



DIARY DATES

Monday	6	June	Book Sale Commences	
Monday	13	June	Queens Birthday holiday	
Wednesday	15	June	ICAS Spelling Competition	
Thursday	23	June	Year 6/7 Musical	7.30pm
Tuesday	28	June	Finance Committee Meeting	5.00pm
Wednesday	29	June	School Tour	9.30am
Wednesday	29	June	Governing Council Meeting	7.30pm
Wednesday	6	July	National Hoodie Day	

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Term 2, Week 5, 2nd June, 2016

We are almost half way through this winter term but we have been lucky with the weather favouring students being outside at playtimes most days. I am often astounded to see how many students dress in shorts and t-shirts however, and whilst I know they tell us they 'are not cold', the temperature difference between the heated class environments and outside is enormous. Please urge your child to wear winter warmth clothes, but to remove them inside our buildings..

STEM Days

Last Friday our staff attended a regional learning conference with 750 other educators at the Barn. This event was highly endorsed with the attendance of Federal Minister for Education Mr Simon Birmingham and our own Chief Executive Tony Harrison, with keynote speakers Martin Westwell, Director of the Flinders Centre for Science Education in the 21st Century and Ruben Meerman, the Surfing Scientist from ABC TV.

Our schools are taking a community-wide approach to bolstering science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning, forging partnerships with businesses and other organisations in South Australia.

Technological advances are eliminating current jobs and students need to be armed with the likely skills for jobs which might evolve in the next few years. Learning needs to be focused on projects with real-life applications and if we can do that properly we are hoping is that then the unemployment rate will actually take care of itself because we're going to have kids that will be prepared to think outside the square. Teachers at Reidy are now beginning the task of determining how we might enable STEM initiatives to be an integral part of all of our learning.

This conference day was backed up with 2 family/ community days of STEM activities run by the Council in many of the town's public areas. I was thrilled to hear our children bubbling with excitement about activities they had attended included constructing tee pees, lego and slime.

Partnership Meeting

This Friday 35 leaders from neighbouring schools will meet here in our school library. We will proudly show off our school and the work we do at this time.

After school pickups

Many students are staying well past dismissal time (3.15pm) to play in the playground or on the basketball court. Teachers will be asking students to move on as there is no supervision at this time, making this practise unsafe. Please endeavour to collect your children by 3.25 at the latest. Students still on site after this time will be brought inside and, if repeatedly so, we will send them to OSHC.

Drop off zone (O'Halloran Tce)

Currently the area immediately outside the office area of the school on O'Halloran Terrace is a bus zone marked with yellow dotted lines. A parent suggestion of asking Mt Gambier City Council to turn this into a drop off zone from 8.25-8.45 daily is being considered but we need to know how big the support for the idea is in our community.

Please take a few seconds to take the poll on our facebook page or by clicking on this link.

<http://fans.vote/v/ACmRUhgH2kU>

This is not a guarantee but something Governing Council may choose to pursue.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

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School Uniform expectations

Our uniform shop is open each Monday morning from 8.25 until 9.30am.

You are able to pre-order using the order form included at the end of this newsletter and items will be sent home with your child.

Our Governing Council endorse the wearing of approved RPPS polos, rugby tops, hoodies, polar fleece jumpers, school dresses and skirts teamed with the school beanie and scarf. We expect students to wear NAVY BLUE bottoms which might include shorts, trackies or jeans without obvious logos. Please do not encourage wearing of patterned leggings and undershirts unless they are completely covered.

Large earrings are dangerous in an active school day and should NOT be worn. This includes large studs which can easily be caught in clothes in a game and result in ripped ear lobes. Shoe choice should consider being able to run and engage in physical activities, therefore UGG boots and slips ons are inappropriate.

*Lesley Okholm
Acting Principal*

*Jennie Elliott
Acting Deputy Principal*

UNIFORM	SIZES	PRICE INC GST
Fleecy Jumpers	8, 10, 12, 14	35.00
Hoodies	6,8,10, 12, 14,16	38.00
	Small (Adult)	40.00
Rugby Jumpers *Limited availability	All sizes	83.00
Vests	4, 8, 10	26.00
DriFibre Polos	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	25.00
	Small & Med (Adult)	30.00
Hats (Bucket or Surf)	Bucket - S/M, L/XL; Surf - S, M	7.00
Summer Dresses	4,6,8,10,12,14,16	40.00
Track Pants	4, 8	27.00
Blue Reader Bags		8.00

Cross Country 2016

This year Reidy Park had 38 representatives who made the trip to Naracoorte on Friday, May 20th to run in the cross country event. All of our children did an amazing job and we had some great results. Well done to the following children who achieved a top 4 placing.

Leila C 1st
Henry M 1st
Harrison E 2nd

Will E 2nd
Sarah D 2nd
Alex J 4th



*Well done everyone
Heath McShane, Physical Education*

Winter Wear for Local Children Needed this Winter

I have identified a need for local children in our community who are without decent and/or adequate winter clothing and shoes, aged from reception through to year 7. I am asking that you please donate any USED CLOTHING that you no longer have a need for. Items such as jackets, singlets, skivvys, jumpers, trousers, trackpants, socks, footwear and blankets are in demand. Anything you feel will help these kids this winter would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left at the Front Office and I will collect and distribute them to those in need. Let's keep these children warm this winter! Thanks for your consideration.

With gratitude, Trudi Shelton, Pastoral Care Worker

AIME presents National Hoodie Day

Reidy Park is holding a fundraiser for the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) by participating in National Hoodie Day. All students are encouraged to wear a hoodie on Wednesday July 6th (Week 10) and bring a gold coin donation with all proceeds going towards AIME to help them reach 10,000 Indigenous kids by 2018. This is part of our schools NAIDOC week celebrations.

Save the Date - Reidy Park School Quiz Night

Presented by "Trivia with a Twist" on Saturday 30th July. Tables of 10 can be booked or single tickets available from the front office at \$15 per person. BYO food and drinks. The Fundraising committee is looking for any donations by the way of chocolates, wine or any small item suitable for prizes and giveaways. If you would like to help out, please leave your donations at the front office by the 18th July.

Thank you in advanced for your support.

Reidy Park School fundraising committee

Room 6 and 22 Leaf pictures

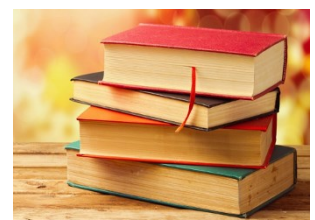
Every second Friday, Rooms 6 and 22 meet for a buddy class activity. In week 1, we gathered autumn leaves and made different creatures out of them. There was some fabulous teamwork and some very talented artists present!



WE WANT YOUR BOOKS

Book Sale

During week 6 the SRC are holding a book sale to raise money for the junior primary playground. We encourage you to donate books that are in good condition, that you would think people would like, that you are not needing or using, that you are happy to give up. Please take any donations you have to the library before Friday 3rd June. Any unsold books will be donated to the library or to charity.



Reidy Park Primary School has a Facebook page. Here you will find posts about what's happening in our school, up and coming events and so much more.

<https://www.facebook.com/reidyparkprimaryschool>



A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO THE SURFIN' 60'S

Surfing songs in the style of the famous Beach Boys, the Ventures and other beach music bands of the 60's give this musical comedy endless energy and fun. An Italian immigrant's Surfin' Burger restaurant sits on one of California's best beachfronts. But his dream of owning a restaurant in America is about to be shattered. Not only are the grandchildren becoming too independent, but scheming land developers try to steal his property to build a huge hotel on it. Throw in a group of surfers, some bird watchers and a whole host of other crazy characters. Anything could happen.....

Performances

School Matinees:

Wednesday June 22nd - 1:00pm

Thursday June 23rd - 10:00am

Evening Performance

Thursday June 23rd - 7:30pm

Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre



Tickets:

Adults \$12 Students \$7

(Teachers accompanying school groups free)

All tickets available from the theatre from Monday May 30th

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a

sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

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Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



... It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school...

It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!" Nice try. But the answer should be "No!".

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

AS A PARENT:

- ✓ Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- ✓ Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- ✓ Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- ✓ Consider catching-up on missed work.
- ✓ Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.



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