

Number 6

Week 6, Term 2

2017

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From the Principal.

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

The term is speeding by and teachers are now busy writing student reports which you will receive on the last day of term.

We are still working with architects to design the STEM facility but at this stage it looks as though the building works will begin in 2018.

“The Block” meeting was exciting and generated a lot of positive responses from the teachers and parents who attended. There is a plan to work on some weeding and maintenance of “The Block” as well as making resources to support teachers knowledge. Staff will brain storm ideas on how we can use this valuable resource to enrich our curriculum. The next round of grants is in September.

The school’s Site Improvement Plan continues to drive the school’s direction and effectively engage our students in all aspects of their learning. Our strong focus is on raising literacy and numeracy standards, engaging in Visible Learning and STEM.

Mathematics and Numeracy Intervention

Teams of teachers have been released to analyse their student achievement data from PAT and other assessments. This is providing us with directions to continue our work in developing a cohesive and responsive plan to addressing the needs of numeracy at MBPS. Problem solving has been identified as an area of difficulty for students. This involves work problems and multi-step problems where students need to choose the strategies to arrive at the answer. This encourages students to apply learned knowledge rather than being told by the teacher the “lock-step” processes to use. This requires higher order thinking skills and students being able to synthesise processes in mathematical thinking. We also have spoken about explicit teaching of mathematical language.

Literacy Support and Intervention

Every term we revise students’ achievement in reading and adjust LLI groups to address the needs of

the students. Some students exit and some children continue. Last term we began LLI with the older students. Students were challenged with novel studies and explicit teaching at their instructional level.

Visible Learning

We have had Corwin Education visit our school to help us to plot where we are at to mark the beginning of our journey in Visible Learning as a data collection process. Most of the evidence they collected affirmed that we had some practices which reflected these areas but we are at the beginning of our learning about Visible Learning and developing a high level of whole school practices across all of the areas.

As a school we are collating our responses to the question “What makes an effective teacher? And “What makes a good learner?”

Students have responded in video form and teachers are documenting their responses to these questions. We look forward to engaging more with parents in relation to these questions too.

Teachers are working collaboratively to research, reflect on their practices and trial new approaches as a part of their professional learning. Some areas relate to how students set goals for learning, how peers and teachers can provide effective feedback, how we can be explicit in letting students know the success criteria for a task and supporting them to self assess not only the finished product but the processes they use.

STEM

Wendy Branson (STEM Coordinator) has been supporting our staff to understand the Engineering Process and planning open-ended STEM units of work. As a sideline to STEM, Wendy Branson has been working with teachers who have begun to experiment with iPad apps and tools for classroom teaching and especially iDoceo; an Apple iPad App that allows comprehensive record keeping, assessment tracking and planning.

NARELLE'S NEWS

My role within the school is to work in the area of wellbeing with staff, students and families. I work in a resource, referral and caring role. I can let families know what is happening in the community and refer them onto services as required. I have referred a few families already onto different services within the community which they have been very grateful for. Some of the things I have been doing this term include; **BREAD** - giving out bread to families on Thursdays after school. I have also had some parents that have volunteered to pick up which has been great. This has been a fantastic way to connect with families and many have got to know me seeing me out under the tree at pick up time giving away bread.

GAMES CLUB-I have been working with a class – Mrs Marlow's year 6 class - to set up a Games Club in the library on Fridays at lunch. This involves teaching those who want to run a group some leadership skills of running groups and we are in the process of setting this up at the moment. It involves GUBS, Sleeping Queens and Saboteur card games which the students love. **LUNCHTIME PLAY**-On Thursdays I have been putting things into the yard for students to play with. Things such as skipping ropes, frisbies and dress ups.

The students had a fantastic time dressing up in various coloured material, dresses, shirts and fun clothes. I will be collecting more so we can have more to dress up in. Students came up with all sorts of creative outfits!

OTHER SUPPORT have met with some students as requested by teachers and chatted about friendship and grief and loss and other things as applicable. I have visited classrooms and help out as needed.

