



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

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Term 1, Week 9, 28th March, 2019

DIARY DATES

Thursday	28	March	Assembly 12.05pm
Sunday	31	March	Canberra Camp
Thursday	11	April	Championship Sprints
Friday	12	April	Sports Day
Friday	12	April	End of Term 1, dismissal 2.15pm
Monday	29	April	Student Free Day
Tuesday	30	April	Term 2 commences

Dear Parents and Caregivers

In the next few weeks we have two important school events occurring. This coming Sunday our Year 6 and 7 students will be departing for a camp to Canberra which is an amazing opportunity for them to participate in. During the camp students will visit a number of significant venues in Canberra, including the War Memorial, Parliament House, the Australian Institute of Sport, Questacon Science Centre and the National Museum and National Mint.

The preparation for any school camp is quite significant and I would like to thank the team of upper primary teachers for their work in getting it organised and their commitment toward providing this memorable experience for our students. The camp will be supported by a number of parent helpers which we appreciate.

In Week 11 we will be holding our annual sports day which is an event that all students have been getting ready for. Due to the early dismissal on the last day of term the events will be held over two days, Thursday April 11th will see the Championship Sprints being run in the morning and then on Friday April 12th all other events will occur. We are looking forward to all the team colours being on display. An information booklet with a program of events will be sent out shortly.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Our parent-teacher interviews conclude this week. These catch-ups provide an important opportunity to discuss the progress of each student. There is strong research that indicates how parent engagement with their child's schooling is associated with significant improvements in academic achievement for students. This research also links positive levels of parent engagement to the improvement of other outcomes including early literacy acquisition, school readiness, student attendance, motivation and social skills. We value all families working with the school to develop a positive partnership; please be aware that parents are invited to meet with their child's teacher at any stage during the year.

NAPLAN Online Update

Today's trial of NAPLAN Online for Yr 3, 5 and 7 students had

to be postponed due to broader issues with the testing platform. For parents/caregivers of these students please be aware of the following information regarding the actual NAPLAN assessments planned for next term:

Participation: All students in Years 3, 5, and 7 are expected to participate in NAPLAN. The NAPLAN assessment dates for our school are Tuesday May 14th — Friday May 17th. NAPLAN tests give information on how your child is progressing against national standards. NAPLAN does not replace, but rather complements, other whole school and class based assessments that occur throughout the year. Whilst we encourage all students to participate in NAPLAN there are options for families who do not want their child to participate. This can be done through seeking either an exemption or withdrawal:

Exemptions: Exemptions may be granted for students with a language background other than English or for students with a disability. In these situations, a student's parent/carer must give their permission to the school for their child to be exempted prior to the testing period.

Withdrawals: Students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent/carer if there are religious beliefs or philosophical objections to testing. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents/carers in consultation with the school.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's participation in NAPLAN please speak to their class teacher. We require confirmation from families by the end of Week 1, term 2 if they intend to not have their child participate in NAPLAN. Further information regarding NAPLAN can be found in the information page included in this week's newsletter or by going to the following website: <https://www.nap.edu.au/>

Stephen Jolley, Principal



Alex and Saxon enjoying the challenge of a maths problem at the recent World of Maths visit to Reidy Park Primary.

Student Free Day

Governing Council have approved a pupil free day on the first day of Term 2, Monday April 29th. The focus of this day will be Mathematics. Staff will be once again working with consultant Ann Baker to consolidate the learning that we engaged in last year as a part of our ongoing improvement priority in Mathematics.

Year 3 Excursion - City Heritage Walk

Year 3 classes have been learning about Mount Gambier and how it has changed over time. All three classes went on an excursion on the Friday of Week 7, following parts of the City Heritage Walk. Students looked at the local buildings and identified things that have stayed the same or changed over time.



I enjoyed going around the town and looking at all the old places and being able to play with my friends in the other classes. *Lyla*

I enjoyed watching the movie because I liked the bit about the volcanoes. *Olivia*

I enjoyed the film in the Main Corner because I learnt how the Blue Lake was made. *Cody*



I enjoyed the Railway Lands because I like playing with other people. *Logan*

I enjoyed learning new things about old buildings in Mount Gambier. *Ziana*



Can You Help

The fundraising committee is still in need of volunteers to assist with the selling of food on Sports Day. If you are able to help on either the BBQ, cake stall or hot dog stand, please fill out the form on School Stream or contact the Front Office.



