End of Term

We have arrived at the end of what has seemed a long, cold and wet term with unfortunately high levels of ill health amongst staff and students. We are looking forward to the holiday break and everyone resting and re-charging ready for a great term 3. This is the last week of teaching for Vicki Lawless and we wish her the best in retirement. We also have some staff on leave next term and classes involved will have received a note advising them of this. We have named replacements for these staff but please be aware these are all waiting DECD approval which may not come until a few days before the start of term 3.

Governing Council

Governing Council met on 27th June for the second meeting of the term. This meeting was focussed on reports presented. These reports indicate that the school, canteen and Out of School Hours Care are all in a good financial position and on budget. We are pleased that some moderate increases in prices at the canteen has returned it to a more viable position. OSHC are planning some further renovations to their building, particularly the office area. Staff changes for term 3 were explained as well as some information about the school becoming part of a major DECD project about strengthening family and community engagement in student learning based on the National Family-Schools Partnership Framework, something that fits well with our priorities.

We are still happy to hear from any parents who would like to be on working parties for Learning Landscapes (development of the grounds and environment), Student Participation (student governance and voice) and Communication. Just send an email to the Principal if you are interested. These groups will meet next term.

Next Governing Council meeting is on August 22nd. If you have anything you would like to be raised at Governing Council please contact a council member or send an email to janet.massey644@schools.sa.edu.au. You can raise your point for discussion through Janet or simply request a council member to contact you.
ENROLLING FOR 2017

If your child is due to commence Reception in 2017 please come to the office to advise us of the details.

Next term we will be commencing the process of class placements. It is vital that we are accurate with our numbers to ensure we have appropriate staffing allocated.

If you know that your child will not be attending WLSS in 2017, please advise the school office immediately.

BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Next term we will be celebrating Book Week. The theme this year is: Australia: Story Country. During Week 5 (20/8-26/8) the whole school will be celebrating with buddy class and lunchtime activities and a whole school assembly for which we encourage students to dress up.

This year we would like students to dress up in keeping with the theme. They could dress up as a character from an Australian book or as an Australian hero, icon or legend. For example, the Rainbow Serpent, Tiddalick the Frog, Ned Kelly, Blinky Bill, Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, an early settler, etc. Simple costumes that students design are encouraged. We look forward to seeing how thoughtful and creative our school community can be.

WESTERN ADELAIDE SHORES WORKSHOP

SETTING LIMITS ON CHILDREN’S BEHAVIOUR – WORKING WITH RELATIONSHIP

This workshop will outline a simple process for building children’s behaviour that keeps the relationship between you and your child as a central focus which leaves you and your child feeling OK about discipline.

Facilitator: Donna Broadhurst, Counselling Therapist & DECD Family Services Coordinator.

Venue: Henley Community Kindergarten, 8 White Street, Henley Beach on Thursday 4 August from 7:00 to 9:00pm. To register www.shorestart-communitylearning.eventbrite.com.au

FEEDING THE BIRDS

Recently, Garry and Kelly from the City of Charles Sturt Council, came to inform us that feeding the birds at places like the lake and the river, is very unhealthy for them. The birds get lazy and forget how to catch their own food. They can also get sick because we feed them human food, (such as bread) instead of the food they need (which provides them with the minerals they require).

After their talk we realised how important it is to let the birds find their own food.

We decorated some ducks and put them in our Aboriginal Garden. They will be relocated to the duck pond as a reminder to people, not to feed the birds.

You can still go to lakes and rivers and admire the lovely birds but:

Please! Do not feed the ducks and birds.

Mitchell, Ray, Jai, Scarlett, Kenza, Madeline, Shawnee, Chloe from P4

CONGRATULATIONS

Alicia and Dominic (Yr 6) are part of the SAPPSA school choir. It is a choir entered into through audition and open to public school students in years 5-7.

This year they have performed at the:
- North Tce ANZAC day dawn service
- The Adelaide Songs, Elder Hall, Uni of Adelaide
- Eisteddford, Elder Hall, Uni of Adelaide

and this week will be performing in a winter concert at Burnside.

REMINDER

Last day of Term
Fri 8th July
Early Dismissal at 2:15pm
MUSIC IS FUN

Last Monday we attended the Music is Fun show. It was great on all levels. The best part was that students got to join in. In ‘Welcome to New York’ the whole dance was made up by year 5 students. We thank the Music is Fun group for coming and Wendy Banks for organising this great experience for the Receptions, who haven’t seen it before, to the Year 7’s.

