

# Newsletter



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At the last Board meeting, three people were nominated for Life Membership of the School. Our School Constitution and Regulations state **that...** “a person shall be made a Life Member of the School as a recognition of consistent, long standing and excellent service rendered to the School by that person and such person shall be of good standing in the community and held in high regard by other members of the School.” Written nominations need to be submitted to the Board by four School members setting out the details of the **nominee’s** service. Nominations then need to be displayed for 14 days calling for any further written submissions supporting the nomination prior to the Board voting on the appointment.

**Denise Connelly, Tony Calvett** and **Jen Gibson** have been nominated for Life Membership this year.

Most of our community will know Tony Calvett & Denise Connelly who both retired from their teaching roles at the end of last year after working at the school for 32 years and 27½ years respectively. Both Tony and Denise have been nominated in recognition of their long standing and generous service to the school.

On the other hand, **Jen Gibson** is probably unfamiliar to most however she was instrumental in the establishment of our school. Jen started the first preschool class of eight students in the Nairne police station in 1978 and went on to apply for registration to establish our school. Jen was the first teacher and coordinator of our school and we are extremely grateful for her foresight and vision and her hard work, passion and dedication required to establish a new school. She is the reason we have our beautiful school today and in our 40<sup>th</sup> birthday year we thought it was fitting to show our gratitude and bestow Jen with a Life Membership in recognition of her pioneering spirit and for her work in establishing our school.

The nominations for Life Membership are displayed in the office if you would like to read about each person being nominated. It is customary that Life Members are inducted at a formal presentation at the AGM. We are hoping to induct Jen Gibson at the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday dinner in Term 3. If you wish to support these nominations in writing, please do so and submit it to me by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Nominations will be ratified at the April Board meeting.

*Cathy France –Principal*



## PE IN MONTESSORI

This week our school has decided it will be **PE Week**. With that we have planned a number of exciting events! We deemed Tuesday ‘Walk to School day’ and there were volleyball clinics for Cycle 3 in the afternoon.

Wednesday is Sports Dress Up Day and we have encouraged students to dress up as their favourite sports person or to come in their favourite sports gear. Attila and Suzie lead a whole school Health Hustle first thing on Wednesday morning. On Thursday it is Games Day for Cycles 2,3 & 4 students to be held at Yultiwirra and on Friday it is Cycle 1 Games Day.

PE occurs every week in our school and the PE component of the Australian curriculum is covered through PE lessons with Attila in conjunction with fitness sessions run by class teachers.

This week we also launch our new PE brochure which will be sent home to all school families and you can also access it on the Skoolbag App under ‘Parent Information’. The brochure outlines how the Physical Education curriculum is presented in a Montessori environment. We hope you find the PE brochure useful and informative.



## FESTIVAL OF ARTS

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 6.00pm – 8.30pm**

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March (week 8) the school will hold the biennial FESTIVAL OF ARTS evening. Classrooms will be open for viewing of the visual art work that children have been working on. Throughout the evening, classes, individuals and small groups of students will demonstrate their artistic skills through the entertainment program and by “busking” around the school.

*Join us at 6.30pm for the official unveiling of the 40th Birthday sculpture!*

A BBQ dinner is on offer, plus a Bar and Coffee & Cake.

*Food must be pre-ordered via Skoolbag app.*

We are looking for some volunteers to help – so let us know if you can assist on the night.

We particularly need two people to cook the BBQ from 3.30pm-4.30pm. Please let us know if you can help!

An invitation has been sent home to all school families with all the information needed via Skoolbag.

Come along & view the art work in classrooms!

Enjoy performances from students & adults!

Eat, drink & mingle with other families!

Lots of “hands-on” children’s activities!

Gold Coin donation for program & entry!

\$5 for Children’s Passports!



# School News

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT COORDINATOR

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In our School we have a structure to provide practical help to families within our school community who require support or assistance in times of need &/or families who may be experiencing a crisis. The *Community Support Coordinator* (volunteer position) oversees this program. Community support may take the form of providing meals for a family, helping with pick-ups and drop - offs of children, child minding, shopping etc. Everyone from time to time goes through difficult periods in life whether it is caused by illness, accidents and injury or the death of a loved one – we are all faced with challenges and moments that are hard. When we are faced with a family crisis, knowing that we have the support of our community and there are people who are willing and able to help with some of the day to day routines and duties can really ease the burden. Our school community can be wonderful at rallying around and offering small gestures of kindness to let families or individuals in crisis know that we care and we are here to support if needed.

This year *Amy Sierp-Worth* and *Vanessa Baryczka*, class parent reps have kindly volunteered to take on this role. We are sending home a questionnaire to families to ask if there are any ways they may be able to support if and when needed. We will be grateful of any support that people are prepared to offer and will 'keep a register' of support in the event that assistance is required.

