



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

Term 1, Week 9, 30th March, 2017

Principal:  
Deputy Principal:  
Governing Council Chairperson:  
Phone: 8725 3381  
Website: <http://www.reidyprkps.sa.edu.au>

Stephen Jolley  
Sandy Mullen  
Cathy Lunnay  
Fax: 8725 0576  
Email: [dl.0290.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0290.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

### DIARY DATES

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>Year 6 / 7 Canberra Camp</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>Championship Sprints</b>	<b>9.15am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>Sports Day</b>	<b>8.55am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>End of Term 1</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Beginning of Term 2</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Finance Committee Meeting</b>	<b>5.15pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Governing Council Meeting</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>NAPLAN commences</b>	

### **Dear Parents and Caregivers,**

On Monday staff worked with a Literacy consultant to help support the development of their knowledge and skills in teaching writing. Staff spent time collaboratively analysing samples of student writing to develop teaching goals to use with their class. The day also provided a range of information and activities that can be applied in the classroom. An important foundation for children becoming good writers is their vocabulary development and two key strategies were promoted during our training. Firstly, the importance of oral language was reinforced; children, of all ages, being involved in regular and diverse conversations both at school and home is crucial in supporting their language development. The second strategy for expanding children's vocabulary occurs through supporting them to use more sophisticated and descriptive language in their writing. For example, instead of using the word 'good', children can use other alternatives such as 'fantastic' and 'excellent'. Rather than describe a lion as 'big', other descriptive language is used, such as 'the prowling, hungry lion'. These ideas, along with other strategies gained from the day will be used by teachers to support improved student achievement and progress in their writing.

### **Year 6 and 7 Canberra Camp**

This Sunday our Year 6 and 7 students will be departing for a week long camp to Canberra. This camp is a fantastic opportunity offered to our students and requires much planning and preparation. Thank you to the Upper Primary teaching team for their work in preparing for the camp. Final notes have been sent home to families during the week. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any last minute queries.

### **Sports Day**

We are looking forward to our Sports Days in the last week of term. A program of events will be sent home to families in the coming week. Please be aware that in the event of rain or a forecast of above 35 degrees, the

Sports Day events on Thursday will be cancelled. An announcement will be made via the school's SMS service and Facebook page. The day will revert to a normal school day. If the forecast temperature is between 30 degrees and 35 degrees the Thursday sports activities will be modified to exclude the marathon and also the team events. The day will finish at 12.45pm and students will return to class after the lunch break.

### **NAPLAN**

The 2017 NAPLAN testing will occur in Term 2 from Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> (Week 2) for students in Years 3, 5 and 7. A catch up day is also available on Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> for students absent on the testing dates. NAPLAN is a national assessment program that tests students in these year levels in the areas of Literacy (reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Mathematics. The information gained from this testing is used to help inform teachers plan for student learning needs. It also well as provides information about what our whole school strengths are in the areas tested and what aspects for improvement exist. Families will receive individual student reports in Term 3 that indicates their child's achievement in relation to national results of children in the same year level.

We encourage all children to participate. However, if families wish to withdraw their child from NAPLAN they are able to do so by filling in a withdrawal form. If you intend to do this please speak to your child's teacher. The NAPLAN assessments are held in the mornings and during this time Yr 4 and Yr 6 students will be supervised by staff. In the newsletter this week an information page has been included that provides further background regarding NAPLAN. Further information for parents can also be found at. <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

**Stephen Jolley**  
**Principal**

## Canteen News

Thank you to all parents who have indicated that they are able to assist with transporting food from Mulga St Primary School as a part of our proposed student canteen service. We are still seeking further assistance. If you are available to help, please complete the reply slip provided in this week's newsletter. Further information on how families can access the canteen service will be sent home in future newsletters.

## Reminders

- Even though our upper primary students are away on camp, assembly will still go ahead on Thursday 6th April at midday.
- Students will be dismissed early on the last day of term after Sports Day at 2.30pm.
- Volunteer Screening: all parents intending to assist with volunteering at school are encouraged to get a Screening Clearance.

## SRC News

Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated as Student Representatives for the coming year. This group will meet during each term to discuss class and school matters and contribute to whole school decision making.

Room Number	Student Rep	Student Rep
Room 1	Emerson F	Rylee K
Room 2	Mackinlay B	Charlotte E
Room 3	Nate S-C	Tillie Mc
Room 4	Jack B	Sophie G
Room 5	Ruby C	Bree R
Room 6	Xan St	Lara J
Room 7	Aaron D	Allegra H
Room 8	Harry M	Lucy E
Room 9	Ethan P-C	Rylee S
Room 10	Connor W	Maddie M
Room 11	Tammin B	Adam L
Room 12	Mitchell K	Luke E
Room 13	Sarah R	Fergus C
Room 15	Rhiley Miller	Evie Edwards
Room 17	Bob L	Alyssa M
Room 18	Ryan L	Indiana S
Room 20	Max P	Addison D
Room 22	Ella C	Jake C
Room 23	Kobe R	Chelsea Mc
Room 24	Jayden C	Addison J
Room 25	Akai G	Rubi W

## Library News

### Premiers Reading Challenge

At Reidy Park Primary School we encourage all students to discover the world of reading with the Premier's Reading Challenge.

The 2017 challenge requires students to read 12 books by 8th September 2017. Please ensure forms are filled out correctly and signed where required prior to returning. It is very important that all students read a variety of books at their reading level. All forms are checked prior to submitting. Further information about the challenge can be found on the Premier's reading challenge website at [www.prc.sa.edu.au](http://www.prc.sa.edu.au)



### Scholastic Book Club

Twice a term Scholastic book club flyers will be sent home with students. Book club gives parents and guardians a convenient way to purchase affordable, age appropriate books for home reading. It is also a great way to help the school purchase additional learning resources as the school earns 20% in Scholastic rewards on all orders.

