

# Newsletter



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Festival of Arts was held last Wednesday and was such a wonderful evening exhibiting our **students'** visual arts' talents and also providing an opportunity for students to perform and showcase their musical talents and skills. There was such a "positive buzz" about the place with so many things to see and do for both children and parents. The weather was perfect and the food, refreshments, coffee, cake, buskers and **children's** passport activities all added to the success of the event. I would like to thank all of the staff who worked hard in preparation for the night, also thank you to the Fundraising committee and for the many other parents and staff who volunteered on the various 'stalls' and activities on the night. Thanks also to grandparent Penny Dowie and Tony Calvett who both exhibited their own art work on the night. Thanks to James our auctioneer who expertly auctioned the class canvases which were truly amazing! Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the evening. We raised a total of \$6221 which will be added to the annual fundraising efforts.

*Cathy France -Principal*



## PE WEEK & GAMES DAY

PE Week was held in Week 7 and was a huge success! Over 30 adults and students walked to school with Attila on Tuesday from Bridgewater Oval.

A whole school Health Hustle and dress up day was held on the Wednesday and proved to be lots of fun!

The Cycles 2, 3 and 4 Games Day was held on the Thursday with students from the three cycles joining together to make up six different colour groups. It was an opportunity to meet students from other cycles as well as work with a mix of ages and abilities. The groups were faced with six different challenges that required students to work together.

Each challenge required different qualities such as communication, trust and encouragement of each other. Students demonstrated their creativity and problem-solving skills attempting each challenge and it was a great opportunity for older students to show their leadership skills.

It was great to see how each group embraced the spirit of the day as they tackled each challenge with a positive attitude and enthusiastic approach.

Cycle 1 Preschool and primary students enjoyed their own Games Day on the Friday.

Thanks Attila for organising a great week of PE activities, everyone loved it and really appreciates your efforts!



# School News

## BOARD COMMUNIQUE

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The Board reviewed and endorsed the Life Membership nominations for Tony Calvett, Denise Connelly and Jen Gibson. The following updated policies were reviewed and approved:

- Food Safety
- Extreme Weather

The composition of the Board was discussed including a detailed review of the skills matrix.

*Paul Daly – Board President*

## VACATION CARE – YULTIWIRRA

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The Vacation Care Program will operate each day during the coming holidays from 7.30am to 6pm. The program will also operate on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April (pupil free day in wk 1 of Term 2). The program was sent home last week.

If you are interested in your child attending Vacation Care and have not already completed the booking form, please make sure you do this ASAP and hand into the office or directly to Sammi. We are currently trying to finalise staffing and confirm excursion arrangements.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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Please enter Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 6.00pm in your diary as the date of the **SCHOOL'S AGM**. The AGM will be held at Yultiwirra Campus. Following the AGM there will be wine, cheese and chatter. I encourage parents to attend the evening. The Board nomination form and information about the AGM will be sent home next week. Board Nominations need to be lodged at the school office by Friday 4th May. If you would like to discuss Board member obligations, see Cathy in the office.

## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST - YULTIWIRRA

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Next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April is our annual Community Breakfast to be held in the school courtyard at Yultiwirra commencing at 8.15am. All food needs to be pre-ordered via the Skoolbag app. Food will only be served between 8.15 – 8.45am so please don't be late! We hope to see you there!

## CAKE STALL

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Thank you to everyone who either baked, provided produce or assisted on the day. Thanks in particular to the Fundraising committee for organising this fundraiser. We raised \$698 - Well done to all!



## TERM 2 SAUSAGE SIZZLE

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A note will be sent home this week in preparation for our Term 2 Sausage Sizzle in the 1st week (*Friday 4th May*). Orders must be in by the last day of THIS term. Class Parent Reps are organising & hosting this special lunch for the students to celebrate the beginning of Term 2!

## 40<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY SCULPTURE

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Last Wednesday night at the Festival of Arts we officially unveiled the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday sculpture.

Last year we commissioned local artist *Tim Thomson* to design and craft a bronze sculpture of the school logo. Tim has realised our vision beyond our expectations and has created an amazing piece of art. We LOVE it! We would like to sincerely thank Tim for creating a beautiful monument to honour each and every person who has contributed and supported, worked and dedicated themselves to our school over its 40 year history. Thank you to Innis and Bethany for unveiling the sculpture on the night.

Thanks also to *Craig Daykin*, a past parent who donated the local stone on which the sculpture now sits. We would also like to thank *Mark Baryczka, Paul Evangelista, Peter Kupniewski, Tim Thomson* and *Craig Daykin* for assisting in the heavy work of installing the rocks a few weekends ago. Thank you also to *Anthea Hagar, Merilyn Kuchel, Richard Hagar, Nicole Killey* and *Rom Evangelista* for putting in the hard work of revamping and redesigning this front garden at a working bee a few weeks ago so there is a special place to showcase this unique work of art. Finally, thank you to the many staff and school families who generously donated money to support the crafting and installation of this beautiful sculpture.