Year 6/7 Canberra Camp Reminders

- Depart school on Sunday 31st March 6.30pm sharp. Please arrive and assemble from 6pm to allow time to pack the bus.
- Hand in medication (including travel sickness and Panadol) in a named bag along with medical authority form (unless the form has already been handed in).
- Packed breakfast.
- Any devices that students wish to use must have the SIM removed.
- Pack school uniform.
- Camp updates will be made throughout the week via School Stream. Please download the app if you have not already done so.
- Students should arrive back at approx. 7.30am on Friday morning, 5th April. A text message will be sent out approximately half an hour before they are due to arrive back.
- Students are not expected to attend school on this day.

Japanese

This term in Japanese students have made their book covers featuring "The Year of the Wild Boar". We have used different art and craft techniques including shading, collage, cut and paste, pattern making, wood block printing and sumie using calligraphy brushes and ink.

Judith Coleman, Japanese teacher



Materials and Services Fees

A reminder that the Materials & Services Charge (school fees) 3rd instalment is due on the 12th April with the final payment due on the 17th May. If you have not applied for School Card and believe you may be eligible, please collect a School Card form from the Front Office. Please be aware that School Card must be applied for every year and that the state government has lifted the School Card income threshold to \$57,870 for 2018. If you believe you are eligible, we urge you to apply. Thank you to those families who have made arrangements with the school to pay the fees by instalment. If you wish to pay by instalment, or have any issues in regards to the payment of school fees, please speak to Judy Hunter, Business Manager.

Harmony Day

On March 21st Reidy Park celebrated Harmony Day. Harmony Day is about coming together and accepting each others' differences. The theme for Harmony Day is everyone belongs. The SRC and Student Leaders ran activities for the school across the week, including obstacle courses and scavenger hunts which were very successful. We also had finger buns, chalk drawing and an orange dress up day. It was great to see everyone support this day's important message.

By Amity, Emma and Lacey - SRC



Congratulations

Congratulations to Leila C on being selected to compete in the Little Athletics National Championships being held in Hobart during April. Leila will be competing in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m events. All the best Leila.



Fundraiser

Caitlin and Clare from Room 8 are raising money to purchase a pet for their classroom. They will be selling scrunchies and slime for \$2 each in the quad at lunchtime on Friday.

Values in Action Awards

Room	Presented to	For
1	Baylie H	Having confidence during swimming lessons.
2	Ella C	Making positive choices towards her learning.
3	Axel J	Lovely listening skills and his hard work.
4	Blake D	Showing courage when working on his persuasive text.
5	Emilia L	Consistently following class rules and setting a positive example for her peers.
6	Jeht H	Taking care to read his reader at home every night and use his reading log.
7	Liam J	Showing a growth mindset during a tricky maths lesson.
8	Clare H & Caitlin H	Organising the class pet.
10	Stella M	Being courageous in maths when facing new challenges.
11	Milla W	Dedication toward achieving her best.
12	Skye P	Using feedback to make progress.
13	Emma W Lacey B	Outstanding classroom leadership and efficient organisational skills. Outstanding organisational skills shown through SRC work.
15	Ava H	Having a growth mindset with her reading.
16	Harrison L	Excellent retell in reading.
17	Jye D	Showing care and respect to his classmates.
20	Chloe N	Being a respectful listener at all times.
21	Paige W	Always trying her best.
22	Keeley C	For giving 100% to all of her learning.
23	Toby M	Being a brave learner and trying his best during recount writing.
24	Grace H	Focusing on her learning in literacy.
25	Brianna H	Showing persistence.

Room 16 - Lions Week

If you asked a Room 16 student how their week was in Week 8 the general response was “best week ever”. It all started with a lovely sunny week for swimming. The class enjoyed swimming in the afternoon learning different techniques using a variety of equipment including kick boards, pool noodles and life jackets. On Tuesday the class went on an excursion to the Old Goal with Room 15 as part of their History inquiry unit. When they first arrived the current caretaker jokingly told them that if he caught any student jumping on the beds they would be locked up in a cell. At first the students thought that sounded exciting until they visited the cells and after seeing how small, empty and plain they were, the students decided to stay away from all beds. They enjoyed walking around the goal learning about how hard and boring life was in the old goal, from the unsheltered exercise yard to the separation of prisoners. On Thursday they walked down to the Cave Gardens where they met their Room 12 buddy class and participated in some Fringe Festival fun! Using chalk, the students got to let their artistic side shine and be part of the festival. They decorated the pavers by the Civic Centre to get everyone into the Fringe spirit! Not only did the class do these exciting excursions but also have other fun learning through spelling, literacy and mathematics. What a week!



District Athletics



On Tuesday, March 26th, a large group of Reidy Park Year 3 to 7 students ventured to Mount Gambier High School to take part in the District Athletics Day. Schools from all over the district took part in events such as running, long jump, high jump, shot put and discus. Our students did an amazing job. We had a large number of children who received a ribbon for coming first, second or third. Well done to all students who participated.

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy