



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

Term 1, Week 5, 28th February 2019

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### DIARY DATES

Monday	11	March	Adelaide Cup Day Holiday
Wednesday	13	March	School Tour 9.30am
Thursday	14	March	Assembly 12.05pm
Wednesday	20	March	Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
Monday	25	March	Parent-Teacher Interview Week
Thursday	11	April	Championship Sprints

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Earlier this week I attended the Department for Education Annual Leaders' Conference which was followed the next day by a Literacy Conference.

The conference opened with speeches from the Education Minister John Gardner and Chief Executive Rick Persse who focused on the department's aspiration to be a world-class education system that ensured all children were given the opportunity to fulfil their potential, achieving 12 months' growth from 12 months of schooling every year.

An important strategy for schools in working toward this goal is the presence of a Site Improvement Plan that articulates key improvement priorities for students. Reidy Park's priorities for the next few years will continue to focus on improving our students' learning outcomes in Maths, Reading and Writing.

The Literacy Conference provided an opportunity to hear from specialists about the latest research in this area. A key message from the conference was the importance of children becoming effective readers as it is a foundational skill for learning across all subject areas. Teaching reading is a complex process and is a balance between instruction and practice. It was reinforced that there is still an important place for practice and that the amount of practice done at school and home, does count. The findings of one research study was presented highlighting three different scenarios regarding the amount of reading practice a child undertakes and its impact on academic achievement:

#### 'Student A'

Reads for at least 20 min a day  
Experiences 1,800,000 words per year.  
Is more likely to score in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in academic assessments.

#### 'Student B'

Reads for 5 min a day  
Experiences 282,000 words per year  
Is more likely to score in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.

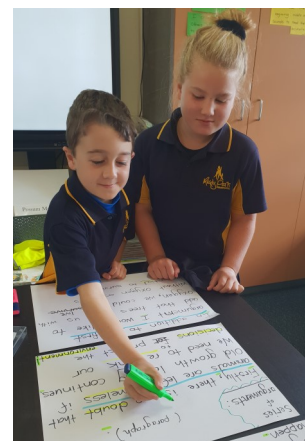
#### 'Student C'

Reads for 1 minute per day  
Experiences 8,000 words per year  
Scores in the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile of assessments.

The importance of reading is well known and as this research indicates, practice is crucial. We aspire for all students at Reidy Park to be effective readers. At home reading practice along with school based practice will help set your child up for success in this area. In this week's newsletter we have some information about the Premier's Reading Challenge which is a great initiative for supporting children's reading development. We encourage all children to complete the challenge.

#### External School Review

The External Review process concluded last week. Across the two days the review officers met with students, staff and families to gain an insight into the school with the purpose of identifying areas of strength and areas for future development. Whilst a formal report of the review's findings will be published towards the end of the term, initial feedback, based on the interviews with students, parents and staff commented favorably on the school's positive culture, the effectiveness of teacher teams working collaboratively to support student learning, the presence of high expectations and student capacity to talk about their learning. Along with these aspects, some recommendations were also provided as future goals for the school which included enhancing our capacity to use achievement data to inform planning and programming and further developing student learning dispositions. It was noted that the school is in a sound position to work toward achieving growth in these areas.



Kai and Amber from Rm 4 have been learning about persuasive texts this term

**Stephen Jolley**  
Principal

## Governing Council

Our Annual General Meeting and the first Governing Council meeting for the year was held last week. We welcomed several new members to the committee which is a very pleasing outcome. Our Governing Council representatives for 2019 are:

Chairperson: Duane Gertners

Vice Chairperson: Laura Heesemans

Secretary: Emily Lennerth

Treasurer: Shylie Barry

Committee members: Graham Jantosh, Lisa Thomas, Yunita Manfrin, David Burt, Sonya Dyson, Rebekah Tilley, Tiffany Malcolm, Jake Ricketts, Alison Mordecai, Fiona Hartung, Matthew Harris, Brooke Winterfield, Denise Urquhart and Justin Ploenges.

Within our Governing Council we have several sub-committees (Finance, Grounds, Fundraising and OSHC) which will help inform whole school decision making. Any members of the school community who are interested in joining the Governing Council in the future are welcome to attend our meetings.

## Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent—Teacher Interviews will be held in Week 9 (commencing Monday March 25th). All families are encouraged to make an appointment as they provide an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teacher. Information on how to make a booking will be sent home to families next week. Please do not hesitate to ring the school if you have any queries or need help to make a booking.

## Advanced Notice

### Sports Day Planning

- Championship Sprints: Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>
- Sports Day Events: Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> (please note this is the last day of term and Governing Council have approved an early dismissal time of 2.15pm)

### Term 2 Pupil Free Day

- Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> (first day of Term 2). Staff will be participating in a Mathematics professional development day.

## Contact Details

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 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.

## Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee is a sub committee of Governing Council and is made up of volunteers from our parent community. Last year our Fundraising events raised a total of \$26,206.74 which is being put toward our library upgrade. Committee members meet twice a term for an hour to determine and organise fundraising activities. The commitment is not time consuming or hard work because we ask for other parent volunteers to help with each planned event. I would like to invite any interested parents and care givers to become part of this committee for 2019. Our first meeting will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00 pm in the staff room. If you can't commit for the whole year, but are still interested, please let us know. Interested people can call the school on 87 253381 and leave your name and contact details or simply turn up to the first meeting.

