



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

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Term 2, Week 5, May 31, 2018

### DIARY DATES

Thursday	7	June	Assembly - 12.05pm
Monday	11	June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	15	June	Yr 6/7 Musical 7.30pm
Wednesday	20	June	Governing Council

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week marks the mid-point of term 2 and our school continues to be a busy and active place. Preparations for the Year 6 and 7 musical continue to build in readiness for their performance at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre in a few weeks' time. Our musical students are to be commended on maintaining a great level of commitment, effort and energy since the beginning of the year and we look forward to seeing it all come together. Congratulations to our Cross Country runners who recently participated at Naracoorte, all students represented our school in a fantastic manner. Last week our school also acknowledged an initiative called the National Simultaneous Storytime. Classes joined with their buddy class to read together which provided a good opportunity to not only reinforce the importance of regular reading but also support our emphasis on older students being caring role models for our younger students.

We have recently welcomed a new staff member, Amanda Koppe. Amanda will be fulfilling the role of Pastoral Support Worker which is a position funded through the Federal Government's National School Chaplaincy Program. The program aims to support students through the provision of pastoral care services (pastoral care being defined as looking after the personal needs of students) and the promotion of strategies that support the emotional wellbeing of students and broader school community needs. Support for our students may include 1:1 or small group mentoring, help for students to develop particular social skills, as well as strategies to manage aspects such as anxiousness and peer disagreements. If you have any concerns regarding your child spending time with our Pastoral Support Worker, please let us know. We look forward to Amanda making a positive contribution to our students' wellbeing.

### Mathematics

Last week's Mathematics training and development day was attended by all teachers and SSOs. One of the areas that we focused on was how Maths tasks are designed and used with students. Research in the area of Maths teaching has shown that when students ask for help, they expect their teacher to break down the problem and make it easier, and whilst this can be an appropriate action, it lowers the challenge of the task, and therefore lowers the

opportunity for learning. In response to this, the presenter demonstrated to staff strategies that can be used to get an optimal balance between student engagement and teacher support. One such strategy was the use of problem solving tasks within lessons. Rather than teach students a strategy to solve a problem and then give them an actual problem to solve (teaching *for* problem solving), students are given a problem to attempt independently (or collaboratively) prior to them then sharing the different strategies they used to find a solution. During this time the teacher notices what key areas of learning exist which are then focused on in future lessons (teaching *through* problem solving). This shift in approach enables students to engage in deeper thinking and sense making which has a greater impact on their overall learning and growth in Maths. Another strategy that can support improved learning in Maths is through a focus on vocabulary. Research has shown that an increase in a student's maths vocabulary leads to improved growth in learning. Staff were informed that a student needs to hear a word 200 times before it becomes embedded, therefore highlighting the importance of having an explicit focus of maths words during their lessons.

Parents/carers can help their child's maths vocabulary by seeking out everyday opportunities to put a spotlight on maths words in everyday situations by using terms such as more/less than, between, half, sharing out. A further way families can help their child develop into a confident maths learner, is to model a positive attitude toward the subject. If parents hold a negative attitude towards maths, studies have shown that this demotivates children and can build their anxiety towards this area of learning. Conversely, by fostering a growth mindset from 'I can't do this yet', and valuing persistence and effort, has shown to improve children's learning outcomes in this (and other) curriculum areas.



**Stephen Jolley**  
Principal

Last week students participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime activity.

## Facilities Update

Last week painting of the main building commenced. This project will take several weeks to complete and will certainly contribute to improving the school's appearance. As yet we are still waiting to find out further information regarding when the Building Better Schools project will commence. Due to the scale of the work, all schools involved in this program will have their projects rolled out at different times over a 4 year time frame.

## Cross Country

On Friday, May 18th, 30 Reidy Park students attended the Cross Country Running Championships held in Naracoorte. Our students did a fabulous job, placing in many races, which had around 100 runners per age group. Some outstanding results included:

Leila Croker 1st  
Thomas Gribben 2nd  
Harrison Ellis 2nd  
Kate Seaton 3rd

Well done to all of our runners who participated.

Chloe P: I enjoyed seeing some old friends and representing Reidy Park.

Thomas G: I enjoyed making new friends and coming in the top three for the second year in a row.

Cruz M: I liked the weather because it was a beautiful day with lots of sun.

Aaron D: I enjoyed running with my friends.



I will be providing support for a range of day to day matters affecting the school community. I offer group support and activities for students, and one on one time facilitating the wellbeing of students in need. Parental consent will need to be obtained for one on one sessions with a student. You can contact the school if you think your child requires my input and support, alternatively teachers may request my help to support students in their class. I will be fulfilling my duties at Reidy Park on Mondays and Wednesdays each week. I look forward to meeting all students and as many parents as possible, so please come and say hello if you get a chance.

