

Newsletter



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2017 has been a truly positive and fruitful year in our school but is fast drawing to a close. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff; both teachers and school assistants, for their enthusiasm and energy for their work and commitment throughout the year. They are a wonderful team of people and their contributions, input and care contribute to making our school the brilliant, unique and vibrant place that it is. They certainly all deserve a well-earned break!

Thanks also to our Child Care and OSHC workers who work tirelessly throughout the year and provide a wonderful service and particularly to OSHC coordinator Sammi Rolt and Child Care coordinator Narelle Kenning. Sincere thanks also to the admin staff; Susan Harris Evans, Paul Noon, Jodie Searle, Gab Tooth and Anthea Hagar for all that they have done to ensure things run smoothly on a day-to-day basis.

We farewell Alice Nisbet who is taking maternity leave in 2018 and we wish Alice love and happiness during this special time in her life. We also farewell Chloe Foote who has worked this year as the Student Wellbeing worker. We also farewell Leah Johns and Karen Nietschke who have worked as school assistants this year. We wish Tony Calvett and Denise Connelly happiness, good health and new adventures as they both retire and start the next chapter of their lives.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parent community who have volunteered and helped in some way this year.

As a small, parent/staff managed school we rely heavily on parental assistance and support and truly value your involvement and contributions whatever they might be. Parent involvement enhances, either directly or indirectly, the educational experiences for all of our students and contributes to maintaining a positive, supportive school community. Most importantly, thank you to the students who make our work meaningful, bring light into our lives each day and life into our school.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Cathy France –Principal



We acknowledge the following graduating students.

Cycle 3 – Year 6 Graduates

*Hayden Abrahams
Jack Clark
Kit Erhart-Bruce
Brianna Monk
Darcy Palmer
Omar Ryan
Aimee Stewart
Asherah Wild*

Cycle 4 – Year 9 Graduates

*Isaac Allchurch
Nellie Carter
Jonathan Daly
Victoria Dewallef
Tate Edwards-Young
Jackson Erhart-Bruce
Andrew Garsed
Clem Jordan-Pearse
Bianca Lanzilli
Lily Mudge
Tiarna Nienaber
Sebastian Osborne
Finn Sanderson
Samuel Sztolc
Hunter Walker
Velouria Wild*

Senior Year – Year 10 Students

*Harry Evans
Charlie Evans
Zara Kingsbury
Anastasia Murphy
Kaitlin Tapscott*

GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

This week we held our Year 6 (*Cycle 3*) Graduation Ceremony in the hall at *Yultiwirra*. Graduates, families, staff and Board members listened to the graduates speak and recall the memories of their time in Cycles 1, 2 & 3, outlining their achievements and taking the opportunity to thank those people in their life who have supported them along their journey thus far. After the formal part of the evening, the graduates and a few staff enjoyed a meal at a local restaurant to celebrate the end of a great year for these senior students.

On Friday evening the middle school students held their Exhibition of Work and Learning followed by the Year 9 (*Cycle 4*) Graduation. This also was a wonderful event where parents, staff, families and friends came to view all Wairoa **students'** work and achievements and then celebrate the graduation of Year 9 students completing Cycle 4. It is also an opportunity to congratulate and farewell Year 10 students who have completed their senior year. Some of our Year 9 students will stay to complete Year 10 in 2018 whilst others are moving to other senior secondary schools. Following the graduation speeches and Exhibition of Learning the Wairoa students and staff had a sit-down dinner together at Wairoa and then a '**party**' that the students organised themselves.

These graduation celebrations have become embedded in our school traditions and are a rite of passage for these students. Thank you to *Christine Perry, Natalie Costello & Suzie Saffin (Cycle 3 teachers)* and *Pippa Milroy, Tim Moore, Dave Coulter & Alice Nisbet (Wairoa teaching staff)* for all of the wonderful programs you offered these students throughout the year and the assistance you provided in helping the graduating students prepare for the transition and next part of their educational journey.

School News

2018 FAMILY WELCOME - WHOLE SCHOOL

At the beginning of every year we hold a Family Welcome and invite all families (Infant Program, Pre-school, Primary & Middle School) from all Cycles to come along to meet and chat with other families, both new and existing and with the staff. This night takes the form of drinks and nibbles – BYO drinks and glasses - nibbles are provided.

Next year the Family Welcome will be held at the end of Week 1, Friday 9th February 2018 from 6.00 – 7.30pm.

This has always been a terrific social function and a good way to start the year. Please put the date in your diary - we hope you can come along and join in!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE RAFFLE

Something special for Christmas:

WIN a beautiful *Gingerbread House*

full of delicious treats (*on display in the office*).

Tickets are available now for only \$2. They will also be on sale at the End of Year Concert. Many thanks to Ros Evans for making it for us (*grandparent of Charlie & Harry Evans*).