### Overdue Books

Please follow up any overdue books that your child may have.

### Library Bags

All students borrowing books **must** have a library bag (preferably waterproof). This is to ensure that the books are protected when taken out of the library. Any damages to books must be replaced or paid for by families, you will be notified by a letter should this be required.

*Michelle Kuller, Library*

## Parliament and Civics Education Rebate

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$60 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

## Mathletics

Keep up with your Mathletics and once you earn 1000 points in a week you will get a Bronze certificate.

*Lauren Suggate,  
Maths, Co-Ordinator*



## Harmony Day 2017

Students celebrated Harmony Day at Reidy Park on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March by wearing orange clothes, participating in classroom activities about the diversity of Australia and enjoying orange cupcakes. Student leaders created a display in the library with Miss Magarey's, Ms Mannion's and Ms Fleming's classes adding to the display throughout the week. Orange is the official colour of Harmony Day. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.

Harmony Day was enjoyed by all.



## Canteen Volunteer Reply Slip

Name: .....

I am able to help on the following days in Term 2 (circle your choice).

- Wednesday
- Thursday

Signature .....

## Values in Action Awards

Room	Presented to	For
1	Rylee K Harry M	Achieving her personal best in all areas of work. Pursuing his personal best in spelling.
2	Ruby Jaya L	Contributing during class discussions. Caring and respecting others.
5	Fletcher B Abby H	For having a go and using a growth mindset.
7	Allegra H Jett H	An articulate overview of SRC discussion at this week's class meeting. Giving encouraging feedback to a classmate after a PLP presentation
12	Mikaela B	Stretching herself in maths
13	Jensen C  Savannah L	Supporting his peers with excellent public speaking skills and knowledge in our debating unit. Always attempting challenging tasks and displaying a positive attitude towards all learning.
15	Ava O Laura L	Showing care to all members of the class. Striving for her personal best in her writing
17	Sienna D Jayden T	Great effort in all of her work. Trying new challenges in his work.
18	Oliver J Lucy N	Displaying a strong growth mindset. Having a strong work ethic in class.
22	Charlie Blake	Challenging herself to write sentences independently. Choosing challenging activities and working independently.
23	Molly M Kobe R	Caring about all teachers by always offering her help and assistance. Always respecting others right to learn and teach.
25	Molly Seb A	Interesting writing in bookmaking. Having a go at new things.
Italian	Ella S, Deegan W, Kori C, Dan W, Chael H, Ari S and Lara H.	
Maths	Aaron D, Henry M, Hayden L, Jinuka W, Oskah E, Cassidy B, Paige C, Kelleysha L, Charlie L, Sian C	

## Lost Property

The large pile of lost property has been sorted and those articles that were named have been returned to classes. However there is still a huge amount of unnamed articles to be collected. If you have any items that may still be missing, please visit and have a look through the basket in the Front Office. Any items left at the end of term will be donated to charity.

*Tracy Kain, Administration Officer*



# SAPSASA Athletics at MGHS

On Wednesday, Reidy Park sent our athletics team to Mount Gambier High School. The students participated in a wide range of track and field events. More photos and information about how our team went will follow in the next newsletter. Congratulations to all the students who competed.



## Sports Day Volunteer Roster

Thank you to the following people who have volunteered to help on the BBQ and Café on Sports Day (please see below for your allocated time). We would appreciate at least 2 volunteers at a time for the Café and 3 for each BBQ time. As you can see we haven't got enough volunteers yet. If you can assist please add your name on the slip below and return to the front office.

I am able to help in the <b>Café</b> . Best times for me are (please circle):	I am able to help on the <b>BBQ</b> Best times for me are (please circle):
10-10.30: Denise Urquhart	11-11.30: Alby Heesmans, Kate Ellis
10.30-11: Larissa Norman, Anna Mitchell	11.30-12: Alby Heesmans
11-11.30: Danielle Burford, Tania Kuchel	12-12.30: Anthony Maney
11.30-12: Tania Kuchel	12.30-1: Duane Gertners
12-12.30:	1-1.30: Duane Gertners
12.30-1: Heidi Heemskerk	
1-1.30: Heidi Heemskerk	
1.30-2:	
2-2.30:	



### **What is NAPLAN?**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

### **Why do students do NAPLAN tests?**

NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be improved.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

### **What will be tested and how?**

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. NAPLAN content is aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this, please see the NAP website:

[www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website.

### **Who will run the tests?**

NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

### **How can I help my child prepare for the tests?**

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and reminding them on the day to simply try their best. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

If you have any questions about your child's preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

### **What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?**

All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.



### How is NAPLAN performance measured?

NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

### What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?

Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 12 May 2017.

### Will I receive a report on my child's performance?

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

### How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au)

### Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- visit the NAP website [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)
- contact your child's school
- contact your state or territory's education authority (details available on the NAP website).

For ACARA's privacy policy, go to:

[www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy](http://www.acara.edu.au/contact-us/privacy)

### NAPLAN 2017 tests timetable

	Tuesday 9 May	Wednesday 10 May	Thursday 11 May
Year 3	language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 45 minutes	numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 50 minutes	numeracy 50 minutes
Year 7	language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 65 minutes	numeracy 60 minutes
Year 9	language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 65 minutes	numeracy 60 minutes

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability.
- Calculators are **not** permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student will sit one numeracy test. This test will have two parts: one where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.