

Newsletter



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The topic of Screen Time raises many questions for students, parents and teachers. Such as how much is too much? Why do children want to spend time on screens? What type of screen time should they access and how much time should be spent on it? Is all Screen Time the same? When should parents step in, if at all? What guidelines are there? Screen time is the time you spend watching TV or DVDs, using computers/laptops/tablets, playing video or hand-held computer games, and using a mobile/smart phone.



Two weeks ago we held a combined staff and parent session where we screened the film "Screenagers" followed by discussion. About 70 people attended this session to discuss this important topic and current issue that all families face.

It is important for parents to find appropriate ways of helping their young people find balance in our tech-filled world. Our staff believe a healthy family lifestyle includes limits on daily screen time. We have produced a document that we launched at the Screenagers session to provide information, advice and a framework to support parents around the use of technology outside of school which is founded in the principles of Montessori Education.

We encourage you to access this document via the Skoolbag app. It can be found under the "Parent Information" section. We hope this document will stimulate ideas and discussion with your family.

Cathy France –Principal

BOOK WEEK & SCIENCE WEEK ACTIVITIES

This week is Book Week and last week was Science Week! There has been a variety of activities organised for our students over the past two weeks. Last Tuesday Yultiwirra students in multi-cycle groups rotated through a variety of science presentations and activities organised by the staff. In week 6 Sci World is coming to present a session to Yultiwirra students.

To celebrate Book Week, Cycle 1 students visited the Stirling Library to meet an author last week and Cycle 2 and 3 students will visit the Library this week. After lunch on three days this week, staff rotated and read their favourite picture book in different classes for 15 minutes. The Cycle 1 children dressed up as their favourite book character, along with some of the staff! We have also purchased the 2017 shortlisted books from the Australian Children's Book Council and teachers have been reading these books and undertaking a variety of activities around these titles. It's all been great fun!

BOOK WEEK INSTALLATIONS

You would have noticed entering the school this week the "Book Week Installations". Five different installations have been set up around the school depicting scenes or characters from a variety of books. The children need to hunt around the school for the installations and try and guess which books are being represented. A BIG thank you to [Lisa Goodwin](#) (Cycle 1 teacher) with the help of class parent reps; [Jaci](#), [Janene](#) and [Vanessa](#) for organising and setting up these scenes. They are delightful and a wonderful way to celebrate the magic of books and reading!



School News

SCREENAGERS PARENT REVIEW

A great night! The film was thought provoking, helpful and informative. My kids and I found the night hugely beneficial to have an open discussion within our community of parents, educators and students. The one aspect to stand out for us was that technology and electronic devices have provided many benefits to our lifestyle, however, an unfortunate number of adults, but even more children, have very little self-control related to their devices. Worse of all, most are not aware of the negative implications (*personally or socially*) of our 'technology addiction'. Screenagers exposes the toll that too much screen time has on our minds.

Amanda Prance – Cycle 2 & 3 parent

2017 BIG FUNDRAISER

We will be holding a HUGE garage sale as a part of the national Garage Sale Trail on Saturday 21st October (Week 1 Term 4)

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 have any suitable items, please put them aside for the Garage Sale. If you do not have space to store the donations please talk to the office staff about storage options.

Ideas for garage sale items include: baby gear, kids clothes (must be clean and in good condition), toys (*in good condition*), sporting equipment, bicycles, household items (*cutlery, crockery*), furniture, music, books, plants, gardening equipment, tools.

Please note: items must be in good condition. No electrical items. For large items such as furniture, please check at the office before donating. All proceeds will go directly to the school. We will be asking families to drop off their second-hand gear in the last two weeks of this term. We will also be seeking volunteers to help at the event on the day.

NAPLAN RESULTS – WHOLE SCHOOL

I am sure parents with children in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 will be interested to know that the NAPLAN results have arrived. Parents are asked to contact their child's class teacher to make a time to discuss the results in conjunction with other school records. This national testing is but one facet of the whole picture and needs to be considered in conjunction with everyday assessment practices.

INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

Last week we celebrated Indonesian Independence Day. Students came dressed in red and white. The Yultiwirra students held an assembly to hear about the history and importance of the Indonesian Independence Day and the students sang the Indonesian national anthem that they had learnt in class. They also enjoyed some rice dishes cooked by some students supervised by class parent reps. Thank you to the parents who assisted on the day.



MCF FUNDRAISER

Next Thursday 31st August is a very special day. It's Maria Montessori's birthday! We ask that all students dress up as something Italian (or Italian inspired) for a gold coin donation.