COMMUNITY PRODUCE SWAP

Thanks to Janene Thompson who has done a great job of organising the Community Produce Swap every Monday morning this year. You may have noticed that there has been heirloom seeds on the swap table that were gifted by The Diggers Club located in the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. *We greatly appreciated their generous donation.*

Parents have commented favourably on the produce swap this year and Wairoa have greatly accepted any left over produce each week which has been used in their food program. We hope the Community Produce Swap will return in 2018!

WAIROA REPORTS

Wairoa Term 4 reports will be posted to families the week after school ends.

CHANGES FOR 2018

All families have recently been emailed the *2018 Fee Payment Options form* and the *2018 OSHC registration form*. Please fill out and return to the school office as soon as practical, only if there are any changes for the 2018 school year.

If we don't hear from you we will assume there are no changes.

END OF YEAR CONCERT

*6.30pm Monday 11th December
For the Whole School Community*

The school community is invited to come along and celebrate the end of the year and enjoy performances by the Yultiwirra students.

All preschool & primary students will be performing on the night!

40TH BIRTHDAY SCULPTURE

In 2018 The Hills Montessori School will celebrate its 40th birthday! To commemorate this milestone the school has commissioned local artist Tim Thomson to design and craft a bronze sculpture of the school emblem - a sapling growing in the cupped hands of a mentor.



The sculpture will be mounted on a stone and set prominently in the garden bed outside the office at our Yultiwirra campus. It will be a monument to honour the work and creativity each and every person has contributed to our school over its 40 year history, and will help to inspire the generations of families to come, to likewise become part of the **school's** fabric.

We have written to all school families to seek their support and generous donations to fund the crafting and installation of this sculpture. *If you wish to provide support with a donation, please complete the slip sent home and return it to the office before Wednesday 13th December 2017.*

Thank you in advance for your contribution and we look forward to the unveiling of the sculpture at the Festival of Arts evening on Wednesday 28th March 2018.

SKOOLBAG CLASS CHANGE FOR 2018

If your child is moving cycles/classes in 2018 you will need to make slight changes to your Skoolbag preferences. You will need to into "Set up" and re-select the push categories to the class that your child will be in next year.



PE WITH ATTILA

This Term students at Yultiwirra have been developing skills for batting and fielding games such as cricket and tee ball.



The Wairoa students have enjoyed games of soccer and a number of different lawn games such as bocce, finska and lawn bowls.



Cycles 1 and 2 had a tennis clinic run by Shane from Hot Shots Tennis where they explored a range of hand-eye coordination activities and games.

Cycle News

INFANT PROGRAM

In the last couple of weeks of the year Christmas activities are introduced into the Infant Program which the children enjoy especially when it involves glue, paint and glitter. Katie is using a stencil and roller painting to make a Christmas card.



CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

A highlight of our preschool program is visits from our big sisters and brothers. Our Cycle Three year 6 students take on these leadership roles of visiting classes regularly throughout the year. This year we have welcomed Big Sister Aimee into our preschool class. She has developed strong relationships with children in our group and has been much adored. Aimee has been willing to undertake many different tasks. Here she is helping Oscar demonstrate rolling out pasta as part of his 'Show & Tell'. Thanks Aimee, we'll miss you!



CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

This year Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 have had several opportunities to get together. We have done lots of fun things together including visiting the library, morning run down bush, sharing snack together and visiting each other's classrooms. We see transitions between the cycles as a really important part of our curriculum and it certainly has helped our children moving up to Cycle 2 next year to feel much more ready.



'We went for a run with Cycle 2' - Lachlan

'It's fun, I met the stick insect' - Sophia

'Cycle 2 have chopping boards and knives too' - Sam

'I played a game with Lachlan and Harley when I went to Penny's room' - Oscar

'I like doing my work in Cycle 2' - Charlie

CYCLE 2

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been busily learning Christmas songs for the Cycle 2 choir performance at the Stirling Library. The students have begun their Christmas craft activities, including sequin baubles and sewing Christmas stockings. We have been enjoying visits from both Cycle 1 primary classes. As part of our written language this term, students have been taking photos around the school as prompts for their stories. Students chose to write narratives, information reports or news articles and published these using computers or iPads. We have also been looking at poetry this term. Last week the students began reflecting on their year. "Some things I really enjoyed this year was working on my maths and spending time with my friends. Next year I am looking forward to moving up to Cycle 3." Caeleb

CYCLE 3

This year, the year 6's decided that we wanted to leave behind something that could help the school after we leave, that something is a street library. The street library is a box where you put a book in and take a book out. All of the year 6's decorated it with many different designs. We hope that everyone enjoys using it for many years to come. - Jack Clark



"The street library is a really good idea to encourage reading and to leave a memory of the 2017 year sixes" - Aimee Stewart

"I think the street library is a really good idea because if you have read a good book, you can share it with others". - Kit Erhart-Bruce

