Dear Families,

Last Friday our staff joined with other teachers in the local area to participate in a training and development opportunity around the new Australian Curriculum subject called Digital Technologies. With the expansion of online technology and how it connects people globally, the day reinforced the importance of children becoming ‘digital citizens’ and competent users and creators of technology.

Digital Technologies is composed of two areas, the first being Design Technologies that focuses on students moving through a cycle of designing, making and appraising work. For example students may be asked to design and make a bridge that can hold a weight of 1 kilogram using popsticks. Each popstick might cost $1 and they have a budget of $100 to spend. After testing their bridge (the appraise stage), students would reflect on their work. Was the bridge successful? What would they change to their design? Did they use all of the budget? The second area, Digital Technologies, introduces students to more formal aspects of technology including the components of a computer, networks, coding and applying a variety of technologies in innovative ways. For example, instead of students typing up a story they have written, they might instead create a short movie or presentation about the story. This new subject will provide many interesting learning experiences for our students and teachers.

Over the past three days Yr 3, 5 and 7 students have completed NAPLAN. The information gained from these assessments will provide feedback to teachers about student progress as well as help inform future whole school directions.

Good luck to our students who are competing in the Naracoorte Cross Country event tomorrow. We have 23 students participating which is a great effort.

Regards,

Stephen

Deklin, Hamish and Mia represented our school in Scratch Day at Grant High School on Monday.
DATES TO REMEMBER

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SCRATCH DAY
On Monday, Upper Primary students Mia, Hamish and Deklin went to Grant High School for Scratch Day. Scratch is a computer program used to make animations, games and music. Scratch helps users learn to code so that they can do more than read new technologies but also create them, as described in the new Digital Technologies curriculum.

“I had a good time going to Grant High School to learn how to code for games and animation.” Hamish

“It was a good experience in how to use a coding program. It allowed me to create an animation. I really enjoyed it!” Deklin

“At Scratch Day we had to make a profile on the internet and then make a project. I was working on my project for the competition which has to include a game, something about the language we learn at school and some illustrations that we make ourselves.” Mia

AUSKICK
Auskick commenced last week and thank you to the parents who have assisted so far. We request that families of Auskick students donate $5 which will be used to pay for the donuts and buns that are handed out at the end of each session – an important highlight for our students! Please drop off the money to the front office as soon as possible.

AFL Half Time Match Opportunity
Our school has been offered two places for Auskick students to participate in a trip to Melbourne where they will play in a game during the half time of an AFL match. The match we have been scheduled for is on July 11th (Saturday), North Melbourne vs Geelong. If you would like to nominate your child (only children participating in Auskick sessions are eligible) please fill in the reply slip in this week’s newsletter. Selection of players is based on the following criteria:
- Year level (preference given to Year 2 students).
- If they have attended a previous trip.
- Effort and behaviour during Auskick training sessions.

“We have lots of fun at Auskick. I like to kick the ball into the goals and to kick the ball to each other. We get a donut at the end.” Kurt

“I have heaps of fun at Auskick. I like to play Auskick with my friends. I love the cinnamon donuts that we get at the end.” Caelin

SCHOOL SOCCER
Some of our MP students are involved in school soccer this term and have combined with 3 other schools to form a team.

“Last Saturday we played our first game and scored 5 points to 1 point. Our team was made up of three schools and the other team was made up of four schools.” George

“We played at Mulga Street. I played in defence and mid centre. I enjoyed playing and had fun.” Clyde

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SCHOOL VALUES AWARDS
Hamish Paul, Mia Kirby and Deklin Joyce for representing our school at the Grant HS Scratch Day.

CERTIFICATES
Jakob Walkom for putting so much effort into learning his sight words.
Layla Gordon for always being willing to have a go at things that might be challenging.
Macy Breen for her hard work and positive attitude to reading.
Thomas Johns for being an excellent thinker and communicator.
Dean Harten for consistently putting in a great deal of effort and thought into all his work.
Jorja Douglas for considering the needs of others and helping others.
Tayne Perry for a big improvement in his work ethic and commitment to learning.
Flynn Harfull for a continuous enthusiasm for learning and a great work ethic.

UPPER PRIMARY FOOTBALL CARNIVAL
Students in Year 6 and 7 (girls and boys) are invited to participate in a football carnival to be held at Blue Lake Sports Park on Friday May 29th from 9am – 3pm. Please fill out the reply slip and return to school if your child is interested in participating. Students will need to provide their own transport on the day.

PIONEERS COACHING CLINICS
Over the last two Mondays players from the Mt Gambier Pioneers have run some coaching sessions for our students.

“I liked when we were playing ball tag. We had to bounce the ball and then run around to tag someone. I also enjoyed trying to shoot goals.” Shaylah

“I had so much fun when Tom Daley and Tyrone Lee came to teach us basketball. I loved doing the cheer when we all had to huddle together at the end.” Zac

MOUNT GAMBIER EISTEDDFOD: TERM 3
The Mount Gambier Eisteddfod is held next term and in previous years we have had students represent our school in a number of categories. The categories that are available to students are: Dance, Calisthenics, Debating, Choral, Vocal, Music and Speech and Drama.

For our school, the main categories that we have had student involvement include Debating (for Upper Primary students), Music (Recorder; Yr1 – Yr 4) and Speech and Drama (Rec – Yr 7). Speech and Drama involves students either reciting or reading (depending on the category) a text to an audience.

The Eisteddfod events are held at the Wehl Street Theatre in Mount Gambier and normally occur around Week 2 and 3 of Term 3.

Please note the following in regards to the available categories:

- Debating: Miss Brumby will enter teams from the Year 5, 6 & 7 class to participate.
- Music/Recorder: Mrs Hogg will enter the Year 1 & 2 and Year 3 & 4 classes to perform. All other music entries including individual recorder items will need to be completed by individual families.
- All other categories, including Speech and Drama: Individual families will need to enter their child/children.

ENTRY DUE DATES.
Speech and Drama: Friday 12th June
Music: Friday 3rd July

HOW TO ENTER AND PAYMENT.
All entries need to be completed online at the following website: www.backstageincorporated.com.au.
Backstage Incorporated use a system called GENI for payment. When entering GENI you will be automatically prompted to enter credit card details. If you don’t have a credit card you can print out your invoice and post a cheque or money order with a copy of the invoice to P.O. Box 1711, Mount Gambier or place the invoice with the correct money (cash acceptable) in the letter box at the Backstage Incorporated clubrooms, Reidy
Park Centre, O'Halloran Terrace, Mount Gambier.

Transport
Transport will be provided for students participating in Debating and whole class recorder items. For all other items, parents will be responsible for taking their children to and from the Eisteddfod. Depending on the number of sections a child enters they are not normally required to be at the theatre for the whole day (e.g. they might perform in the morning and return to school afterwards).

Surplus Projectors
We have 3 surplus whiteboard projectors to give away. The projectors have previously been used in our classrooms but with the installation of the LCD screens they are no longer of use to the school. The projectors are quite old and replacement globes for them can cost approximately $250. If you would like one, it will be a first in, first served basis. Please contact the front office ASAP otherwise they will be disposed of.

RAN (Reporting Abuse & Neglect) Training for Volunteers
All school volunteers are required to complete this training. If you have not been able to attend a session offered by our school, an opportunity to complete the training will be offered on Thursday 18th June at Melaleuca Park Primary School. Two sessions for the day with 30 people in each session, will be held and there are currently spaces left in each session for volunteers from other sites to attend; session times are:
- 9:30am - 11:30am
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm
There is no cost to attend this session. If would like to register for one of these sessions please contact Annette Hinton on 87251404.

Canberra Camp Jelly Slice Day
The next Jelly Slice day is Wednesday 20th May. Enclosed with this newsletter is a jelly slice form. All slices must be pre-ordered with order form and money returned no later than next Monday 18th May.

Parent Club News

Movie Night Tomorrow night
The movies playing tomorrow night are Paddington (G) and Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (PG). The school will be open from 6:00pm with the movies to begin at 6:30pm. The Parent Club have popcorn, fruit boxes and lollies for sale. No fruit boxes are to be taken into the classrooms and all students are required to have an adult in attendance. Students can bring along water bottles, beanbags, pillows and blankets if they would like.

Parent Club Sausage Sizzle
Parent Club will be holding a Sausage Sizzle ($1/each) at lunch time on Wednesday 20th May. Enclosed with this newsletter is an order form. All Sausages need to be pre-ordered with order form and money returned by Monday 18th May.

Breast Cancer Pink Bun Day
On Wednesday May 27th we will have Pink Finger buns at recess for $1.50 each. Enclosed with this newsletter is an order form. All Sausages need to be pre-ordered with order form and money returned by 25th May. SRC has agreed to support this cause by encouraging staff and students to wear Pink.

Heat Ups
Thankyou to Liza Kirby for spending time monitoring the heat ups process. At this stage we are going back to the old system of using the pie warmers.

Next meeting: Monday 15th June 7pm at the South Aussie Hotel.

Community Notice

School Dental Service - All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend the School Dental Service. Dental care is FREE for most school-aged children and ALL preschool children. SA Dental Service participates in the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, please phone 8222 8222 or visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au

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