



Government of South Australia
 Department for Education and
 Child Development

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Term 1, Week 5, March 1, 2018

DIARY DATES

Thursday	8	March	Assembly
Monday	12	March	Adelaide Cup Day Holiday
Thursday	22	March	Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
	22	March	School Tour 9.30am
Friday	30	March	Good Friday
Monday	2	April	Easter Monday
Thursday	5	April	Championship Sprints
Friday	6	April	Sports Day

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Recently I attended the DECD Annual Leaders' Day conference. The conference provided a summary of DECD priorities for the year as well as giving an opportunity for leaders to engage with current system reforms. The day opened with a presentation from DECD CE Rick Persse on the department's ambitious aspiration to be a world-class education system which was underpinned by a number of key principles focused on strategies to achieve school improvement.

Complementing the Leaders' Day was another DECD event focused on Literacy. This conference was a chance to hear from literacy specialists about the latest research in this area as well as identifying high impact practices that lift literacy achievement for every child.

The keynote address at the Literacy day was delivered by internationally acclaimed literacy expert, Professor Maryanne Wolf. Professor Wolf, who is the Director of the Centre for Reading and Language Research at Tufts University in the United States, emphasised the importance of Literacy, not only in regards to children's learning but also the social benefits we achieve from being a literate society. One of her key aspirations was "at six months of age, I want every father, mother and caregiver to be reading to their children." This comment recognises that the time before school is a crucial period for children's literacy development.

When children do start school, our teachers use various approaches to engage students in reading, which you can read about in the Literacy spotlight in this week's newsletter. This year, two staff have been appointed to support student learning in Literacy. Lauren Suggate will fulfil the role of Reading Support Teacher in the Junior Primary (1 day a week) and will work with small groups of students to support their reading development as well as work alongside teachers in the classroom during literacy lessons. Sam O'Neill will carry out the role of Literacy Coordinator (1 day a week), focusing on primary

and upper primary students. Mr O'Neill will have a specific focus on assisting teachers to develop their reading programs, including how we teach reading comprehension.

Families have a crucial role in helping their children become good readers and we encourage reading practice to be a regular, and enjoyable, activity that happens at home. If you are looking for advice or help in ways that you can help your child develop their reading ability, please speak to their class teacher.

School Communication App

From today, families are able to download an app called 'School Stream' that our school will be using to communicate news and information. This app not only provides a communication service but also has other functions, such as families being able to submit absence notes, fill out consent forms and check dates of school events. The app will be linked to Qkr which many families are already using for various payment needs. Teachers will also be able to share class news. Many classes are currently using an alternative communication strategy which they will continue with (in the future all classes will eventually transition to using School Stream). Included in this newsletter is some information on how to download the app and its use. Please be aware that School Stream will replace our current Facebook page so future news and updates will no longer appear on this forum.



Rm 11 students participate in weekly book club activities as a part of their focus on reading.

Stephen Jolley
Principal

AGM and Governing Council

Our Annual General Meeting and the first Governing Council meeting for the year was held in Week 4. We welcomed several new members to the committee, which is a very pleasing outcome. Our Governing Council representatives for 2018 are:

Chairperson: Duane Gertners

Vice Chairperson: Laura Heesmans

Secretary: Emily Lennerth

Treasurer: Shylie Barry

Committee members: Graham Jantosh, Lisa Thomas, Yunita Manfrin, David Burt, Sonya Dyson, Rebekah Tilley, Tiffany Malcolm, Jake Ricketts, Alison Mordecai, Fiona Hartung and Matthew Harris.

Within our Governing Council we have several sub-committees (Finance, Grounds, Fundraising and OSHC) which will help inform whole school decision making. Any members of the school community who are interested in joining the Governing Council in the future are welcome to attend our meetings.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent—Teacher Interviews will be held in the coming weeks. All families are encouraged to make an appointment as they provide an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher. To make a booking please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au. Enter the code **f6jnh** and press 'Go'. Bookings close on Friday 16th March. Please do not hesitate to ring the school if you have any queries or need help to make a booking.

New Laptops

At the beginning of the year the school purchased a new set of laptops for the south wing classes (Rms 5, 6, 7 and 8). They have been a very welcome addition and have been already actively used by the students in this area. The laptops are a part of our school's ongoing commitment to provide excellent student access to ICT devices.



Thomas and Sasha have been using the laptops in class for using Google maps to locate landmarks.

Easter Dismissal

Governing Council have approved an early dismissal for Easter, Thursday March 29th at 2.30pm. This dismissal time is in alignment with other local primary and high schools.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent the Lower South East in SAPSASA swimming and softball in Adelaide in the upcoming weeks. Good luck everyone.

Swimming: Lucy E, Kate S and Leila C

Softball: Ethan PC and Blake Mc

ICAS Competitions

Your child is invited to take part in the ICAS in 2018. Please return the permission slip with full entry fee(s) to the Front Office no later than Thursday 15th March. The competitions take place every year in schools throughout Australia and South Pacific region. They provide an opportunity for students to measure their own achievement in an external assessment situation, and are a valuable experience. They are however voluntary, not compulsory, and we understand that there are many financial commitments which parents have at the beginning of the school year.

If you are intending to register more than one child, please do so on separate registration forms

ICAS Subject	Year Level	ICAS Sitting Date	Price
Digital Technologies	3-7	8 May 2018	9.90
Science	3-7	29 May, 2018	9.90
Spelling	3-7	13 June 2018	13.20
Writing	3-7	14 June 2018	19.80
English	3-7	31 July, 2018	9.90
Maths	3-7	14 August 2017	9.90

ICAS International Competitions & Assessments for Schools

(Please Return to Front Office by Thursday 15th March)

CHILD'S NAME

Room Number Year Level

My child would like to take part in the following subject area of ICAS in 2017. (Please circle)

Digital Technologies \$9.90 Science \$9.90

Maths \$9.90 Spelling \$13.20

Writing \$19.80 English \$9.90

I forward \$..... as payment in full for entry to the above nominated competition(s).

Signed

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is a sub committee of Governing Council and is made up of volunteers from our parent community. Last year our Fundraising events raised a total of \$13638.76. Committee members meet twice a term for an hour to determine and organise fundraising activities. The commitment is not time consuming or hard work because we ask for other parent volunteers to help with each planned event. I would like to invite any interested parents and care givers to become part of this committee for 2018. Our first meeting will be held on Monday 5th March at 3.00 pm in the staff room. If you can't commit for the whole year, but are still interested, please let us know. Interested people can call the school on 87 253381 and leave your name and contact details or simply turn up to the first meeting. *Sandy Mullen, Deputy Principal*

Literacy Spotlight from Mr O'Neill

My role in 2018 will focus on Reading and in particular comprehension. This term, I will work with teachers to reflect on 4 approaches to teaching reading – modelled, shared, guided and independent. Each of these formats serve an important purpose, with an overview of each provided below:

What	Purpose
Modelled	An adult reads aloud to model specific reading behaviours and skills eg. predicting what might
Shared	Adult and child read together and share ideas and strategies about the text eg. sounding out and talking about the meaning of
Guided	This is the bridge between shared and independent reading. Reading strategies are taught during Guided Reading and students use the strategy with teacher guidance.
Independent	Child reads on their own and applies the reading strategies

No matter if your child is reading with your support or independently, always try and ask some questions to support their comprehension, for example:

Why did that character do that?
 What would you have done?
 What do you think will happen next?

Looking ahead, we will pay particular attention to guided reading, as research suggests this is a powerful strategy to improving students' comprehension. Likewise, we will explore reciprocal teaching and assessment techniques that improve student outcomes in reading.

Values in Action Awards

Room	Presented to	For
1	Aotea K	Making great progress with his learning.
3	Tyrus S	Pursuing his personal best in all areas of his learning and making positive choices in and out of the classroom.
4	Archer B	Being new to Reidy Park and having a positive attitude.
5	Kasey S	Always having a go and being a great role model.
7	Keyan	A fantastic start at his new school.
10	Mia T	An ongoing and excellent effort in class.
11	Ryan B	His commitment and organisation in fundraising.
12	Abigail M	Courage with her oral presentation.
13	Taylor B	A positive attitude towards all learning tasks and schooling aspects.
15	Sailor Mc	Putting her best effort into her learning.
16	Ruby L	Showing kindness and helping others.
20	Hareem F	Showing great courage at her first time in the swimming pool.
24	Myla R	Being very brave in the mornings.
25	Karmaia H	Being brave and trying new things.
Japanese		Kira H, Kyra K, Noah C, Reece B and Reetinder K.

Materials & Services Fees & School Card

The second instalment of \$77.50 is due on Friday 9th March. This can be paid either at the front office, on the QKR App or via direct deposit. Our bank details are:

Commonwealth Bank
 BSB: 065504
 Account: 10383426

Please take note when paying via QKR to be sure to use the correct name against what you are paying for. School Card income limits have increased from previous years, therefore your family may now be eligible to apply for School Card. For more information on eligibility and to apply online please go to <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme> or speak to the Finance staff.

Room 2 Swimming

Room 2 has been participating in swimming lessons for two weeks at the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre. We all had to split into different groups with our swimming instructors.

My group has been doing survival backstroke and used PFDs in the water. Our swimming teacher is Nic. *By Alice*

We have been learning freestyle and frog kick. We have been to the deep end and learned all the jumps. We have also used PFDs to learn what you do when you are stranded in the cold water. Our swimming teacher is Tyler. *By Jasmine.*

We have been swimming with clothes over our bathers and doing 100m of freestyle. We have been learning breaststroke and all other strokes. We learned safe entries and all the different styles of saving people. Our instructor is Jordan. Room 2 has been enjoying our swimming lessons.

By Alice, Jasmine and Archie.