For Cycle 3 there will be a shared lunch of gluten free spaghetti and garlic bread for a gold coin donation. The money raised will go to the Montessori Children's Foundation. This fundraiser is being organised by the Year 6 student leaders. The Montessori Children's Foundation supports Montessori programs for children in far north Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands.

OPEN DAY - YULTIWIRRA

Open Day at Yultiwirra Campus will be held on SUNDAY 27th AUGUST from 2-4pm. Our greatest marketing tool is positive affirmation through "word of mouth" by current school families. Please let anyone you know who may be interested in visiting our school or enrolling a child, the date and time of our Open Day.

Letters have been sent home to some students inviting them to attend for an hour on Sunday to demonstrate Montessori materials. Please return the RSVP slip ASAP to your child's teacher to assist us with our planning for this day.

GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL PERSONS DAY

We are pleased to be holding our biennial Grandparents & Special Persons Day this term.

This is held over two days. It is always such an enjoyable morning for all involved and a chance for students to perform for an audience and share with their grandparents/special person a part of their school life. 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 Persons will be asked to congregate in the hall at 9.30am. The visit finishes at 11.30am.

A letter will be sent home soon along with invitations and envelopes. We ask that all families arrange for their children to address the envelope/s and post or hand deliver to grandparents &/or special people.

Grandparents/visitors will be 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.

When families receive the letter and invitations/envelopes for this special day we ask that parents act promptly so grandparents & special people have plenty of notice of these days. We will also email the invite for those parents who wish to email it onto Grandparents/visitors.



Cycle News

INFANT PROGRAM

'Rosie', Alexander's 3 day old lamb visited our Infant Program this term. We learned that Rosie is an Australian White



and that she has hair instead of wool. Thank you, Stephanie and Alexander. Rosie's visit brought many smiles.

CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

To celebrate Science Week our preschool students have been exploring a range of science concepts through a variety of experiments. Children have explored surface tension through 'Milk Magic' – observing the effect detergent had on the colours placed on the surface of a container of milk. Many children predicted that adding the detergent would produce bubbles.



Clancy and Isla observed that there were no bubbles, Floss noticed that the colours spread fast in a circular motion and Olivia and Marni thought that it looked like a rainbow.

CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

We all really enjoyed Science Day and visiting the "science stations" in groups. The science fun included testing bubble solution, investigating air pressure and surface tension and making hover crafts and rocket straws. "Science is fun" Joe "I made a rocket" Ollie "We put balloons under an upside down table. All the kids and adults went on it and they didn't pop" Harley and Oscar "It was a fun day" Charlie "It was exciting, I wasn't scared to stand on the table" Ty



CYCLE 2

This term our class has been "touring Asia". Thus far we have toured India, Vietnam and Malaysia. Throughout the rest of the term we will be touring China, Japan, Thailand, Korea and the Philippines. Leah has been guiding small cooking groups for Asian cooking each week. We have enjoyed Indian vegetable korma, Vietnamese cold rolls and Bernadette generously prepared and helped students prepare Malaysian curry puffs. We have been learning interesting facts about each country. Bonnie our student teacher has compared the population of various Asian countries against Australia using grains of rice... ie one grain of rice represents 100,000 people. Even to the adults visiting the room, this has been very engaging. We have enjoyed various science and design and technology lessons. In week 3 the students made Vietnamese boats out of recycled materials, ultimately the boat was required to 'look' Vietnamese and obviously float. The students also enjoyed designing their own Vietnamese homes using various materials.

CYCLE 3

This term, we have been involved with the STEM Professionals in Schools program. We have had James Cooper, a Geologist, come into work with Cycle 3. We do science every



Monday afternoon, so we have been working in small groups doing experiments and some research. James has worked with a small group each week as well. Last week they looked at a geological time line, resourcefully made from toilet paper. This week another group looked at the characteristics of various rocks and classified them according to a given criteria. James is volunteering his time and the kids are really enjoying the exposure to a real scientist.

CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

"Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates:
At the first gate, ask yourself "Is it true?"
At the second gate ask, "Is it necessary?"
At the third gate ask, "Is it kind?"

~ Rumi

Wairoa students have participated in several sessions towards developing personal and social capability and building community. Rumi's quote has been central in these sessions – a reminder to ensure that our language is positive and crafted with the right intentions.

The boys have also discussed some of the differences in psychology which come with becoming a man: taking full responsibility for actions, standing with one's emotions rather than being ruled by them, recognising one's place as a part of the universe rather than its centre, doing what is right rather than constantly seeking acknowledgment.

