TERM 2: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

TERM 3: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September

TERM 4: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

## WE ARE A SUN SMART SCHOOL- WHOLE SCHOOL

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Please remember that we are a Sun Smart School and all students are required to wear a broad brimmed hat and appropriate clothing to protect the skin when going outside for any activity. Our policy states that particularly from the 1st September – 30th April students will wear broad brimmed hats whenever they are outside. Sun block is provided by the school and students are taught by the school adults to apply sun block before leaving the classroom. Please ensure that your child has a named sunhat that can be kept in his/her bag or on the hat stand in the classroom and that it is at school.

## COMMUNITY LOTTERY- WHOLE SCHOOL

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Australian Central Community Lottery books now need to be returned URGENTLY. Please return your book to the Office as soon as possible!

## NEW BIKE SHELTER

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As the weather begins to warm up we encourage students from both campuses to ride their bikes and use the new bike shelters.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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Circle of Security Parenting – Free 8 week course offered by CAMHS Mt Barker. The course will cover what your child's behaviour might mean, how to help your child organise their feelings, how to help your child feel secure in their relationships, how to help your child engage more in play and learning, how to support yourself when times are tough, how to support your child in managing difficult behaviours.

Wednesdays 9.30am – 12.00pm 18<sup>th</sup> Oct to 6<sup>th</sup> Dec (8 sessions)

23 Victoria Crescent, Mt Barker

For bookings and further information please contact CAHMS on 8391 3922 or Chloe 0427 734 676 or [chloe@montessori.sa.edu.au](mailto:chloe@montessori.sa.edu.au)

Aldgate Tennis Club – Registrations open for 2017/18 season  
[www.asrc.asn.au](http://www.asrc.asn.au)

NIDA Open is proud to announce they will be offering regular term drama classes for grades 4–7 and 8–10. These courses provide the perfect opportunity for your students to gain access to NIDA's expertise through regular, dedicated course work, and develop practical skills in the performing arts in a fun and supportive.

Visit [nida.edu.au/term-classes](http://nida.edu.au/term-classes) or Call 1300 450 417.