## Room 7 News

This term in Science we are learning about light. During our Science lessons we have been exploring light sources, how light travels and how light can be reflected, absorbed and refracted. We have also been learning about energy poverty. Did you know that 18% of the world's population don't have access to electricity? We have found a program called Solar Buddy, an organisation who send lights to children in third world countries. The solar lights are built by Australian students – us! We are busy creating products for our Week 7 market to fundraise money to purchase the solar lights. These products are created as part of our Design and Tech unit where we must follow the Engineering Design Process of ask, imagine, plan, create and improve.



## Pastoral Support Worker

Hello students, staff and families!

My name is Amanda Koppe and I hold the position of Pastoral Support Worker at your school. My role involves supporting the social, emotional and general wellbeing of the students and staff at Reidy Park Primary. This support also extends to the parents, caregivers and families of students attending the school. I am employed under the National School Chaplaincy Program through Centacare Catholic Family Services. My background is in Social Work and I have worked extensively with youth for a number of years. I have particular interests in mental health and the effects of developmental trauma.



## STEM Fundraiser

To support the solar light initiative in week 7, Rooms 6, 7 and 8 will be holding a S.T.E.M fundraiser. These classes will be selling items that we have made and the money that we raise will allow us to purchase a 'Solar Buddy'. The 'Solar Buddies' will be sent to a country that suffers from energy poverty. The fundraiser will be held in the Quad every lunch time during week 7. The prices will range from 50c - \$4.



## Room 15 - Science

This term in Science, Room 15 are inquiring into how living things grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves. The children are enjoying growing broad bean seeds, observing the changes, watching them grow and looking after a bean seed.



## Art Gallery Excursion

The Yr. 6/7 Visual Arts classes went on an excursion to the art gallery last Thursday, May 24th. The curator of the gallery showed us around the first room and talked to us about an artist from Adelaide who creates 'craft' art. This artist liked to exhibit hands as art and used everyday objects in her pieces. She also used different ways of displaying her art such as glass cases, things you looked in to, videos to view and hanging sculptures.

In the second room he showed us paintings that were influenced by Andy Warhol, Indigenous dot paintings and Jackson Pollock. They were paintings made up of thousands of dots to show birds flying in the sky and they were expensive to buy. We also went upstairs at the Main Corner to look at how art was displayed. We will now use what we saw to help us create our own art and display that in a school gallery. We learnt a lot and had a lot of fun.

Below is one of the paintings we saw.



## Games Donations

The SRC are looking for board games or big games for lunchtime activities. If you are able to donate for R-2 or 3-7, please drop the games off to the front office for the SRC.

Thank you.

## Values in Action Award Recipients

Room	Presented to	For
1	Lilli P	Creating some great sizzling starts in her writing.
2	Wil F	Having the courage to participate in Science discussions.
3	Brandon T	For always showing respect in class by listening and following instructions.
4	Indi P	Trying her very best and being respectful in our classroom.
5	Rylee K	For being a diligent member of the class and challenging herself to become a powerful leader.
6	Stella M	For caring for a classmate and always trying to including them.
7	George C	Fantastic start in his new school.
8	Millie Mc	100% commitment to all tasks.
10	Kobe B	For courage in making strong choices.
11	Charlie C	Demonstrating positive leadership for peers.
12	Lucy E	Interesting and well written dictation sentences.
13	Jayden P	An outstanding attitude towards all aspects of learning. Challenging himself in maths and displaying a growth mindset.
15	Esha B	Continuing to put in her best effort with her learning.
16	Grace C	For her hard work and improvement in spelling.
17	Jayla S	Making a great effort in her work.
20	Addison T	Great focus on her work during lessons.
21	Jayden M	Caring for the classroom.
22	Ella H	Pursuing her personal best.
23	Darcy B	Being a role model to others by following the school values.
24	Tayla F	Always using her manners and being brave in her writing.
25	Havannah C	Amazing writing.

# National Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime was held last Wednesday, with classes joining up with their 'buddy' class to read. This year the chosen picture book was 'Hickory Dickory Dash', written by author Tony Wilson. All students listened to the story being read by Jay Lagu'aia on Storybox Library and later read to/with their buddies.



## Echo Farm Excursion

On Friday the 25th of May, the Reception classes went to visit Echo farm for our inquiry unit. At the farm the children explored olden day items and met a range of farm animals. This was a great experience for the children to see how things have changed over time.

Inside the house the children looked at and explored the old toys, phones, the piano and much more. The children found out there was no toilet inside, lights or running water. The museum was interactive which gave the children a chance to play with the old toys and other objects!

There were many animals to visit and feed on the farm. We saw cows, goats, pigs, ducks, rabbits, sheep and an emu.

