



DIARY DATES

Monday	16	February	Swimming lessons commence
Wednesday	18	February	Acquaintance Night
Wednesday	18	February	Governing Council AGM
Tuesday	24	February	Pupil Free Day
Monday	2	March	Year 7 Canberra camp
Monday	9	March	Adelaide Cup Holiday
Monday	9	March	Year 6 Canberra camp

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term 1, Week 3, February 12th, 2015

School Leaders and Student Governance 2015

My congratulations to our 2015 School Captains, School Leaders and Sports Captains. At Reidy Park we are very serious about collaborative decision making, responding to feedback, focusing on improvement and keeping the momentum for excellent practice at the forefront of all that we do. Listening to and encouraging student voice is an important part of this agenda and thus we take seriously the role of School Leaders and the Student Representative Council (SRC) as representatives of the student body as partners in decision making along with staff and Governing Council.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Captains | - Luke B and Madison K |
| Student Leaders | - Joel R, Emilee Mc, Josh C, Lili S, Manon F, Ellie C |
| Sports Team Leaders | - Eaglehawk (yellow) Captains: Jack C and Sophie E Vice Captains: Faith R and Brodie M |
| | - Lava (red) Captains: Georgia B and Ruben G. Vice Captains: Darcy H and Abby B |
| | - Lake (blue) Teagan H and Connor P. Vice Captains: Abby Mc and Angela Mc |
| | - Willow (green) Alex J and Harry S. Vice Captains: Ethan N and Zahli F |

Very shortly each class will elect their SRC Representatives who will meet once a fortnight with the School Captains and School Leaders to discuss issues of importance to the students. Between these meetings classes will be holding class meetings talk about issues to take forward to SRC. Dan Castle (year 6/7) teacher will be taking the staff lead role in supporting our students on these important student governance groups.

Governing Council

The Annual General Meeting of the School Governing Council will be held on Wednesday 18th February, in the Library beginning at 8:00pm, immediately following Parent Acquaintance Night presentations. Rikki Helps, Coordinator, ICT and Innovation will make a short presentation about our new *Bring Your Own Technology* initiative followed by brief reports and elections for the 2015 Governing Council

Retiring Council Members who may nominate for a further 2 year term are:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Andrew Hunter | Cathy Lunnay |
| John Miles | David Burt |
| Jason Baron | Duane Gertners |
| Jim Cornolo | Kelli Winterfield |

Councillors who were elected in 2014 and have a further year to serve are:

- Lorenza McMahon
- Sonya Dyson
- Shirley Johnston
- Stephanie Beck
- Aaron Warden
- Sally Alexander

Justyna Grosse
Laura Heesmans

In addition Susan Andrae completed her elected tenure as a school councillor at the end of 2014 but will not be nominating as her last child has graduated from our school and is now attending high school. We would like to thank Susan sincerely for her service to our school.

If you are interested in joining our Governing Council, you may either attend the AGM or nominate in writing by returning the reply slip included in the newsletter, or by email to dl.0290_info@schools.sa.edu.au

Parent Acquaintance Night

Just a reminder that on next Wednesday 18th February the Parent Acquaintance Night will be held. Information has previously been sent home regarding the timetable for open classrooms and the times that individual teachers will be presenting to parents. Specialist Teachers will be available in their classrooms to share their learning programs from 5:30 – 6:15 and will be very pleased to talk with you about their curriculum plans for 2015. We hope that you will take this opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and have a look around the school.

Pupil Free Day

A reminder that our first Student Free Day for 2015 will be on Tuesday February 24th. Students will not attend school on this day and all staff will be attending professional learning. We will be working with Professor George Booker as part of our 2015 whole school focus on teaching and learning in Mathematics. George is the author of *Teaching Primary Mathematics*, the text that we use for teaching Numeracy in all classes in our school.

External School Review Week 8

Over the past six years all DECD schools were reviewed and validated by a Regional Review Panel as part of a three year cycle. In my previous position I chaired many of these panels in schools across the Limestone Coast. Reidy Park School participated in two validations, one in 2013 and one in 2011. As of the beginning of 2015 this process will be managed and coordinated centrally by the DECD External Review Team rather than at the local level as was previously the case. Over the next four years we will be externally reviewed by a team of three; an External Review Officer, a peer Principal from a school outside our local partnership and the Education Director. Along with 23 other schools across the state we have been balloted to be in the first round of reviews which will occur during Week 8 of this term from Monday 16th March to Wednesday 18th March. Please take the time to read the attachment to this newsletter about this process and the timelines for the stages for the review.

*Chris Sheldon
Principal*

*Lesley Okholm
Deputy Principal*

*Sue Hutchesson
Assistant Principal*

Governing Council Nomination Form

NAME CHILD’S NAME RM NO

I hereby submit my nomination to be a part of the Reidy Park Primary Governing Council Committee.

SIGNED



HOW CAN WE SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN TO BE RESILIENT?

Resilience

Resilience is a 21st Century parenting concept that every parent needs to understand.

Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn't faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience.

The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Resilient kids share four basic skill sets- independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.

Building Resilience

From a resilience perspective parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them.

You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your kids by:

1. Having a positive attitude yourself. Your attitude as a parent impacts on their ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a 'you can do it' attitude for your child when he meets some of life's curve balls.
2. Look for teachable moments. Many kids' learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.
3. Make kids active participants in the family. Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of kids that are necessary for resilience.
4. Build kids coping skills. There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn't go their way, including acceptance, getting away for awhile, and normalisation.

Promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don't go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in your yourself, and your child's ability to cope.

Swimming

Beginning Monday 16th February, many classes have swimming lessons at the Aquatic Centre. This includes Rooms 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, 20 and 24. Students in R - 2 are entitled to 5 lessons, whilst 3 - 7 have 10. Due to our Student Free day on Tuesday February 24th, these lessons have, in some cases been extended to allow for missing one day. Please check your child's note carefully, as some start and finish times will impact when your child needs to be at school, or when they are back for end of day pick up Please remember to label your child's belongings well. Amazingly, we have many pairs of jocks and socks, towels, bathers and goggles left after lessons which apparently belong to no-one.

Fire Friday

WOW! What a huge success!

This fundraiser which was initiated by students during the school holidays as a result of personally reflecting on the impact of the SA Bushfires on animals, was an enormous success with our students raising \$1300 for RSPCA SA. We most sincerely thank families for supporting this effort at such short notice. We truly have a remarkable school community.



Students from Room 6 dressed in their fire colours and animal costumes to support Fire Friday.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIMESTONE COAST DRUG ACTION TEAM PRESENTS

UNDERSTANDING

THE ICE FACTOR

A COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUM SPONSORED BY ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT GAMBIER WEST

**Are you concerned about the illicit drug ice?
Do you want to learn more?**

Then please join the South Australia Police and a panel of experts at this free community forum.

**7 PM - February 12th 2015
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier
FREE EVENT**

We encourage you to register your questions prior at:
www.haveyoursaymountgambier.com.au

No bookings necessary. For more information contact:
Limestone Coast Police Crime Prevention Section - 8735 1047
or City of Mount Gambier - 8721 2555

This forum is supported by:



Kongorong Junior Football Club

Kongorong junior football club will be conducting its registration and meet the coach day on Friday February 20th at 6.00pm. Commencing with a light training run followed by a free BBQ tea donated by Green Triangle Electronics. Players are required for the following grades - Mini mini's (under 10) and Junior colts (under 14)



Junior Cricket – Ages 10 & Under

When: Thursday afternoons (from Thursday 19th February 2015 – Thursday 19th March 2015)

When: Frew Park

Time: 4 – 5pm

Cost: \$30 for non-club registered players / \$20 for club registered players

Modified games of cricket, all equipment provided (although you can bring your own bat if you like). Perfect next step after MILO In2Cricket.

Flexible on the age restrictions

Please contact SACA Cricket Officer, Shelley Nitschke on 0447 081 634 or snitschke@saca.com.au to register.

Blue Lake Soccer Club

Welcome new players for all grades. 2015 training times: Under 12 & Under 14: Wednesday's 5.15 - 7.00pm Contact Damien 0407438461

Under 17's Thursday's (from Feb 12th) 5.30pm. Contact Rajko 0407745846 or Simon 0437976948.

