



NEWSLETTER

Term 3 No 13

Thurs Aug 7th 2014

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Principal – Stephen Jolley
Chairperson – Tim Scanlon

PLEASE FIND THE FOLLOWING INSERTS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

- Student Profiles
- Year 5,6&7 Class Page
- Parent Club 75th Birthday Luncheon Invitation

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As a part of our school improvement processes, a current area of focus for our staff is to reflect on how spelling is being taught across the school. Having children become proficient spellers is important because it enables them more time to devote to other writing demands such as grammar, word choice and thinking about their ideas. Spelling is interlinked with other areas of Literacy that include:

- **Listening and Speaking:** Being able to identify the sounds within spoken language is important for reading and spelling. Children need to be able to hear the sounds in words and say them accurately.
- **Reading and Writing:** Good spellers read more accurately and fluently. Reading provides the knowledge of how words are used in sentences that children need for their own writing.
- **Handwriting:** There is a high correlation between automated handwriting and written language ability. Fluent handwriters can also concentrate on the spelling of unfamiliar words.
- **Invented Spelling:** Children need to be encouraged to explore and experiment with spelling unknown words and be re-assured that taking risks is an important step towards becoming a competent speller.

The development of children's literacy skills, including spelling, is a priority for our school and families can support their children's spelling progress by providing regular opportunities to read at home, talking about words and encouraging their child to 'have a go' at spelling unfamiliar words.

Regards,

Stephen



Above are two of our Junior Primary students completing their word work activities.

Respect - Participation - Success

DATES TO REMEMBER

August

Friday 8 th	Salad Roster – Shanks Family. LSE SAPSASA District Basketball Day.
Monday 11 th	Heat Ups Roster – Sally Wintulich.
Tuesday 12 th	UNSW Maths test.
Thursday 14 th	Music (Recorder) Eisteddfod.
Friday 15 th	Salad Roster – Gaffney Family.
Monday 18 th	Pupil Free Day.
Tuesday 19 th	Heat Ups Roster – Tania Virgo.
Thursday 21 st	Parent Club 75 th Birthday Luncheon. Assembly.
Friday 22 nd	SAPSASA Regional Golf Day. Salad Roster – Work Family.

NATIONAL SSO WEEK

This week is SSO (School Services Officers) National Recognition Week. At Mil Lel we have a terrific team of SSO staff that help support the learning and wellbeing of our students. Mrs Lacey manages the front office, finance and administration roles within the school whilst Mrs Gilmore, Mrs Beltakis, Mrs Jones, Mrs Clode and Mrs Robinson all provide classroom support. Mr Grosvenor manages our computer network and Mr Dean carries out grounds person responsibilities. All do a fantastic job, thank you SSOs.

ASSEMBLY REMINDER

Our next assembly will be held on Thursday August 21st to coincide with the Parent Club 75th birthday celebrations. The assembly will be held in the Mil Lel Hall and commence at 2pm.

YR 3-7 PORT FAIRY SCHOOL CAMP & R-2 DAY EXCURSION

Thank you to families who have responded to our school camp and day excursion information. Camp payment for Year 3-7 students and the R-2 excursion payment will be required in full by the end of this term, Friday 26th September. We will also be informing which parents will be required to assist as helpers at that time.

SCIENCE COMPETITION

Well done to the following students who participated in the UNSW Science Competition:

Holly Baldock	Merit
Mia Kirby	Distinction
Amelia Clark	Participation

DECD STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-17

Helping young South Australians to achieve their best and to be healthy and safe are the priorities of our department's new strategic plan.

The Department for Education and Child Development's *Strategic Plan 2014-2017* outlines how we will make our public education system even stronger over the next four years.

The plan identifies six priority areas that seek to improve learning achievement, health and wellbeing, child safety, community engagement and timely access to services.

Our Chief Executive Tony Harrison says: "Our immediate priority is to lift the standard of service provided within our organisation and to the community.

"We will strive for excellence, to earn trust, to build and strengthen relationships – especially with children and young people, their parents, carers and the community.

Our school looks forward to working with you as we bring this new plan to life.

For more information, visit www.decd.sa.gov.au/strategicplan.

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SCHOOL VALUES AWARD

Thomas Shephard for using his initiative.

The Upper Primary Debating Teams for displaying a great 'have a go' attitude.

Saige Perry for volunteering to help umpire the school soccer team.