*Sandy Mullen, Deputy Principal*

## Assembly

A reminder that our next assembly is in Week 7, Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> from 12.05 in the gym.

## Room 2 Swimming

Over the past two weeks students from Room 2 have been enjoying swimming lessons at the Aquatic Centre. Students have been learning a variety of safety strokes and skills.

We had to wear our clothes in the pool and it was hard to swim. We did this to show that if we were to fall off a boat you could take some of the clothes off to make it easier to swim back to the boat. We enjoyed it very much. *Ella & Nevaeh*



I have enjoyed jumping in the pool at the deep end and using the boards.

*Lyla*



We used PFDs at the end of the pool because we couldn't touch the bottom. They help us to float. I enjoyed swimming. *Fletcher*

## SAPSASA Swimming

On behalf of the school, we would like to congratulate Lucy E and Leila C who have made it into the Lower South East SAPSASA swimming team. Both girls will now compete in Adelaide in Week 9.

## Premier's Reading Challenge

At Reidy Park Primary School we encourage all students to discover the world of reading with the Premier's Reading Challenge. The Challenge requires students to read 12 books by the 6th September 2019. Of the 12 books, 8 need to be chosen from the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist at the student's age / reading level. It is very important that the forms are filled in correctly and signed where required, prior to returning. All forms are checked prior to submitting and will not be accepted if not completed correctly. Further information about the challenge can be found at: <http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au> or contact Michelle in the Library.



## School Stream

School Stream is Reidy Park's communication app. This app not only provides a communication service but also has other functions; families are able to submit absence notes, fill out consent forms and check dates of school events. The app is linked to Qkr which many families use to make various payments. Some teachers also use School Stream to share class news. Please be aware that this is the only communication app used by the school.

## Emergency Procedures

Next week the school will be practicing its emergency procedures. Over different days an evacuation and evacuation activity will occur. Please be aware that in the event of an actual emergency, families will be notified via SMS and School Stream.

## Values in Action Awards

Room	Presented to	For
1	Tannah Mc	Being a caring friend and helping others.
2	Saxon S	Having the courage to go to the deep end of the pool in swimming lessons.
3	Logan F	Being persistent and having a growth mindset.
4	Olivia Mc	Continuously making strong and kind choices in our classroom.
5	Jordan D	Being a supportive and encouraging class member.
6	James M	Respect towards his classmates and courage to do the right thing.
7	Alyssa M	Showing courage to try new things during swimming lessons.
8	Bradlei W	Having a growth mindset and always doing his best.
9	Will C	Care and persistence in maths.
10	Becky W	Making a fantastic start to her learning at Reidy Park, especially in maths.
11	Michael O	Having a positive approach to his learning and having a go at all tasks.
12	Jesse T	Using feedback to make progress.
13	John R	An outstanding attitude to all learning and always asking for help when needed.
15	Hunter W	For being caring by helping a class member at basketball during recess.
16	Elias A	Being a superstar with his reading.
17	Jayden M	Accepting the challenge of hard work.
20	Lucas C	Making a strong effort in all his learning and modelling excellent listening skills.
21	Isla C	Always trying her best in all learning tasks.
22	Charlotte L	Always showing respect by listening to her teachers.
23	Courtney S	Being a kind and respectful class member to all in room 23.
24	Levi T	Showing kindness towards others.
25	Talon L	Sounding out words.



# Room 7 News

Room 7 has had a very busy start to the school year. We would like to share some of the things we have been working on so far.

**STUDENT AGENCY** Since the start of the term, Room 7 have been working on their agency; the ability to create their own learning goals and organise themselves around the classroom. The students use a variety of strategies to solve the problems themselves before asking an adult. Our SRC meetings, committees and assembly items are lead by the children, not an adult.

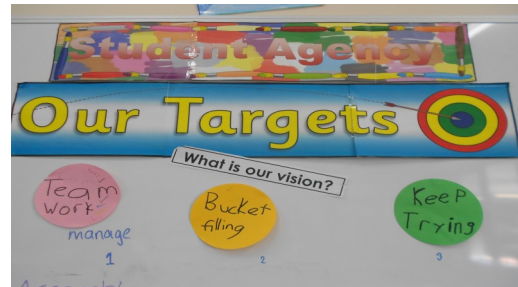


Our student voice book is “a book that helps us do all of our voting and work out our class committees. We used this book to write down what our committees mean. We wrote down other things such as what we believe learning looks like in Room 7 as well as working out our code of conduct. We used sticky notes and wrote down some of our class ideas to work out our code of conduct” Jackson



## Code of Conduct

Keyllesha and Mackayla- “We brainstormed our ideas about some class rules, shared them with the class and put them into categories. Our categories are **care, courage and respect** the same as the school values.”



“Goal setting helps us grow.” Mrs B

“We have goals so we can make great choices.” Andi

For the last two weeks, Room 7 (and 5) have been swimming.



The weather has been very kind and the children have enjoyed their time in the pool.

“I like it, especially when we go to the deep end.” Bob

“Backstroke was fun.” Jamie B

“Swimming can be scary for the first time but all will be swell when you put your head in the blue marine.” Alyssa

“I have learned to take off everyday clothes in the water, plus it is really fun.” Evie

“In week 4 & 5 we have been swimming. Mrs Baron (our class teacher) has taken these photos.” Lara