CONGRATULATIONS

Corey A from class SD2 won the U15’s Downhill Mountain Bike State Series Round 2 Eagle Park and Round 3 Fox Creek leading the elite women and over half the U17's men.

Well done Corey.

STUDENT VOICE DISCO

Thursday 11th August in the school gym

Years Rec-3 5:00-6:00pm
Years 4-7 6:30 – 8:00pm

Tickets $5 which includes a bottle of water, packet of chips and glow bracelet.

Tickets available at the door or from the administration office.

ANSWERS TO STRETCH CORNER WEEK 6

1. A: a dice
2. A: candle
3. A: a post office
4. A: few
5. A: dozens

SCHOOL FOOTBALL RESULTS

SATURDAY 25TH JUNE

2/3 WLSS 3-3 (21) vs Star Of Sea 14-4-(88)
Goals: Lucas H (2), Stanley C (1)
Best: Jack Mc, Alex M, Joshua S

4/5 WLSS 1-4 (10) vs Star Of Sea 6-10 (46)
Goals: Michael O (1)
Best: Jordan N, Chase B, Nathan G

SATURDAY 2ND JULY

2/3 WLSS 8-5 (53) vs Lockleys North 7-4 (46)
Best: Addison E, Stanley C, Mason H

4/5 WLSS 4-8 (32) vs Henley West 7-1 (43)
Goals: Owen H, Connor R, Tyson G, Cy H (1)
Best: Braden G, Finn C, Connor R

6/7 WLSS 9-10 (64) vs Henley West 6-9 (45)
Goals: Chloe S, Jay W, Jack M (2), Noah H, Madison S, Ryan J (1)
Best: Louis M, Zane G, Chloe S
The Australian Government is committed to delivering NAPLAN online from 2017, with all schools across the nation transitioning over a 2 to 3 year period.

This change will provide each child with a more personalised learning experience and a better assessment. It also means that the results will be returned to you and your child’s teachers within a few weeks, rather than several months.

Our school will be participating in a trial of the new online system in August 2016. This trial is not a ‘test’ of content; it is a test of how the new online system will work in a real-life classroom environment. You may hear this trial referred to as the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial.

As part of the trial, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will undertake 2 online readiness tests. Each test will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

It is important that we participate in this trial before the system is officially in use in 2017 to enable familiarisation with the system in a classroom setting. Participation will allow us to confirm that every school is ready and that our teachers are confident that their students will be able to participate fully.

This trial will help our site to be well prepared to complete NAPLAN online in 2017 and provide feedback into final changes at a statewide level.

What is NAPLAN online?
NAPLAN online is an initiative of the Australian Government and involves the transition of NAPLAN from pen and paper to a computer-based assessment.

Why is NAPLAN going online?
Moving NAPLAN online allows for better and more varied assessment tasks and a personalised test experience. It also means your child’s results will be more precise and available to you within a couple of weeks, rather than several months.

When is it happening and who is doing it?
The Education Council, comprising state, territory and commonwealth education ministers, has agreed that NAPLAN online will be implemented from 2017 over a 2 to 3 year period.
DECD is encouraging as many schools as possible to move to NAPLAN Online from 2017.

Who is managing the move online?
Education Services Australia (ESA) have been commissioned to develop and trial the platform which will deliver NAPLAN online.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will continue to be responsible for all aspects of development of the NAPLAN tests.

In South Australia, DECD is responsible for preparing schools to move online.

What is the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial?
The NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial is a practice run of the NAPLAN online platform. Schools will complete as many test sessions as they need to develop their understanding of the system and their readiness for the 2017 implementation. It is also an opportunity for schools to provide detailed feedback on their experiences and readiness.

Students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are asked to trial the online system and new question style. As part of this trial all students will log in with an anonymous student code so they cannot be identified.

The trial will involve students completing 2 assessments
- a test for each year level containing sample NAPLAN online questions based on reading, numeracy and convention of languages (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- a separate writing test for each year level.

Across Australia, the test is called the Platform Test Readiness Trial (PTRT).

Why is the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial important?
The trial will provide information about the school’s internet capabilities and confirm that there are sufficient devices to run the test successfully. It will also allow staff to ‘test drive’ the new processes and trial classroom logistics.

What about schools that do not have the necessary bandwidth to undertake online assessment?
The Australian Government is developing a ‘low bandwidth’ solution for schools that are experiencing issues with internet connectivity. This will ensure that all students are also able to experience the online test.

Can students use their own devices?
Students will also be able to use their own headphones for the spelling test. These must be full headphones and not ear buds. We have enough for all students to use.

If you have any questions please contact Helen Grant.