"It's an awesome idea and I hope some kids get inspired to read more books." - Hayden Abrahams

"The street library is a great idea to express your taste and style" - Omar Ryan

CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

Ral Ral Creek Kayak Expedition

Eighteen more or less seasoned paddlers (14 students with Pippa, Attila, Adam and Tracey Spokes) spent 5, mostly hot days, exploring the beautiful and varied

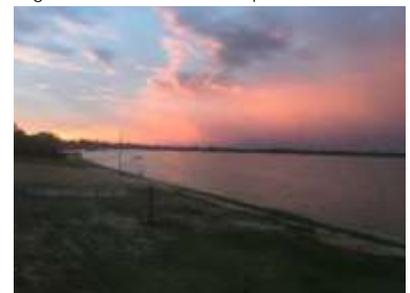


backwaters, creeks and lagoons of the Ral Ral system just north of Renmark. Tent groups were independent, packing all of their camping gear into their kayaks each day and whipping up ambitious dinners on their Trangias around the cooking circle each evening. The leader's map passed on every half day to a new group, who had planned the route, guided the group and organised roles. We had an awesome time!

Barmera Camp

The base campers took off for Barmera on Wednesday morning, with the knowledge that aquatics activities might be interrupted by some potentially dodgy weather. Nevertheless, tents were put up, swimmers worn and knee boarding, sailing, windsurfing and kayaking sessions highlighted the days' events. The fruits of Kiri's cooking expertise (no pun intended) made the 3½hour journey also, ensuring we all ate like kings. A feature of the trip was the amazing quiz night hosted by Ruby (and expertly assisted by Demelza, Nellie and Alice). The bad weather never arrived, but a gorgeous pink rainbow did.

A great trip was had!



School Dates & Info

TERM 4 DIARY DATES

Monday December 11

End of Year Concert

Tuesday December 12

Finance meeting 6.00pm

Board meeting 7.30pm

Wednesday December 13

Term 4 ends – 2pm finish

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 2018

Monday February 5

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday February 6

Term 1 begins

Friday February 9

Family Welcome @ Yultiwirra 6pm – 7.30pm All Welcome!

Wednesday February 21

Wairoa Welcome & Information Evening – 6pm

Thursday February 22

Yultiwirra Information Evening

Thursday March 22

Games Day – Cycle 2, 3 & 4 students

Wednesday March 28

Yultiwirra Festival of Arts

Thursday April 12

Community Breakfast

2017-2018 VACATION CARE

Vacation Care will run from:

THURS 14th Dec. 2017 – WED 20th Dec 2017

Vacation Care will close:

Thurs 21st December 2017 – Friday 12th January 2018.

Vacation Care will reopen:

Mon 15th January 2018 and run until Mon 5th February 2018.

If you are interested in your child attending Vacation Care please complete the booking form ASAP and hand into the office or directly to Sammi ASAP.

CYCLE 2 POETRY

Funny things you **didn't** know
I dream about bananas and funny pirahnas
weird bees and alive peas
they all have a ring and they sing
- and I am happy.

by Annabelle Tan

Dreams
I dream about stars and my sisters
the world and the moon
flying and the sea
- and I am happy.

by Maddie Ross

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The unknown energy that can help humanity
is that which lies hidden in the child."*

Maria Montessori

2017 TERM DATES

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

FIREWOOD

Stock up for next winter!! The school has firewood available for sale - \$25 for a car boot load or \$50 per 6 x 4 trailer load. Register your interest at the school office and then we can organise collection and payment.

COMMUNITY NEWS

On Wednesday evening, after the Year 6 Graduation, a YELLOW CAP was found in the carpark at Yultiwirra. Please see the school office if you believe this may belong to you!

GRASSHOPPER SOCCER Australia's #1 non-competitive soccer program for girls and boys aged 2 – 12. Grasshopper Soccer is back next year with locations all over Adelaide! Enrol by Friday Dec 22 for the chance to win an iPad! For more information visit

www.grasshoppersoccer.com.au

[facebook.com/GrasshopperSoccerSouthernAdelaide](https://www.facebook.com/GrasshopperSoccerSouthernAdelaide)

Daniel 0433 422 347 daniel@grasshoppersoccer.com.au

Recreate one of Van Gogh's masterpieces or paint your landscape in his style. Workshops range from 6 hours (\$95) to 12 hours (\$170) - all art materials are provided. Classes are suited for teenagers and adults. Contact Thomas for workshop details.

Email: thomasjbromley@gmail.com Mobile: 0433 917 164

Stateswim VacSwim is a week-long intensive swimming programme offered for Seahorse, Penguin, Seal, Starfish, Marlin, Dolphin, Kingfish & Superfish for 5 weeks during December/January. Various times available. For further information contact Stateswim on 8391 1213.

SA Dental Service – Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics. The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider. Your local clinic is: Mount Barker School Dental Clinic Phone: 8391 0858 or www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental