



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

Term 4, Week 1, 20th October, 2016

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### DIARY DATES

**Friday**                      **October 21**  
**Wednesday**           **October 26**  
**Tuesday**                **November 1**  
**Wednesday**           **November 2**  
**Wednesday**           **November 2**

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY - Mount Gambier Show**  
**Choir at Sir Robert Helpmann Thatre**  
**Finance Committee Meeting 5pm**  
**School Tour 9.30am**  
**Governing Council 7.30pm**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4. We are looking forward to a positive and busy term ahead with many activities to look forward to including transition days (for both Yr 7s and new students starting at Reidy Park next year), choir, Yr 7 graduation and our carols evening. Please feel welcome to contact either myself or your child's class teacher at any stage if you wish to discuss your child's progress at school.

#### 2017 Class Arrangements

As mentioned last term, our school will be starting the process of student placement in classrooms for 2017 in the coming weeks. If parents believe they have information, based on educational needs, which will help in your child's placement, please put this information in a letter addressed to the Principal, marked 'Confidential'. All requests need to be received, in writing, by Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware that this process is not about selecting teachers but rather providing information for the school to consider. Students will also have the opportunity to be a part of this placement process and have been asked to identify friends they would like to be in a class with next year. This information will be sent home for you to discuss with your child at the beginning of next week. We cannot promise that every request will be met, however, all information will be taken into consideration.

#### Composite and Straight Year Level Class Settings

One aspect that we often field queries about is classroom structures and the merits of composite and straight year level classes. Composite classrooms, in which children from different year levels are combined within one classroom, are common in many schools, including Reidy Park. The arrangement of composite classes is often necessitated by uneven grade enrolments, when there are too many students to form one "straight" grade but not enough to form two. Different views exist around arranging students in this manner. Some think that the Australian Curriculum, with its emphasis on single-year subject content and standards, is best achieved through

straight year level classrooms. However, an alternative view suggests that grade structure is immaterial and that schools provide a "differentiated" curriculum anyway: one that caters to all children as individuals, according to their needs. This view acknowledges that within any year level there will be a wide range of student ability. It is also suggested that composite classrooms provide a context for students to build independence, responsibility and study habits. For example, younger children within a composite grade generally aspire to emulate older children in their work, and older children enjoy leadership and mentoring opportunities that lift their self-esteem. Educational research has presented varying evidence about composite and single year level classes. However, what is consistent in this research is that there are more significant influences on student learning than classroom year level structure. These include the quality of teaching, student engagement and parent support.

It is anticipated that next year we will have a combination of both straight and composite classrooms. To ensure students get consistency in their learning, regardless of their class placement, teachers work in teams to plan units of work, share resources and implement whole school agreements that support the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy perspectives. These arrangements connect with staff professional development and site improvement priorities that are deeply focused on improving student learning and building the skills and knowledge of all teachers.



*Congratulations to Skye and Leila for being selected to compete in Sydney in November as a part of State SAPSASA Athletics team.*

***Regards,  
Stephen Jolley  
Principal***

### Staffing Update

During Term 4 Andrew Bone will be taking leave. Julieann Jones has been appointed to the role of Performing Arts teacher in his absence.

### Road and Pedestrian Matters

During last term, Governing Council, as a result of receiving some queries from the school community, made contact with the Mt Gambier City Council about two matters. The first issue involved establishing a kiss and drop zone along O'Halloran Tce. After getting feedback from the City Council, and Governing Council discussing the pros and cons of this arrangement, it was decided not to proceed any further with this request. One of the key aspects considered was that the kiss and drop zone would be located where there is currently a no parking area. A high level of student pedestrian movement occurs near this area and it was proposed that having increased amounts of cars at the front of the school may in fact create hazards for students and families. The second matter involved clarifying with the City Council their capacity to install a pedestrian crossing on Bay Road. This aspect of road management is actually the responsibility of the Department for Transport, Planning and Infrastructure and they indicated that due to both the volume of vehicle and pedestrian use, it has been indicated that the installation of such a crossing is unlikely to occur. Governing Council appreciates these matters being raised with the group as they are very keen to follow up any identified school community needs.

### Choir Festival

On Wednesday Oct 26<sup>th</sup> some of our year 6/7 students who are involved in our choir program will perform at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre as a part of the South East Primary Schools' Music Festival. The SEPSMF began in 1988 and is a series of 4 concerts that incorporates more than 600 school children from 25 schools across the South East ranging from Kingston and Bordertown to Mount Gambier and Allendale East. Each concert involves a different group of students, with up to 160 on stage at one time. The students have been rehearsing all year learning 15 different songs ready to perform in a large choir. This year we have been joined each week for our rehearsals by students from Melaleuca Park Primary School to create a combined choir. Congratulations to our students who are singing special solo parts - Holly P, Emily H, Alice A and Sarah D. Sarah will also be a compere for the evening and Ebony is a part of the dance troupe.

*Andrew Bone, Performing Arts*

### Emergency Contacts

As you would be well aware, from time to time there is a need for us to contact you directly in regards to sick children or unforeseen emergencies. If you have had some changes to your address, contact numbers, family situation, health issues or you simply need to update details, please contact our admin staff who will happily make those changes.