PARENTS COFFEE N CHAT- The group has been going really well with last term having sometimes up to 15 or more parents. We are looking at doing a food day per term and other things around the school. The group is to get to know each other and also help out where we can around the school. All parents are very welcome.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me my email is narelle.chester406@schools.sa.edu.au
Thanks
Narelle Chester, Pastoral Care Worker
Mount Barker Primary School and Echunga Primary School

TACKLE RUGBY

My name is Alex Steinke and I am travelling to Melbourne in August to play rugby for South Australia. Before I travel to Melbourne, I will be playing at Adelaide Oval before the professional game of Storm versus Roosters.



I started playing tackle rugby this year and really enjoyed it. I have played one rugby game and loved it so much that I decided to try out for the state rugby team and got in. My local team in the Adelaide Hills is called the Adelaide Hills Tigers.



It is an awesome game because you are always running around and everyone is really

friendly. The team are supportive and they encourage you to get better as an individual and a team player. I would definitely recommend it as a sport to play.



RUGBY

On Thursday the 1st of June, two girl teams and two boy teams competed in a rugby carnival. There was a Mt Barker team 1 and a Mt Barker team 2 for the girls. Mt Barker team 2 got into the grand final , but they just missed out on the next stage of the rugby. Mt Barker 2 received a mini medal for runners up. On the medal there was a rugby ball design. For the boys there was a Mt Barker team 1 and a Mt Barker team 2, like the girls. The boy team 1 also got into the grand final , but they also just missed out on the next stage of the rugby. Mt Barker boy team 1 got the same medal as the girls, but with different writing on it. It was a great day!

Shakayla – Room 4



RECEPTION NEWS

This term we have been learning about our local community and over the last few weeks have had a number of parents, and community groups, come in to speak to the children about their jobs. We would like to thank everyone who participated and made this unit of work so special for our classes. Following a visit from Sarah Innes, who spoke to the children about her role with The Salvation Army, the children decided that they would like to collect items to donate to 'The Red Shield Appeal'. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to be 'bucket fillers' in their local community and we would like to thank everyone for their donations. The children were very pleased to present the collected items to Sarah and they received a certificate acknowledging their participation in 'The Red Shield Appeal'.



Sarah Innes presents a Certificate.



Reception children with certificates for learning the 42 Jolly Phonics Sounds

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to all of the teachers, parents and students who supported this year's Scholastic Book Fair. The student's certainly enjoyed the opportunity to look at all the new books and the Library has been a very busy place for the last few days. Those students who have ordered books can expect them to arrive next week.

This year we sold \$.3.500.00 worth of books, posters and stationery items. This enabled us to take \$399 worth of new books for the Library and we will also get Scholastic Rewards dollars that allow us to make further purchases from the Lucky Book Club issues throughout the year.

We would like to thank our parent volunteers - Robyn Schofield and Trish Jamieson who helped with the organisation of the fair this year.

As we have just had the Book Fair it has been decided not to send home Issue 4 of the Lucky Book Club. If any parents missed out on attending our Book Fair and would like to purchase anything from the current issue the brochure can be collected from the Library Office.

Joy Bourne & Judy Smith - Library Staff.

EARLY YEARS, JOLLY PHONICS, OXFORD WORDS AND EXCELSIOR AWARDS WELL DONE EVERYONE !



REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCE

There is a new (no reply) text line for reporting student absence. Text **0417937568** and text your message. Be sure to give your child's full name and class/teacher and the parent's name. Messages will be checked and updated daily at 10am so please send your message before 10am. This line is ONLY for advising daily student absences.

AFTER SCHOOL KISS AND DROP REMINDER

In the interests of both child and driver safety, we are asking that children enter your car from the pavement side. Unfortunately we have seen too many near misses with passing cars when children have entered the car from the roadside.

TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS AT MOUNT BARKER PS

Jill Meszaros (Counsellor) will be running a training session for volunteers in term 3. The session includes the RAN-EC training, site induction and information about obtaining a DCSI clearance. This training is an essential requirement for anyone wishing to volunteer at a school or care setting. The session will be on **Tuesday 1st August at 9:30-10:30** (term 3, week 2).

Please let the front office know if you are attending.

Apps for Education

Daisy the Dinosaur App **FREE** Excellent for coding, sequencing and problem solving

Learn the basics of coding with Daisy the Dinosaur!

Built by the creators of Hopscotch.



This free, fun app has an easy drag & drop interface that kids of all ages can use to animate Daisy and make her dance on their screen. Kids will intuitively grasp the basics of objects, sequencing, loops and events by solving this app's challenges.

Traffic Lights (natural maths) app \$2.99 Excellent for Place Value to 6 digits



The Traffic Lights game is a great way to give your child an understanding of place value at the same time as helping them to develop logical thinking.

The iPad chooses a secret number and the player has only six guesses to find it. The Traffic Light clues show that the guess has:

GREEN: The right digit in the right place of the secret number

ORANGE: The right digit, but in the wrong place of the secret number

RED: The wrong digit and so not anywhere in the secret number

There are three levels, using 4-digit, 5-digit and 6-digit secret numbers. Just as you feel safe at one level, it's time to go on to the next. (NOT AVAILABLE ON ANDROID)

Jolly Phonics App \$7.99 Excellent for Reading, Writing and Spelling



App Overview:

Start your child's journey in reading and writing. Join Bee and her friends as they explore the enchanting letter-sounds garden and discover the main 42 letter sounds of English through a series of captivating games. This beautifully animated app enables your child to learn the letter sounds (including digraphs), letter formation, blending the sounds for reading and identifying letter sounds in words for spelling and writing. Together these skills give your child the best possible start as they learn to read and write.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 2

Week 7

Monday 12/6/17

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Week 8

Tuesday 20/6/17

Governing Council meet 7pm in the Staffroom

Week 9

Wednesday 28/6/17

Assembly 2.30pm in the Hall

Friday 7th July

Term 2 ends – Early Dismissal 2.10pm

Term 3

Week 1

Monday 24/7/17

STUDENT FREE DAY

Tuesday 25/7/17

Term 3 commences

Week 4

Tuesday 15th August

Governing Council meet 7pm in the Staffroom

Week 5

Splash Theatre Company Performance

Week 6

Tuesday 29th August

Principal's Tour 10am

Week 8

Tuesday 12th September

Governing Council meet 7pm in the Staffroom



Parent Survey Information

Mount Barker Primary School is a Way2Go partner with the local council and the Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure.

The Way2Go program promotes safer, greener and more active travel for the school community.

We want to create conditions where children, families and communities can choose walking, bike riding and public transport to get around their local areas and for school journeys.

The important first step is to collect evidence about children's current travel to and from school.

Students and teachers will be completing the online survey and your perspective as a parent/caregiver will provide us additional valuable information.

The survey provides 'snap shot in time' information about specific school community travel choices, attitudes, issues and preferences. The patterns emerging and specific information will shape planning and actions and create changes.

Please use the following link: <http://bit.ly/Way2GoParentSurvey> or (google Way2Go surveys) to complete the survey. **The survey will be open from Wednesday the 14th of June until Wednesday the 28th June.** Please contact the school if you would prefer a paper copy of the survey.

Thanks for your help.

For further information

Call: 8343 2088

Email: Way2Go@sa.gov.au

Visit: www.dpti.sa.gov.au/Way2Go



Government of South Australia

Department of Planning,
Transport and Infrastructure



Connect at Vodafone Mt Barker and reward your child's school.

Switch your mobile over to Vodafone and for every new 24 month plan connected in store, we will donate \$10 to your school.*

For every Month to Month or 12 month plan connected in store, we will donate \$5 to your school. Switching is easy and you can keep your existing number. This offer is for new and existing Vodafone customers.

* Terms and conditions apply, see in store for details.

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