Venusletter



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As a school, we are continuing to monitor the situation in regard to Coronavirus (COVID-19). We need to follow the advice of the Department of Health. Those people who have travelled through countries or regions of high risk (mainland China, Iran, Italy, Republic of Korea) must self isolate for 14 days. Parents are encouraged to go to www.health.gov.au/covid19travellers for the list of at-risk countries and isolation requirements. People who think they may have been in close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus should also monitor their health, self isolate and seek urgent medical attention. Symptoms of COVID-19 include (but are not limited to) fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue and shortness of breath. With the April school holidays coming up, I strongly urge families to be guided by the Smartraveller website and advise us if you are thinking of travelling overseas. This current situation is a good reminder for us all to practice good sneeze/cough hygiene, to wash our hands frequently and if unwell, to avoid contact with others. We, as a staff, are using this as an opportunity to revisit good hygiene practices with our students. Visit www.health.gov.au for the latest advice and information or phone 1800 020 080.





Cathy France - Principal

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.

This year each challenge had a different virtue to focus their efforts. Virtues included perseverance on the obstacle course, trusting the group while being lead around as a giant blindfolded caterpillar, cooperating during the parachute challenges, communicating with a partner who had to crab walk blindfolded through a maze, and coming up with creative ways to get to treasure island and fill their boats with treasure!

It was lovely to see how each group embraced the spirit of the day as they tackled the challenges with positivity and enthusiasm.

Thanks, Attila, for planning and organising another great Games Day!





PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP

Keeping Safe Conversations with our Kids Friday 13th March

Talking to our kids about ways to keep safe and what to do if they feel unsafe can be a difficult conversation to have & we may feel unsure about how to raise this important topic.

This session is all about ways to talk to your children in age appropriate ways about who are their trusted adults, their right to feel safe in their interactions with adults and other children and young people, and what to do if they feel unsafe. Resources and books will also be shared, which you can take home to use with your children and family.

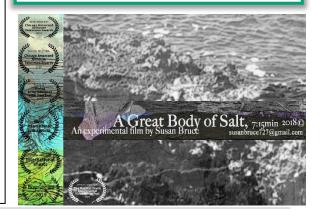
All parents are invited to come along to the parent discussion group facilitated by Libby to be held in the staffroom at Yultiwirra. Please RSVP via Skoolbag.

LET'S CELEBRATE! CELEBRATING CREATIVITY

Congratulations to Wairoa parent; Susan Bruce who has recently created and produced a short (7:15mins) experimental film; "A Great Body of Salt", that looks at tourism and the environment. It comments on the visiting to pristine places or places of historical significance, and the damage to the environment and marine life that can be done by masses of people in cruise ships. The film title comes from a definition of ocean – A great body of salt water. Susan's film has had several screenings internationally and been acknowledged with awards. Susan recently attended a screening in New York USA.

Well Done Susan! Screenings & awards:

- 2019 Chicago Amarcord Art House Television Awards - Semi Finalist
- 2019 Wales International Film Festival, UK - Finalist
- 2019 International Shorts
- 2019 Experimental Forum, LA USA -Honorable Mention
- 2020 The Magical Charm Experimental Video & Film Festival, NYC, USA



School News

TERM 1 CHATS - YULTIWIRRA

Yultiwirra parents have been emailed a link that will take them to the "Interview Schedule Portal" for booking a Term 1 Chat and details of how to make this on-line booking.

Yultiwirra Term 1 Chats – parent/teacher interviews will be held in Week 8 (16th – 20th March). If you do not have access to a computer, please phone or come into the office to make a booking.

FREE CHILD CARE during interviews

If you require child care for your child/ren during the interview time, please complete the eForm via the SkoolBag app **by Thursday, 12 March**. Free Child Care is available for students 3 years and over during your interview time, but **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**. If you do not book you will be charged for this service as we need to know numbers for staff:student ratios. You must also sign your child/ren in and out when using this service, otherwise you will be billed. Please note: this child care is separate to any previous OSHC bookings you may already have. Typically, Yultiwirra Term 1 Chats are just between parents and teachers.

HEALTHY LUNCHBOX HINTS

This year the Class Parent Reps are going to review the school's Healthy Eating policy and also produce a flyer for parents to assist with 'Healthy Lunchbox Hints'. The Parent Reps also thought it might be a good and helpful idea to provide Healthy Lunchbox Hints regularly in the Newsletter. Thanks to Alexis and Chantel for the first installment!

PIKELETS

1 cup of plain flour 1 1/4 cup of milk 1 egg

Heat coconut oil in a pan and COOK. Delicious on their own or with small smothering of jam or honey or maple syrup.



You can always substitute milk for other milks such as Almond or Soy or water and oil for butter.

Handy hint - make these on the weekend and/or make the mixture the night before and place in the fridge - quickly cook in the morning. These are easy to make with or without your little darlings!

Photo credit @livingthegoodlifelunchbox

SNIPPETS WITH SUSAN

Come and join Susan on alternate Tuesdays, exploring a range of topics relating to learning in our school and ways to support your child/ren at home. The sessions are 20 minute 'bite sized snippets' of information and informal discussions for parents. "Snippet sessions" are held in the staffroom from 9.10am – 9.30am fortnightly.

Snippet Session 4: Tuesday 24th March: Cultural Studies – The Great Stories

If the topic on offer takes your interest, please RSVP via Skoolbag or 'pop in' on the day! Numbers are limited to 12 attendees.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT COORDINATORS

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 **Bernadette Ng** and **Sascha Ferguson** class parent reps, have kindly volunteered to take on this role. We are sending out a **questionnaire** via Skoolbag 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

CAKE STALL - WHOLE SCHOOL

Members of the Fundraising Committee are organising a Cake Stall to be held at the **Stirling Markets on Sunday 22nd 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!

INDONESIAN WITH LYNDAL

Cycle 3 fluently ask and answer questions about family members which they are now combining with new learning about food words. They are reading scripts about reasons as to why The Wolf would or wouldn't eat family members based on their attributes (juicy, dangerous, strong).



Cycle News

CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL

Students have had many opportunities to express themselves through a range of art activities this term, in the lead up to the Festival of Arts happening in Week 10. Children have connected with natural plant materials to create mandala designs inspired by the work of local artist, Janelle Amos. Through this process, children have explored pattern,



symmetry, number and location. They have also been exposed to new vocabulary words, including the names of different plant species and parts of the plant.

CYCLE 1 PRIMARY

The Cycle 1 Primary 'Soft Toy Picnic' has been a very popular event. Besides being lots of fun, it has also provided the stimulus for a short STEM project and a writing task. In preparation for the picnic the students were asked to think



about sun safety and they brought their soft toy to school prior to picnic day to create a hat for their soft toy. Roshie enjoyed making the hat and Micah told us that she liked being able to bring her toy to school. When reflecting on the picnic, Mossy also told us, 'I liked hugging my teddy' and Maggie said, 'I loved it and I loved sharing (snack) with my teddy'. The children were also asked to take a photo of their soft toy somewhere in the bush play space. Bentley said 'I really liked taking the pictures and I loved cuddling my teddy'.

CYCLE 2



This term we are practising printing with foam before we embark on our class art project for the Festival of Arts. Soon we will create our own designs for the collaborative art project and carve them onto our PVC pieces. In Cultural Studies, we have listened to the First Great Story and made our own models of the layers of the Earth. Last Thursday Cycles 2,3 and 4 successfully

participated in our annual Games Day. Such a colourful and energetic event! The Cycle 2 students really enjoyed the opportunity to make connections with the older children in the school and definitely showcased their competitive spirit, particularly during tug of war!



INFANT PROGRAM

In the Infant Program we have begun our Festival of Arts project and Jude is being very meticulous in painting the background colour on our canvas in preparation for the next stage.

CYCLE 3

Many of the students in Cycle 3 have written applications to be part of The Hills Montessori Sustainability Group. There are four sub sections to this group, these are: Recycling, Chickens, Gardening and Energy Audit. The members of the Sustainability Group are passionate about the environment and how they can make a positive and meaningful contribution. They are already sharing lots of creative and fresh ideas, rolling up their sleeves and getting into the garden and have teed up a training session with Tony Calvett on how to collect the data on the efficiency of the school's solar panels. We look forward to sharing more on the projects and efforts of The Hills Montessori Sustainability Group throughout the

CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

Last Friday the Adolescent Program students had their first 'Occupations Day'- a day dedicated to digging deep into their electives and engage with the wider community in doing so.



The Working the

Garden group travelled to Macclesfield where they visited landscape gardener Amanda Reynolds at her working garden, Green Platypus Gully. The students learnt so much about sustainable gardening, made worm farms and planted seeds for our veggie patch. We then toured The Old School Community Garden in Stirling and learnt about the benefits of public greenspaces.

The Feeding the Community crew bussed into the city. They chatted with owner Alex about the fantastic recycling and waste reduction strategies at Cafe Troppo. They explored the diverse food offerings of Adelaide's Central Markets in small groups. All day students were challenged to know where they were in Adelaide and

which way they were facing. There was a definite increase in orientation and self-awareness that we'll keep working on! We had an excellent day and tried some fascinating food.



The World of Work team walked into Stirling to survey the diversity of professions and businesses in the Hills. Students collected business cards and talked with employees about the kinds of work people undertake. Upon returning to Wairoa the students began work on creating an awesome map to display their learning.

School Dates & Info

TERM 1 DIARY DATES (for the coming fortnight)

Friday March 13

Parent Discussion Group 9.15am

'Keeping Safe - Conversations with our Kids'

Week 8

Interview week @ Yultiwirra

Tuesday March 17

Open Day - Yultiwirra campus 10am-12noon

Executive meeting 6.00pm

Board meeting 7.00pm

Wednesday March 18

Students wellbeing group meeting 4pm

Cultural Understanding Group meeting 4pm

Thursday March 19

WHS committee meeting 4.00pm

Policy meeting 4.00pm

Friday March 20

Fundraising meeting 9.15am

Tastes of the World - Wairoa - Invites only

Sunday March 22

Cake Stall @ Stirling Market

Tuesday March 24

Snippets with Susan 9.10am. All Welcome!

Friday March 27

Tastes of the World - Wairoa - Invites only

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 2020

Monday March 30

Sharing Assembly - Yultiwirra Campus

2.30pm - Parents Welcome! Cycle 2 & 4 sharing

Thursday April 2

Wairoa Wellbeing Festival

Yultiwirra Festival of Arts

Thursday April 9

Community breakfast @ Yultiwirra

Term 1 Ends

CULTURAL CONNECTION ZONE

The Cultural Understanding (staff) committee will now have a regular spot in the Newsletter highlighting cultural events & information.

Did you know the Aboriginal Way newspaper can be found in the front office? It is available for you to read!

OPEN DAY – YULTIWIRRA

Tues 17th March Tours 10 am - 12 noon

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 at Yultiwirra.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The adult works to improve his environment while the child works to improve himself." Maria Montessori

2020 TERM DATES

TERM 1: Wednesday 29th January – Thursday 9th April

TERM 2: Tuesday 28th April – Friday 26th June

TERM 3: Monday 20th July - Friday 25th September

TERM 4: Tuesday 13th October – Wed 9th December

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bridgewater Junior Soccer Club is seeking interest from local players for ages 5 to 10 to join this community-focused club. There is a sign-on this Saturday at 10am at Bridgewater Primary School oval. Training will be once a week with the match played on Saturday. Home games at Bridgewater PS and away games will be across the Adelaide Hills.

Parents are invited to become involved with coaching and team management or just cheer on from sidelines if you prefer.

Cost for season will be \$100 and you can pay using the govt sports voucher

For more details contact Dan at bjsoccerclub@gmail.com or on 0423 250 919.

The Aldgate Netball Club has now opened registrations and released trial information for the 2020 Season.

A Registration Day is being held on Sunday February 16 from 4pm at the Aldgate Netball Courts where anyone is welcome to attend and find out more about the season ahead.



To request an appointment online, go to: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/dentalappointment For clinic locations, go to: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/findyourclinic