The girls of Wairoa are continuing conversations and engaging in experiences around positive interactions and also exploring the relentless pressures around body image that girls experience. Last Friday night the Wairoa girls slept over at school. They enjoyed a shared meal, watched the body image documentary 'Embrace', and just had a good time and watched a movie. Eventually they went to sleep! The older girls are currently raising money and awareness about women's safety and later in the term will attend the Plan International 'Day of the Girl' Breakfast at Adelaide Oval.

MUSIC WITH MAREE

During this term, both Cycle 3 classes have been introduced to the chord progressions used in the 12 Bar Blues. The students are becoming proficient at performing these progressions on ukuleles with simple melodic backing tracks. We are fortunate to now have a full class set of ukuleles, as well as some experienced musicians in each class to support our learning.



School Dates & Info

TERM 3 DIARY DATES (FOR THE COMING FORTNIGHT)

Thursday August 24

Policy Meeting 4pm

Cycle 3 & 4 Music concert - 6.30pm

Thursday August 24 – Friday August 25

Cycle 2 Camp

Sunday August 27

Yultiwirra Open Day

Wednesday August 30 – Friday September 1

Wairoa Learning Links Field Trip

Thursday August 31

Maria Montessori's Birthday

MCF Fundraiser

Sunday September 3

Father's Day

Tuesday September 5

Parent Get Together - Yultiwirra 9.15am

Marketing Meeting (SPTG) 4pm

Sunday September 10

Tournament of Minds – Cycle 3

KEY DATES FOR TERM 3

Thursday September 14

Sharing Assembly 9.30am Cycle 2,4 & Music sharing

Wednesday September 20

Grandparents Day for Cycle 1

Thursday September 21

Grandparents Day for Cycle 2 & 3

Sunday September 24

Working Bee @ Yultiwirra

Friday September 29

End of Term 3 – 2pm finish

CYCLE 3 & 4 MUSIC CONCERT

Thursday 24th August 6.30pm Yultiwirra Hall

This concert is for Cycle 3 & 4 students who receive individual musical instrument tuition and for those Cycle 3 students who are part of the Cycle 3 Choir. Information and an e form has been sent out to all Cycle 3 & 4 families via the Skoolbag app.

EARN & LEARN

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 19th September to collect them; ask work colleagues, neighbours, grandparents and friends to collect them for us too!!

COMMUNITY LOTTERY- WHOLE SCHOOL

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

2017 TERM DATES

TERM 3: Tuesday 25th July - Friday 29th September

TERM 4: Tuesday 17th October - Wednesday 13th December

2018 TERM DATES

TERM 1: Tuesday 6th February - Friday 13th April

TERM 2: Tuesday 1st May - Friday 6th July

TERM 3: Tuesday 24th July - Friday 28th September

TERM 4: Tuesday 16th October - Wednesday 12th December

CHESS CLUB

Due to the Cycle 2 camp this week chess will be cancelled on Thursday 24th August. Parents of chess club students - please be reminded that chess sessions run from 3.30pm to 4.15pm.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Please Note that there have been confirmed cases of Whooping Cough and Influenza A in our school community.

The winter and flu season serves as a timely reminder that good health starts with clean hands. Hands spread 80% of common infectious diseases. By practicing the Department of Health's message of Wash, Wipe and Cover and making it a habit, we will reduce the risk of getting sick or passing infections on to others. Please talk to your children and encourage them to follow these practical suggestions. Class teachers will also be encouraging students to follow good hygiene practices.

- **Wash:** wash your hands for at least 10 seconds with soap after sneezing, coughing, going to the toilet or when handling food.
- **Wipe:** Wipe down all frequently touched surfaces e.g. shared equipment, telephones, computer keyboards, door handles.
- **Cover:** Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue or your arm, not your hands and turn away from others when you do so.

COMMUNITY NEWS

2017 Daffodil Day Chess Tournament – Sunday 27th August 12pm – 6pm John Funning Sports Centre, Prince Alfred College

Come and have fun on a lazy weekend with friends, participate in a friendly chess tournament and help raise awareness and fight youth cancer!

Junior Division: U12/Senior Division: U19 – All players will play 5 rounds \$15 Entry Fee

For more information contact: daffodildaychesstournament@gmail.com or visit <https://www.facebook.com/DaffodilDayChess>

Adelaide Hills Hawks 2018 Trials

Trials for the 2018 season are approaching. Positions are available for both boys and girls in most age groups.

All trials held at the "Hawks Nest" – 1 Hutchens Road, Woodside

U12-U17 Tuesday 26th Sept 6-7.30pm, U6 – U11 4.30pm – 6.00pm

U12 – U17 6.00pm – 7.30pm, U6 – U17 Wednesday 18th October 6.00pm – 7.30pm. Contact Paul Hyder on 0408 339 699 for more details.