Open Night

It was fantastic to see so many parents and friends of the school here for our Open Night on Wednesday 7th September. The art gallery in the gym was a new addition this year and a big well done to Lisa Zappia and Scott Nicholls, the 2 staff members who put this together.

If you missed the night we have included some photos below of some of the wonderful displays of student learning that were on show.

Absentee Number: 8449 7574 (4:30pm-9:00am)
Phone: 8449 7255
Facsimile: 8449 1559
Save the Children
Global Peace School
We are all very excited as the architect Kirsty Hewitt has provided the first plans for our STEM refurbishment. These are currently being costed to see how much our money will allow. Parents who are interested are welcome to ask the office staff to show them the initial drawings.

**PARENT FEEDBACK**

Next Wednesday 21st September at 9am Christine McKenzie from DECD will be at the school for a short time to get some feedback from parents about some information pamphlets that she is developing. The content of the pamphlets is about the social and emotional capability of students. We would love a few parents who might be interested in helping review whether these are parent friendly and appropriate to come and see Christine in the staff room that morning. She only needs a few minutes of your time.

**2017 CLASSES**

Early next term we will begin the process of deciding our class structures for 2017. As you are no doubt aware there are many factors that impact on the makeup of our classes, not the least being funding and enterprise and other binding agreements. We look at individual student needs, particularly for students at risk. The students will be asked by their current teacher to nominate some students with whom they can learn successfully. We try to ensure that students have at least one or two friends with them but we do like to move students around from year to year so that they have the chance to get to know other students from their year level, especially as they get older.

If you as parents have any significant factors you would like us to consider when placing your child for 2017, please let us know, preferably by email to sue.toone42@schools.sa.edu.au. Please note that you cannot ask for a particular teacher.

While we endeavour to meet parent requests, the compilation of the classes is a very complex task and is the responsibility of the Personnel Advisory Committee of the school. While there is an appeal process at the end of the year, moving students once they are placed often has a flow-on effect and so is not done lightly.

You will be informed about your child’s class placement for 2017 in the last week of school in Term 4. If your child has some special needs, we may confer with you before then to determine the best placement.

We hope to know all the teachers before the end of the year, but this is not always possible.

**Please have your request in by Friday 21st October.**

It is critical that you let us know about any students, apart from Year 7, who will not be returning next year.

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**STEM**

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2016 has now closed and we will be forwarding the names of all students who have successfully completed the “Challenge” in preparation for Certificates and Medals to be presented later next term. Please ensure all completed Reading Records are handed up to Mrs Cook or Lyn in the Resource Centre by this Friday, 16th September, at the latest.

**LOST PROPERTY**

Several school jackets have been lost. Jackets have name tags inside. Could you please check your child’s jacket to ensure it doesn’t belong to someone else. Thank you for your assistance.

**WLSS GIRLS STORM INTO SOCCER FINAL**

The WLSS Girls have defeated Birdwood Primary 3-0 in their semi-final to move on to the SAPSASA Knockout soccer final.

In a fast-paced and tense game, the girls were able to gain the upper hand with crisp ball movement and on the back of the fantastic pressure they applied to the opposition when they had possession.

Phoebe’s run and pinpoint cross got the team off to a great start, with Penny’s resulting shot cannoning back off the post and Madison on hand to tap in the rebound. Shortly after, some strong defensive work turned the ball over and Madison was able to collect a pass on the halfway line and run through the Birdwood defense to beat the keeper for her second goal.

After an arm wrestle at the start of the second half the game was put beyond doubt when a long-range shot from Madison beat the keeper.

The team now moves on to the play Burnside Primary in the final at Campbelltown on the 29th of September.

**SAPSASA FOOTBALL**

In Term 3, Week 4, Bailey B, Jack M, Jay W & Noah H from WLSS & Ryan J from OLV represented the Port District SAPSASA football team in the State Carnival held at West Beach.

We played nine tough games, won two and lost seven. We were on the verge of being demoted to Div 3 but we won our last game by 4 points to stay in Div 2. Although the games were physical and competitive and we were all sore by the end of the week we had fun.

By Jay W
**Attendance Matters**

Is your child missing out on valuable learning?
All absences from school impact on a child’s learning and as such absences should be kept to a minimum. Students with regular absences find themselves missing out on valuable introductory information and the opportunity to practice and consolidate many skills.

Is regular attendance important?
Yes, from the very first day! If children and students miss the basic skills in the early years of schooling they often experience learning difficulties later on. It has been shown that irregular attendance in the early school years can lead to poor patterns of attendance in primary and then secondary years.

As a system we recognise the following:

- **Habitual Non-Attendance:** Where a student has 5 or more absences per term (an average of 1 day per fortnight) then the issues of absenteeism for that student are considered to be habitual.
- **Chronic Non-Attendance:** Where a student is absent for 10 days or more per term (average of 1 day per week) then the issues of absenteeism for that child are considered to be chronic.
- **An expected attendance rate of 95% plus:** As a system DECD requires all sites to aim for an attendance rate of 95% or above and further requires that all absences, late arrivals and early leaves are accounted for with a valid reason.

If your child is absent from his or her education program, the parent/caregiver is required by DECD to notify the school. This can be done via:

- a phone call on the day of absence to the Absentee Line 8449 7574
- the presentation of a written explanation in your child’s diary for that absence within a reasonable time (the next day).
- the Skoolbag App (under eForms then Absentee Form noting absence or late arrival.)

Please note we are legally required to make contact with you on the third consecutive day of absence and to confirm reasons for absence, lateness and early departures.

*With this in mind as of next week fortnightly letters will be issued to parents of all students with unexplained absences to support us in monitoring individual student attendance and maintaining our legal requirements.*

**Did You Know …?**

- Missing one day a fortnight of school from Reception to Year 10 means missing one year and one half term of schooling.
- Missing one day a week of school from Reception to Year 10 means missing two years and one term of schooling.
- If a student is late by 10 minutes each day they will have missed approximately 2 days schooling each term.
- Being half an hour late to school each day from Reception to Year 10 equals missing one year and one and-a-half terms of schooling.
- Patterns of attendance/absence are set up in the early years of schooling.
- There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement.
- Students who are frequently absent from school are over-represented in the juvenile justice system.
- Girls are absent more often than boys.
- Poor attendance makes it difficult for students to form positive relationships with their peers.
- Research shows that students who are often absent from school are likely to earn less than their peers as adults.

**Do I have to send my child every day?**
Yes, unless:

- The child is too sick to leave the house.
- The child has an infectious disease like chicken pox, mumps or measles.
- The child has an injury preventing movement around school.
- The child is going with caregivers on a family trip that cannot be arranged during school holidays. This is arranged with the Principal prior to the absence by applying for a school exemption.
- A medical or dental appointment could not be made out of school hours. (If possible, appointments should be made out of school hours).
Thank you to our school community on the great effort in collecting receipts. We are eagerly awaiting the winners and results from Westfield.

**Q1.** What do the following words have in common: revive, banana, grammar, voodoo, assess, potato, dresser, uneven?

**Q2.** What makes this number unique — 8,549,176,320?

**Q3.** Take off my skin - I won't cry, but you will! What am I?

**Q4.** How much dirt is there in a hole 3 feet deep, 6 ft long and 4 ft wide?

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**ANSWERS TO STRETCH CORNER T3 Wk6**

A1. The letter m.
A2. Chess pawns.
A3. A coin.
A4. The missing number is 6 as all opposite numbers add up to 21.
A5. A drop of water.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

We are happy to support local organisations and groups however, please understand that we take no responsibility for the quality of any of the programs and products included in our Community News.

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**WESTERN STRIKERS SOCCER CLUB**

2017 Season Trials - **U12-U16 Junior** players trials will be held Mon 26th, Tues 27th and Wed 28th Sept. 5:30-6:30pm (U12, U13 & U14) and 6:30-7:45pm (U15, U16 & U17). **U6 - U11 Miniroos** players trial will be held Tues 27th Sept at 5:15pm - 6:00pm.

**Junior Coaches Positions** - We are currently looking for coaches for 2017 Season. Training twice a week with matches played Sunday mornings. To express interest or for more information please contact Pat Crisci technical.director@westernstrikers.com or phone 0413 592 701. For more information on any of the above refer to www.westernstrikers.com situated at Carnegie Reserve, Kingston Avenue, Royal Park SA 5014.

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**STATE TENNIS WEST LAKES**

Taking enrolments for tennis coaching in Term 4, 2016. 2-5 year old motor skills program 'Jump Start' / ANZ Tennis Hot Shots lessons from Age 4+ / Adult lessons.

State Tennis is also registered for the school Sports Vouchers program. So why not call State Tennis, grab your $50 sports voucher from school and start or recommence tennis coaching.

Parents may also be interested in our adult classes or ‘Cardio Tennis’ fitness sessions. Phone 8355 4466 or visit statetennis.com.au

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**NORTH HAVEN SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB**

Saturday 29th October from 12:30—2:30pm.

If you’re interested in finding out more about Nippers and want to become a member of our family friendly club, join us for a free ‘Come and Try’ session. There will be scheduled activities for Nippers aged 5-13 years but anyone can come along to learn more. Learn surf life saving skills, join in beach activities and meet new friends.

Membership - $50 per child or $120 per family. North Haven Surf Life Saving Club, 44 Australia 2 Ave, North Haven.

For further info email nippers@northhavenslsc.com.au

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**IZLA’S PURPLE CRUSADE**

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Carousel Fun Run/Walk on Sunday November 6th

5km walk/run * 10km walk/run * 15km run

Along the beautiful semaphore foreshore

Creating Epilepsy awareness & fundraising for the Epilepsy Centre SA/NT

To Register visit www.eventzilla.net and search Izla alternatively, type in the web browser http://www.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2138851615

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**SEMAPHORE LIFE SAVING CLUB**

Registrations October 8th from 12:00pm.

Juniors training Saturdays 12:50-3pm.

Come & Try sessions finish on 31st December.

3 weeks Come N Try for $15.

For further information ring Pat Larven on 0419 816 911.

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**HENLEY DISTRICTS LITTLE ATHLETICS**

Come & Try Night on Friday the 16th September from 6-7:30pm.

Henley Memorial Oval, Cnr Raymond & White Streets, Henley Beach.

Cost $5 (to cover insurance on the night).