CERTIFICATES

Layla Gordon for regularly considering the feelings of others.

Thomas Johns for freely sharing his knowledge with the class.

William Virgo for making enormous progress in his reading and writing.

Zac Shanks for putting extra special care into his handwriting this term.

Caitlin Crouch for learning her skip counting and tables for home work.

Ava Simpson for having great Getting Along skills, especially picking up rubbish instead of walking past it!

Ella Davies for consistently and spontaneously supporting her peers with their learning.

Harrison Millard for stepping up to the mark and practising his debating speech at home.

PARENT CLUB NEWS

Soup Day

Pumpkin soup was warmly received by students at lunch time yesterday. Thank you to all who helped prepare and serve the soup.

Parent Club 75th Birthday Luncheon

The Parent Club 75th Birthday Luncheon will be held at the Mil Lel Hall at 12noon on Thursday 21st August. All welcome to attend. Please bring a plate of food to share. Invitations are enclosed with this Newsletter. Students will be provided a cupcake as a part of the celebrations.

Next Parent Club Meeting – Friday August 22nd in the French Room at 2:00pm. Pre-school children are welcome. Hostess: Sandra Robinson.

MOUNT GAMBIER EISTEDDFOD SPEECH & DRAMA

"On Thursday 24th July I participated in the Speech & Drama Eisteddfod at the Wehl Street Theatre. I entered seven sections. One was a scholarship section where I had to recite a poem. I chose "Red Riding Hood and the Wolf" and was fortunate to win the section. Overall I did three readings, three recitations and the one sided debate, where I could choose my own topic, and received two 1st placings, four 2nd and a third."

Holly Baldock

SCHOOL SOCCER

"We played our first round at Compton and we won by two goals. The score was 4 - 2."
Jacob

"I thought soccer might be quite challenging but once I got on the field it was better than I thought it would be." **Alex L**

"We play on Saturday mornings at 9am and our first game was last week. We played against Tenison White. I really enjoyed playing once I learnt how to play. One of the rules is that you can't touch the ball with your hands." **Ian**

"Last Saturday Alex L, Jacob, Ian and myself went to Compton to play Tenison White. We combine with Compton and Melaleuca Park to make up our team. We had a win. I scored all the goals that our team scored. My brother Saige umpired our game. Mrs Opperman and my mother help coach and manage the team." **Tayne**

COMMUNITY NOTICE

ANGLICAN CHURCH FAIR

Bay Road, Mount Gambier Saturday 9th August from 8:30am-1:00pm. Lots of stalls and entertainment for everyone.

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MOUNT GAMBIER EISTEDDFOD

DEBATING

Last week it was very pleasing to watch our Upper Primary students represent the school in the Mount Gambier Eisteddfod Debating Competition. Leading up to the day each team had worked hard with Mrs Pratt to prepare for their debate and they are to be commended on their 'have a go' attitude. To have 4 teams participate from the one class was a super effort, well done kids!

"I was in the debating team with Holly and Ella. Our topic was 'Owners should have to have a licence to breed from their pets' and we argued in the affirmative against Glenburnie. I was the first speaker and I argued that the pet owners might be breeding in sub standard conditions and that they could be breeding for financial gain and not caring about the health and well being of the animals. Holly was our second speaker and Ella had to rebut as the third speaker." **Ben**



"On Thursday 31st July we competed in the Debating Eisteddfod at the Wehl Street Theatre against St Anthony's School. I was in a team with Holly and Jennieva and we were the negative team. Our topic was "Voting should stay compulsory". Our scores were very close but the affirmative team won the debate." **Levina**

"I was in a team with Brianna and Harrison. Our topic was "You need a licence to breed pets" and we were the negative team. We debated against Glenburnie and lost by just one point. I was the second speaker in the team and had to rebut our points argued by our opponents which was a bit difficult. I used my experience gained from participating last year and was a lot more confident this year." **Jack**



"Our team consisted of myself, Harry H and Wil and our topic was "That the sea is better than the pool". We took the negative side of the debate. I argued that the pool was better because it has no wild life and so it's not as dangerous. Harry H argued that we don't know the exact depth in the ocean, that the water can be murky and even polluted with rubbish and oil when a pool can be cleaned and that you don't have to travel if you have a pool nearby. Wil rebutted and summed up our team's case. It was the first time I have been in a debating team and I enjoyed it. I would like to do it again next year." **Harry R**

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