If your family experiences challenging times or faces a crisis please don't hesitate to contact either your class teacher or Cathy so we can provide some support. Specific family situations will always be treated in a confidential, respectful and discrete manner and will not be disclosed to the community when seeking support.

*"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."* Anthony J. D'Angelo

## INTRODUCTION TO 'EMOTION COACHING'

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When our kids are experiencing big emotions such as anger, anxiety or fear, it can be hard not to react in the moment.

Emotion Coaching is a way of thinking about the ways that we as parents respond to our children when they are feeling overwhelmed, that is simple and helps build your child's ability to manage their own emotions (*ideal for use with both little and much older kids - even partners!*)

We are all human and have our good and bad days, and this way of responding is about doing the best you can in the moment, not being the perfect parent.

All parents are invited to come along to a parent discussion group facilitated by *Libby Roberts* (Student Wellbeing Worker) to be held **THIS Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March @ 9.15am**. Please RSVP via Skoolbag or at the office.

*Come along, join in the conversation and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee!*

## 40<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY RECIPE BOOK

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This year we are creating a special "40th Birthday" edition of The Hills Montessori School "Family Favourites Recipe Book" and are calling upon members of the school community to write down their favourite tried-and-tested recipe(s) for publication in the book. We are seeking recipes of all kinds! Please email your recipes to [reception@montessori.sa.edu.au](mailto:reception@montessori.sa.edu.au) to ensure your contribution is included. Copies of the recipe book will be available to purchase later this year and will not only include fabulous recipes but artwork by students. We eagerly await your contributions! *Thanking you, the Fundraising Committee* (please speak to Ellie or Vanessa should you require further information).

## PLEASE HELP SUPPORT!

I'm shaving off all of my hair to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. The Leukaemia Foundation funds research into all kinds of blood cancer, to find cures, and helps Australians get over the shock of diagnosis.

It's all coming off on the 25<sup>th</sup> March at the Stirling markets. We're going to be selling cupcakes at the market, as well as the opportunity to cut a small plait of my hair. All proceeds to the Leukaemia

Foundation. My hair is 90cm long, after ten years of growing it out. If you would like to donate you can go to

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/demelzametha>

*Demelza Metha – Wairoa Year 9 student*



## CAKE STALL – WHOLE SCHOOL

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Members of the Fundraising Committee are organising a Cake Stall to be held at the Stirling Markets **THIS Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am – 4.00pm**.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

We are hoping that as many families as possible will support this fundraiser as we need plenty to sell as it is always a very successful day. If you can bake, provide produce or help on the day please come and let us know in the office asap. A roster is in the office for people to sign on!

## YULTIWIRRA WORKING BEE

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Thank you to Robert Doolan and the Richmond/Monaghan & Webb families who attended the working bee last Sunday. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

## OPEN DAY – YULTIWIRRA

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Thank you to parents *Amy Worth, Suzy Hill, Sonya Rayner and Nicki Stewart* for volunteering to act as guides at our Open Day this week. Your help and generosity was greatly appreciated.

# Cycle News

## INFANT PROGRAM

Marlow is using a stencil cut out of the shape of her hand and paint on bubble wrap to create a 'hand fish' with scales. We have a school of coloured hand fish for our Festival of Arts display.



## CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

In the preschool this term we have had a focus on the study of Australia including its first people, geography, flags, fauna and flora. An exciting part of our learning has been the 'Animals Anonymous' incursion where we met and safely handled a variety of Australian animals. The children enjoyed asking questions and making comments about each of the animals, adding to their knowledge and curiosity. Some of the highlights were handling Julia the Centralian Carpet Python, seeing Beanie the Squirrel Possum glide and watching the beautifully coloured Eclectic Parrot fly.



*"It is a Torny Frog!"* – Tabby

*"Can he fly?"* – Layla about the Torny Frog Mouth

*"I love geckos! When he's sleeping he can camouflage just like the bird (Tawny Frog Mouth)! Do you know how gecko's can climb up walls?"* – Xavier

## CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

For our practical life work this term we have started making a classroom quilt. We are sewing short strips of material together, which will then make up our quilt. Ollie said - "Look how long I've made it" Hunter said - "It's so long it reaches to the office" Jules said - "This is easy!"



## CYCLE 2

Last week both Cycle 2 classes viewed a performance by old scholar Jascha Boyce and her partner Joren Dawson, called 'Jelly or Jam' as part of the Adelaide Fringe in Stirling. It was a lovely day in the park with the children also doing team building activities and honing their juggling skills.



## CYCLE 3

Cycle 3 has enjoyed their first session of electives for 2018. Electives is a long standing program in Cycle 3, where parents volunteer their time to share a passion or interest with a small group of students. Activities included claymation, journal making, technical drawing, baking, jewellery making and bees wax wrap making. All activities were a huge hit and students are looking forward to the next 2 sessions. We would like to thank the parents who volunteered to run an elective, we appreciate your support.



## CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

As part of the Year 8/9 study of the human musculo-skeletal system local physiotherapist Caitlin McCormack took students through workshops combining anatomical knowledge, postural awareness and pilates stretches for strength and flexibility.



Last Friday the girls of Wairoa headed to the Stirling Fringe to experience an amazing one-woman production of the life of Muriel Matters. Muriel was an Adelaide-born actress who travelled to Britain and became one of the leading voices of the women's suffrage movement so we had a fantastic condensed history of this activism for social change. It turned out that during WW1 she even trained as a teacher with Montessori in Barcelona. She eventually stood (unsuccessfully) for parliament herself.

As part of the Big Ideas of Science Year 7 students created models of typical plant and animal cells, 'the smallest units of life.'



## INDONESIAN WITH LYNDAL

Repetition with variation has been our recipe for hearing, and then using prepositions and food words in Cycles 3 and 4. Cycle 3 have written some catchy song verses and Cycle 4 have prepared some assessable films for sharing across cycles using term focus points including adverbial phrases of frequency. Cycle 3 have also enjoyed corresponding with the students at Alfa Centauri school in response to letters from Alfa Centauri students delivered by Ibu Nita and ibu Eka. Please enjoy the cycle 4 film link to a subtitled short film.



<https://youtu.be/IOL7VrMa2E4> (subtitled)

# School Dates & Info

## TERM 1 DIARY DATES *(for the coming fortnight)*

Thursday March 22  
Games Day – Cycle 2, 3 & 4 students  
Friday March 23  
Games Day – Cycle 1 Preschool & C1 Primary students  
Introduction to 'Emotion Coaching' with Libby Roberts – 9.15am  
Fundraising Meeting 9.15am  
Sunday March 25  
Cake Stall @ Stirling Market  
Monday March 26  
Parent Get Together – 9.15am @ Yultiwirra Campus  
Tuesday March 27  
Marketing Meeting 4.00pm  
Wednesday March 28  
Yultiwirra Festival of Arts 6pm – 8.30pm  
Official unveiling of the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday sculpture 6.30pm  
Wednesday March 28 – Thursday March 29  
Adolescent Orientation Camp  
Thursday March 29  
Education Committee meeting 4.00pm  
Friday March 30  
*Good Friday*  
Sunday April 1  
*Day light savings ends*  
Monday April 2  
*Easter Monday*  
Tuesday April 3  
Class Parent meeting 2.30pm  
Executive meeting 6.00pm  
Wednesday April 4  
2.00pm – Official Opening of Cycle 1 Outdoor Learning Area  
Sharing Assembly – Yultiwirra Campus  
2.30pm – Parents Welcome! Cycle 2 & 4 sharing

## KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 & 2 2018

Thursday April 12  
Community Breakfast  
Friday April 13  
Term 1 Ends 2.00pm Finish  
Monday April 16 – Monday April 30  
Vacation Care Program  
Wednesday April 25  
*ANZAC Day Public Holiday*  
Tuesday May 1  
Term 2 Begins  
Tuesday May 15 – Thursday May 17  
NAPLAN Testing  
Tuesday May 22  
AGM held at Yultiwirra – 6.00pm

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"All our handling of the child will bear fruit, not only at the moment, but in the adult they are destined to become."

*Maria Montessori*

## 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

## DONATIONS

This term we are establishing lunchtime clubs for primary students. We are seeking any preloved Lego or Meccano to use in these sessions. If you have any Lego or Meccano that you no longer require we would be grateful for donations. Please bring any donations to the office.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Host families needed for 25 French students arriving end of May for 12 weeks! Embark on one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment please contact Jenny Hanson from student placement on 8232 0973 or 0409 890 184.

AikiKids – AikiKids provides a non-violent alternative for children in the martial arts. AikiKids classes teach discipline, respect and personal development. For more information visit [aisikids.org](http://aisikids.org) or call Peter Noble on 0434 44 8 892.

FREE Multi-cultural Musical Morning for preschoolers – Wednesday 28 March 10am – 12 noon @ Stirling Coventry Library Lawns. NO booking required – just turn up! Live music, folk dances, dual language storytelling, indigenous art, crafts and more!

Ink Pot Arts Workshops - Dance, drama and music workshops and sessions available in Term 1 & 2. Visit [facebook.com/inkpotarts](https://www.facebook.com/inkpotarts) or phone 8388 0353/0429 673 327 for further information.

GIVE AWAY Silky Bantam Roosters – 4 beautiful silky bantams that we cannot keep as we already have too many roosters in our flock. Contact Susan 0412 824 526.