Redbacks Hockey Club

Are you looking for another sport to play then

'Come and Try Hockey'

Registration Dates and Training: Sunday 1st March from 4:00 to 5:00 pm on the turf at Blue Lake Sports park for children aged 7 years or over.



Hockey sticks will be provided for all new players. Please bring own water bottle, mouth guard and suitable training clothing. For more information please contact Club President Mike Armour on 0476024103 or email michaelarmour5@bigpond.com



Announcing... The Bird Day Out!

A free, family day at Naracoorte Caves – Sunday 8 March.

The Bird Day Out aims to celebrate and raise awareness of the diverse bird faunas of Naracoorte Caves National Park and World Heritage Area – past and present. The event also launches the SE Region's Parks

Week program.

The program for the day includes:

- A talk by world-renowned palaeontologist Dr Trevor Worthy on a giant duck-like bird and other fowl relatives that roamed this region alongside the mega fauna.
- A talk by PhD Student Amy Slender on learning behaviour in Superb Fairy Wrens.
- A presentation from Cassie Hlava on habitat restoration for declining woodland birds.
- Children's storytelling with Evelyn Roth's Nylon Zoo.
- Dawne Chorus bird call and tales extravaganza.
- Fossil sorting.
- Guided bird walk, and more...

Full program details and times are available on the Naracoorte Caves website:

http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/naracoorte/Home/Full_news_listing/News_Events_Listing/150130-bird-day-out



TERM 1 PLANNER - 2015

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	26/1 Australia Day	27/1	28/1	29/1	30/1 Fire Friday
WEEK 2	2/2 Uniform Shop	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2 Assembly
WEEK 3	9/2 Uniform Shop	10/2	11/2	12/2 Newsletter	13/2
WEEK 4	16/2 Uniform Shop Swimming Lessons Commence	17/2	18/2 Acquaintance Night Governing Council AGM	19/2	20/2 Assembly
WEEK 5	23/2 Uniform Shop Swimming Lessons continue	24/2 PUPIL FREE DAY	25/2	26/2 Newsletter	27/2
WEEK 6	2/3 Uniform Shop Year 7 Camp in Canberra	3/3	4/3	5/3	6/3 Assembly
WEEK 7	9/3 ADELAIDE CUP Year 6 Camp in Canberra	10/3	11/3	12/3 Newsletter	13/3
WEEK 8	16/3 Uniform Shop Swimming Lessons Continue DECD External Review	17/3	18/3 Newsletter	19/3	20/03 Assembly Harmony Day
WEEK 9	23/3 Uniform Shop Swimming Lessons continue	24/3	25/3	26/3 Newsletter	27/3
WEEK 10	30/3 Uniform Shop	31/3	1/4 Newsletter	2/4 Sports Day	3/4 GOOD FRIDAY
WEEK 11	6/4 EASTER MONDAY	7/4	8/4	9/4 Newsletter	10/4 End of Term 1

Reidy Park Primary School External Review

As part of our continuous school improvement we will be involved in an external school review with a review panel. The purpose of external school reviews is to support schools across the state to raise achievement, sustain high performance and provide quality assurance to build public confidence in government schools. All DECD schools will be externally reviewed over the next four year period.

The focus of the review is to evaluate schools' performance -

How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement and equity?

The external school review will be held at our school on Monday March 16th and Tuesday March 17th. The review panel consists of a review officer and a trained review principal. We will find out the aspects of the school's performance which have been validated through the review processes as well as the improvements that we need to make in the future.

During the external school review, some students, parents, governing council and staff will be asked to provide information to the review panel in a number of ways. These include:

- individual interviews
- focus group discussions (with students or staff or parents)
- meetings (usually governing council, staff meeting)
- observations of student learning

We appreciate your support and time in helping us with this external school review process. Please complete the reply slip below and return to the front office by if you do **not** want your child to participate in any of the interviews that may be held.

If you would like more information please contact either Sue Hutchesson, Lesley Okholm or Chris Sheldon at school.



EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW PROCESS

NAME:

I **do not** want my child(ren) in room(s) to be involved in the external school review discussions.

Signd: