



Leadership Team

Carolyn Mildrum
Principal

Sonia Cooke
Deputy Principal

Robert Thornton
Student Counsellor

Diary Dates

August

23 Rm 7,8 & 3 excursion
24 Magic Millions Choir
24 Jump rope 4 heart
25 Wakakiri performance
31 Early Finish

September

2 Book week parade
9 School closure day
14 Festival Choir
21 Governing council mtg
21 Early finish
30 End of term 2pm finish

Developing Learners

Learning something new can be challenging, hard work and rewarding. Can you remember that feeling of pride and sense of achievement when you were trying to learn something new and you stuck at it until eventually you were successful? That is what we would like our students to experience on a regular basis.

If we don't take reasonable risks and take on challenges, then what we actually learn is limited. We need to stretch our brains to help them grow and develop new pathways. If we only work with what we are comfortable with and what we already know and are not willing to take risks from fear of getting it wrong, are we actually learning anything?

At our school we are working together to develop a culture of learning where everyone is willing to be brave and face the challenges that learning new things presents to us. Sometimes we will be successful and sometimes things won't work out for us and we might fail. Failure is an important part of learning. Without failure we would not learn, as it is from our failed attempts that we learn resilience, develop new strategies and build character.



Rather than asking your child "What did you do at school today?" Have you thought of asking your child:-

- "What did you do at school today to challenge yourself and stretch your learning?"
- "What didn't work for you today?" followed by "What did you learn from that?"
- "What did you do at school today that shows your bravery and your willingness to take risks?"
- "How did you stretch your brain today?"

Here are some quotes from our R-1 students on the ways in which they are brave and stretch their brains so they can learn more.

"I stretch my brain by learning new things and learning how to write"

"We need to stretch our brains by doing hard things. If we do hard things our brains grow."

"I stretch my brain by learning to skip"

"We stretch our brain by doing hard things. It doesn't grow when you do easy things you have to do hard things all the time. But making mistakes is good."

"Stretching your brain is when you come into something tricky and you can't do it. So you have to try and if you try you can stretch your brain."

"I stretch my brain by thinking"



As a way of challenging their thinking Rm 9 students have been learning how science helps us solve everyday problems. Here they are exploring the properties of light using "Light Boxes" and trying to build devices from plastic drink bottles that help people bring light into their homes in the poorer areas of some developing countries.

Sonia Cooke
Deputy Principal

Student Free & Early Closure dates

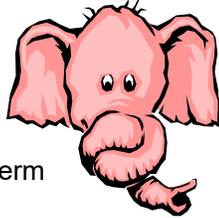
Royal Show Closure day - Friday 9th September.

Early Finishes for this term:-

Wed 31st August Wk 6

Wed 21st September Wk 9

Fri 30th September End of Term



NED performance

On Friday August 4th all students attended a performance by NED. NED used yoyos to help deliver the key messages of

Never give up
Encourage others
Do your best

These are key messages that support the culture of learning that we are developing at our school

Book Week Parade

Book Week is approaching and it is time to start thinking about costumes for this year's Book week parade. We would like everyone to dress as their favourite book character and join us for the parade on **Friday 2nd September at 9.00am**

Onkaparinga Grant

Our school was successful in obtaining an Environment Grant from the Onkaparinga Council which will be used to purchase large worm farms, food scrap collection buckets and mini worm farms to help educate our students about recycling food scraps and the role that worms play in the environment.

NAPLAN Online Parent Information

NAPLAN Online – Getting ready for 2017

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.

NAPLAN Online – answering your questions

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.

The Environment Committee Update

The Environment Group are going to plant about 300 Sedges (creek grasses) in the Southern Christie Creek with the help of the Nature Conservation Team as these were kindly donated by the Onkaparinga Council.

It is hoped that these plants will slow down the creek flow allowing for more water to pool for the animals and to slow down creek bank erosion.

The Southern Elder Weaving Group will also be able to harvest the reeds for their craft projects. We think it will be a great way for the school to contribute to the community.

Sports Update

Netball

E Grade team has won their last 4 games. They are sitting second on the ladder.

C Grade team is sitting third on the ladder in their division.

B Grade team is sitting second on the ladder in their division. Sadly they have lost Maddy Wallace to a broken ankle. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Soccer

U13 (White) team have now had 3 wins for the season.

Presentation Day for Soccer/ Netball

Saturday September 17th

Time: 1pm

BBQ available on the day. Raffle tickets are available now if you would like your chance to win some of our remarkable prizes.

See Coleen Byrne or Christine Hartwell for tickets.

\$1 per ticket , \$10 for a book of 10. Great prizes on offer.

More details to follow.