

Newsletter



FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

As a member of the Preschool Team I am excited to share the news that plans to upgrade and rejuvenate our preschool outdoor environment are nearing finalisation.

The preschool educators have long discussed, dreamed, debated and researched design changes for our environment to further improve the learning opportunities offered to our young students. With Montessori principles at our core and influenced by Nature Play examples popular with children and parents at local parks, we are thrilled to be close to commencing works.

Whilst the development may see some interruption to the use of our 'main' space we look forward to realising our long-term vision of a water course together with a refurbished sand play area, a digging patch encouraging mixing and making with mud, together with new paths, decking and better storm water management. Alongside significant new plantings this will greatly add to the amenity of an already much-loved space. We have very much appreciated the time and persistence of Paul Noon and the Infrastructure & Planning Committee in persevering with our dream for a much-enhanced learning space. Watch this space- and let us know if you'd enjoy supporting our project in a 'hands on' way- we have lots of ideas!



CYCLE 2, 3, & 4 GAMES DAY

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

It was lovely to see how each group embraced the spirit of the day as they tackled the challenges with positivity and enthusiasm. Each challenge required a different set of skills, which saw students building trust as they led each other around blindfolded, or problem solving the fastest way around the hall only using the blue mats. Other stations required students to encourage each other to get another lap of the obstacle course or scooter board track.

A highlight of the day was coming together at the end to make a circular tightrope with everyone holding the rope and leaning out to create tension. We managed to hold the rope tight enough to support Ashleigh as she carefully walked around.

CYCLE 1 - GAMES DAY

The following day we also had a Games Day for the Cycle 1 Primary and Preschool. The classes mixed together into different colour groups. The different stations were an opportunity to develop individual skills or practice working together. We had an egg and spoon course, beanbags balancing on our heads, a three-legged track and the parachute.



PASSIONATE CAUSES

Two weekends ago Jonah, Felix and Jaz sold t-shirts at the Stirling Markets to help raise money for orcas (*killer whales*). Jonah completed his class project on orcas and learnt about the threat these mammals are under due to pollution, captivity and fishing. After using his own pocket money to 'adopt' an orca, Jonah felt he wanted to do more to raise awareness for the cause. Together with Felix and Jaz, the students became familiar with a research project being undertaken by Western Australian orca researchers called Project ORCA - Orca Research & Conservation Australia. Currently there are no reliable estimates of the population size of killer whales in Australian waters and population trends are unknown, with much of the information on killer whale distribution and occurrence obtained from incidental sightings. Results from Project Orca will provide data to address the population status of this species and deliver key scientific information for assisting management of Australian killer whales.

Jonah worked on the design with the help from his mum, whilst Felix production managed the screen printing process with help from her dad and Subli-Mate Printing.

Jonah, Jaz and Felix sold children's t-shirts for \$15 and adult t-shirts for \$18 and raised \$345.50.

We're extremely proud of how proactive our students are in supporting causes they feel passionate about. Well done Jonah, Jaz and Felix!



School News

BOARD COMMUNIQUE

The main focus of this month's Board meeting was to revisit the outcomes of the Visioning Session that was held last year, and to take this to a more detailed level. The purpose of these Visioning Sessions is to look at what the School might look like in the next 10 to 15 years and to consider the impact that this would have when developing the School's strategic plan for the next 5 years. The sessions have been inciteful and we thank Leanne Muffet for the contribution of her time and skills in facilitating them.

Paul Daly – Board President

VACATION CARE – YULTIWIRRA

The Vacation Care Program will operate each day during the coming holidays from 7.30am to 6pm. The program will also operate on Monday 29th 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 Megan. We are currently trying to finalise staffing and confirm excursion arrangements.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please enter Tuesday, 28th 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 3rd May. If you would like to discuss Board member obligations, see Cathy in the office.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Next Thursday 11th 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 order forms sent home. Food will only be served between 8.15 – 8.45am so please don't be late! We hope to see you there!

TERM 2 SAUSAGE SIZZLE

A note has been sent home this week in preparation for our Term 2 Sausage Sizzle in the 1st week (Friday 3rd 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!



TERM 2 CAR PARK SAFETY

To ensure the safety of our students and community, we remind all users of the carpark to refrain from parking on the paths designed to allow for the safe carriage of pedestrians.

TERM 2 SNIPPETS WITH SUSAN

Snippets with Susan will continue next term commencing on Wednesday 8th May at 9.10am with a focus on Fractions. Book in via SkoolBag.

'SNIPPETS WITH SUSAN' REVIEW

'LEARNING TIMES TABLES'

It was so good we didn't want to leave! It's true, Snippets with Susan was fantastic! All the parents who attended were all so engaged we kept asking questions, and Susan kept answering them! I attended the 'Learning Times Tables' Snippet session. I came out of the session understanding so much more about the Maths processes that are used at school, as well as feeling confident that I could now support my children's learning in ways that were inline with the Montessori methods. Susan shared strategies and little tricks that I wished I had been shown and used when I was at school. The information was easy to understand as well as very engaging. I developed a greater understanding of the Montessori materials and about the learning links between multiplication, division, addition and subtraction. It was definitely worth while and I'm looking forward to the next one.

Jaci Low - parent

PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP REVIEW

I recently attended the parent discussion group which focused on 'Supporting Anxious Kids'. The discussion was led by Libby (*our Student Wellbeing Worker*) and provided an insight into 10 strategies that can help children cope with anxiety. This discussion group really felt like a safe place to talk openly about individual concerns. Thank you to both Libby and the parents who attended for providing so many tools and tips on how to further support our children.

Janene Thompson - parent

CAKE STALL REVIEW

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 \$990! - Well done to all!



CATHY'S LEAVE

For your information **Cathy France**, our *Principal* will be taking leave in Week 9 and 10 of this term. During this time our Assistant Principal **Susan Harris Evans** will step up into the role of Acting Principal.

Cycle News

CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

Learning through our senses has been a focus in the preschool this term.

We have explored a range of activities including using our taste buds to experience a range of flavours with melon and cheese tastings. This week we have been using our nose to smell a wonderful array of herbs from Tris' garden.

The photo is of Jasper using the beautiful 'thermic bottles' - matching the pairs of bottles according to their temperature. (*The Language used is hot, warm, tepid, cold.*)



CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

Both Cycle 1 primary classes went on a walking excursion down Anderson Road and Pindari Place to collect data. One group collected data on car colour and the other group collected data on fence types. Once back at school the children totalled up their tally marks and converted the data into graph from.

'We looked at fences, it was nice being in nature' Hazel

'I felt free, I liked being outside' Kai

'I looked at cars with Freya and Chloe' Daniella

'We were kind to nature and connecting with lots of things' Oscar

'I liked it, I liked collecting data on fences' Phoebe

CYCLE 2

This week our class has been researching dinosaurs using 3 to 9 fact research plans. The students' have been practicing reading about their dinosaur, note-taking and writing sentences in their own words. They drew and/or painted posters showing their dinosaur living in its likely habitat as a background. Many students typed and printed their facts and other students facts were carefully handwritten. The posters are proudly being displayed on the classroom walls.



INFANT PROGRAM

Watering the garden has been a very popular activity with the children this term. Luca is taking a break from watering the garden to help Alinta fill her jug. Both are concentrating on the job. A lovely moment of children working together in the Infant Program.



CYCLE 3

Cycle 3 students were recently given the option to apply to be a part of the 2019 Sustainability Group.

We had our first meeting last week in a lunchtime session. The children introduced themselves to the group and shared their individual focus and passion for helping the environment. There are 20 participants. They've formed sub committees focusing on targeted areas to help the school, being Cycle 3 chickens, school gardens and growing produce, energy use in our school and waste management and recycling. Each action team has an adult mentor and tasks will be implemented as of this week.



CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

This week, beginning Cycle 4 students worked tirelessly to host twenty guests from their middle school and extended community in the first round of 2019 Taste of the World restaurants. Featured cuisines of Belgian, Mediterranean and Jamaican offered three unique and meticulously planned experiences. Students combined their knowledge of nutrition, country and cuisine with newly developed practical kitchen and hospitality skills. We watched students prepare bias sliced carrot, coconut rice baked in a pineapple, skewered and rotisserie jerk chicken and brown butter apple galette as well as much more. They proudly delivered a fantastic event.



"Wow, that was stressful but great" Harry

PE WITH ATTILA

In PE this term we have been developing the skills to help us work in teams. Students in all Cycles have explored the importance of communication, participation and encouragement during group activities.

Cycle 3's enjoyed a hockey clinic run by Brad West who introduced students to the sport and taught them the basics. I'd like to thank Brad for giving up his time and expertise.

Cycle 4 students have taken their group dynamics work to the next level. Each week we have unpacked specific dynamics of working in groups – what it means to be a group member and understanding that everything they do in the group has an impact. Students have reflected specifically on their individual roles and responsibilities within the group to recognise the role they have played in solving each week's challenge.



School Dates & Info

TERM 1 DIARY DATES (for the coming fortnight)

Thursday April 4

WHS Committee Meeting 4.00pm
Policy Committee Meeting 4.00pm

Friday April 5

Fundraising Committee Meeting 9.15am
Tuesday April 9
Finance Committee Meeting 6.00pm
Board Meeting 7.30pm

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 & 2 2019

Thursday April 11

Community Breakfast @ Yultiwirra

Friday April 12

End of Term 1 – 2pm finish

Monday April 15 – Monday April 29

Vacation Care Program

Monday April 29

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday April 30

Term 2 Begins

Tuesday May 14 – Thursday May 16

NAPLAN Testing

Thursday May 23

Parent Get Together – Wairoa Café 9.15am

Tuesday May 28

Year 6 transition visit to Wairoa
AGM held at Yultiwirra – 6.00pm

Wednesday May 29

Sharing Assembly 11.30am
Cycle 1 Preschool & Primary & 2. All parents welcome!

Monday June 17

Parent Education – Cycle 1 Transition 9.15am

Monday June 17– Friday June 21

Collaborative Interviews - Yultiwirra

Monday June 24

Parent Get Together – Yultiwirra 9.15am

Tues June 25, Wed June 26, Thurs June 27

Coffeehouse Cabaret – Wairoa

Thursday July 4

Sharing Assembly 9.30am
Cycle 3 & 4 sharing. All parents welcome!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“The unknown energy that can help humanity is that which lies hidden in the child.”
Maria Montessori

FIRE WOOD

Stock up for winter!! The school has firewood available for sale - \$20 for a car boot load or \$50 per 6 x 4 trailer load.

2019 TERM DATES

TERM 1: Tuesday 5th February – Friday 12th April

TERM 2: Tuesday 30th April – Friday 5th July

TERM 3: Tuesday 23rd July - Friday 27th September

TERM 4: Tuesday 15th October – Wed 11th December

Register your interest at the school office and then we can organise collection and payment.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SwimVac April 2019 – Mt Barker Swim School are offering an intensive week of swimming and water safety during both weeks of the April school holidays. 30 min classes are being held from 9am – 11am.

For further information contact Mt Barker Swim School on 8391 1213 or bookings@mtbarker.stateswim.net

The Hut Community Centre – Homework Club on Monday and Tuesdays 3-5pm. Friendly, experienced, Hut certified volunteers' tutors are available for Primary and High School students for half hour slots. Register your interest by phoning 8339 4400 or visit <http://www.thehut.org.au/programs/education-training/>

Grasshopper Soccer - run classes at Bellevue Heights (Thursday) Lockleys, Mt Barker, Reynella East, Seaford and Unley (Saturday) Brighton, Crafers, McLaren Vale and Plympton (Sunday).

For more information visit their website, www.grasshoppersoccer.com.au or facebook page, [facebook.com/GrasshopperSoccerSouthernAdelaide](https://www.facebook.com/GrasshopperSoccerSouthernAdelaide)
Contact Daniel by phone 0433 422 347 or email daniel@grasshoppersoccer.com.au