*Tracy Kain, Admin Officer*

### Values in Action Awards

Room	Presented to	For
1	Alex Mc Halle B	Courageous with his learning. Having courage to do science fair on her own.
2	Blake OP  Domenic L	Participation and effort during Science Fair. Accurate description of science fair test.
3	Keoni C Rubiee B	Including classmates in his game. Settling in well at her new school.
4	Jade B Lilie L	Both being brave and trying new things.
6	Allegra H Maya L	Writing detailed narratives. Trying new tasks in maths.
7	Katie D Devlin H  Paige R	Great work ethic. Great mathematical thinking and interest in maths. All the work completed in her Science Fair project.
8	Riley H Brodie S Abbi H	Working out difficult problems. Having a go at difficult problems. Helping her classmates.
9	Seth M Bianca D Shayla H Tom B	STEM project. Improving in areas of her learning. STEM project. Great problem solving.
11	Caine E  Maddy V	Being courageous and positive about his move to a new school. A+ effort for her science investigation.
15	Blake D Peter B	For sharing their toys at the toy museum.
17	Nat H-J  Harry M	Learning to care and work with others. Great effort in his work.
18	Angus H  Kelsey B	Always consistently showing school values. Care and consideration for others.
20	James M  Wynter P	Working hard and challenging himself. Always trying hard and challenging herself.
23	Arjun G  Nash L	Caring for the class by cleaning up when he wasn't asked. Having the courage to challenge himself in spelling.
25	Kane H Ella Mck	For working hard. For trying her best.

### Hat Policy

As part of our 'Sun Safe Policy' we expect that all students and staff wear hats while outside at school for Terms 1 and 4. The school has uniform approved broad brimmed and bucket hats for sale available from the Uniform Shop. Those children without the correct headwear will be asked to play in the shade. Unfortunately we often have students who forget to bring their hats along to school at the beginning of the term so we ask that by way of support you check your child has their hat every day.



### SAPSASA Athletics.

Last term, some of our Reidy Park students participated in the State Athletics Carnival in Adelaide. Just to make it to Adelaide was a great effort and all of our students produced their very best efforts against the top athletes from around South Australia.

We had some fantastic results with Tori R finishing first in the 100 metre and 200 metre sprints. Skye M also achieved first in the shot put. Leila C finishing first in long jump and 100 metre sprint and second in high jump. Will E finished third in the 200 metre sprint.

Other great performances were produced by Imogen C, Lydia M, Ethan N, Brodie A and Henry M.



### SRC Pyjama Day

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the PJ Day last term. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all staff and students. We raised \$620 for the Asthma Foundation who are extremely appreciative of our efforts.

*Thank you, Reidy Park SRC*



### Blue Lake Fun run

The Blue Lake Fun Run is close! It is being held on Sunday 27th November. If you would like to sign up to the Reidy Park team go to the Blue Lake Fun Run website and register as a participant, then as a group 'Reidy Park'. Once registered, your tops will be delivered to the school closer to the fun run date.

*Heath McShane, Physical Education*

### 2017 Student Leader Applications

On Monday of this week we held a Year 6 meeting to begin the process for selecting our student leaders and sports captains for 2017. Students who were interested were supplied with the application statement and referee forms. If your child was away, or has changed their mind, these are available from outside of Room 12. Please have them come and talk to Sami Collins or Alison Whibley about the process. All applicant and referee statements are due in no later than 3:15pm on Wednesday 2nd November to either Sami Collins (Room 9) or Alison Whibley (Room 12). We will then contact students to let them know the outcome. Good luck to our future leaders.

### Cash Office

The Cash Office is open for payments from 8.30-9.30am and again from 3.00-3.30pm Monday to Friday. Any money received after the 3.30pm cut off will be processed the following day and receipts sent home with students. Payments made via Direct Deposit can be made at any time. Your support in keeping to the above times is appreciated.

*Front Office staff*



### Library News

#### Library Bags

All students borrowing **must** have a Library bag (*preferably waterproof*). This is to ensure that the books are protected.

#### Book Club

Issue No.7 was sent home with students this week. Orders are due back at the Front Office by Friday 28th October.

#### Overdue Books

Please ensure all overdue books are followed up. If you have any questions please contact Michelle in the Library.



## Rooms 15, 23, 24 & 25 Agriculture Learning Centre Excursion

On Tuesday our JP children visited the Agriculture Learning Centre at the showgrounds to see, touch and hold various farm animals. The most popular by far were the puppies and the baby chicks.



# Term 4 Planner 2016

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>WEEK 1</b>	17/10 Uniform Shop	18/10	19/10	20/10 Newsletter	21/10 <b>SCHOOL CLOSURE MOUNT GAMBIER SHOW</b>
<b>WEEK 2</b>	24/10 Uniform Shop	25/10	26/10 Choir at Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre	27/10 Assembly	28/10
<b>WEEK 3</b>	31/10 Uniform Shop	1/11 Finance Committee	2/11 School Tour 9.30am Governing Council Grounds & Fundrais- ing	3/11 Newsletter	4/11
<b>WEEK 4</b>	7/11 Uniform Shop	8/11	9/11	10/11 Assembly	11/11
<b>WEEK 5</b>	14/11 Uniform Shop	15/11	16/11	17/11 Newsletter	18/11
<b>WEEK 6</b>	21/11 Uniform Shop	22/11	23/11	24/11 Assembly	25/11
<b>WEEK 7</b>	28/11 Uniform Shop	29/11	30/11	1/12 Newsletter	2/12
<b>WEEK 8</b>	5/12 Uniform Shop	6/12	7/12 Yr 7 High School 2017 Reception	8/12 Assembly Visits Transition Visits	9/12
<b>WEEK 9</b>	12/12 Uniform Shop	13/12 Volunteer Morning Tea	14/12 Carols by Candlelight	15/12 Newsletter Year 7 Graduation	16/12 End of Term 4