## INTRODUCTION TO 'EMOTION COACHING'

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On Friday the 23rd of March Libby Roberts, the Student Wellbeing Worker at our school, ran a parent discussion group on 'Emotional Coaching'. The 5-step approach to emotional coaching was surprisingly straight forward and is meant to help children become more emotionally aware and improve their communication skills. I went away from the discussion group with some new tools and techniques to help my children through their 'big emotions'. The group really felt like a safe place to discuss issues, offer advice or tips and learn some new parenting skills. Thank you, Libby. *Janene Thomson – Cycle 1 & 2 parent*

# Cycle News

## CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

Cycle 1 preschool and primary students together recently enjoyed an active morning to celebrate Physical Education Week. Attila expertly organised cooperative activities that included maneuvering around a course attached to a partner '3 legged' style, working by relay to move the 'hoop caterpillar' towards its food and the always fun parachute games. Mason and Oscar, pictured, worked as a cooperative duo to explore the bush grass area, taking turns, with one member of the pair blindfolded. Thanks to Attila, our Cycle 3 Big Brothers and Sisters and enthusiastic parents for ensuring that we all had a fabulous fun and active time in the bush!



## CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

*Our class has had fun exploring the artist Piet Mondrian this term. We have enjoyed looking at and responding to lots of his art. We have had time to explore some Piet Mondrian inspired techniques including dancing to fast music before we start our art.... something Piet loved to do.*

*Emily "I guess he likes colours, he does lines that go this way and that"*

*Lucas "He danced before he made his art"*

*Ethan "He likes lines, he likes colours and he likes primary colours"*

*Joe "He likes to do fast dancing before his art, I like that about him"*

*Ty "He likes shapes, he loves horizontal lines and vertical lines. He likes squares and rectangles and primary colours"*

*Ollie "I know he made a famous painting! He knew shapes as well. He likes painting"*



## CYCLE 2

In Cycle 2 our classes have different 'pack-up' practical life jobs each week. Caring for our spiny leaf stick insects is one. The gum leaves need to be changed once or twice a week, with the leaves being sprayed with water daily. Currently we have three girls which are laying eggs and these are being put aside in the hope that they may hatch. If males are not present, females are still able to produce offspring, but they will also only be female. Twice this term we have ventured to the roadside for traffic tallying and last week transferred traffic data in to a column graph. Last week was our Festival of Arts evening. On the Friday we invited some Cycle 1 students down to try our fork painting activity, guided by a few of our Cycle 2 students.



## INFANT PROGRAM

Hugo who is 1 year old is contributing to the treed skyline on the Infant Program canvas using powdered dye and water with help from mum, Amanda.



## CYCLE 3

Last month our school participated in Clean Up Australia Day. We are fortunate that our school environment is largely litter free, so it is an annual event that Cycle 3 go to Caripook Park. The group trawled the local park and collected several items of rubbish. "It was cool we got to clean up the environment for the community." - Michael Evans. "There was a lot of rubbish to pick up. It was good to help not just for your self but helping Australia." - Pepe Zahra



## CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

Cycle 4 students set up three pop up restaurants last week as part of the Taste of the World program and Feeding the Community occupation. Invited guests enjoyed Indian, Mongolian and Japanese cuisine.



## PE WITH ATILA

In PE this term we have been developing the skills to help us work in teams. Students in all Cycles have explored what it means to trust someone – how to build trust and what happens when trust is broken. We have also explored the importance of communication, participation and encouragement.



Cycle 3 students have enjoyed participating in a volleyball clinic run by Patrick from Volleyball SA. Cycle 4 students have appreciated the use of the Aldgate tennis courts to develop their individual tennis skills.



# School Dates & Info

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

Tuesday April 10  
Finance meeting 6.00pm  
Board meeting 7.30pm  
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*

## KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 & 2 2018

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Monday April 30  
Pupil Free Day  
Tuesday May 1  
Term 2 Begins  
Tuesday May 15 – Thursday May 17  
NAPLAN Testing  
Tuesday May 22  
AGM held at Yultiwirra – 6.00pm  
Thursday May 24  
Parent Get Together – Wairoa Café 9.15am  
Wednesday May 30  
Sharing Assembly 11.30am  
Cycle 1 & 2 & Indo sharing. All parents welcome!  
Thursday May 31  
Parent Education – 1.30pm – 3.30pm  
Thursday June 14  
Cycle 1 & 2 Music concert – 6.30pm  
Monday June 18 – Friday June 22  
Collaborative Interviews - Yultiwirra  
Monday June 18  
Parent Education – Cycle 1 Transition 9.15am  
Saturday June 23  
Quiz Night  
Monday June 25  
Parent Get Together – Yultiwirra 9.15am  
Tues June 26, Wed June 27, Thurs June 28  
Coffeehouse Cabaret – Wairoa  
Thursday July 5  
Sharing Assembly 9.30am  
Cycle 3 & 4 sharing. All parents welcome!



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We are the sowers – our children are those who reap.  
We labour so that future generations will be better &  
nobler than we are.”

*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

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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.

## 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).*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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An evening with Mark Le Messurier – Navigating the Middle Years Blues - A Window into the Amazing Adolescent Brain. Mark, author of nine publications including **What’s the Buzz**, works with schools and in private practice counseling, coaching and teaching children and teens he affectionately refers to as ‘tough kids’.

In this very special presentation, Mark will address the massive changes that students go through between the ages of 11 to 19 years of age. As many parents know, this period is best-known as a period of massive changes – physically, emotionally and neurologically.

When: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April @ 7pm

Where: Cornerstone College, Mt Barker

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/UOZR](http://www.trybooking.com/UOZR)

