FROM THE PRINCIPAL

School Happenings

**Pyjama Day:** If you remember, this day was initiated and organized by three of our senior students, Chloe, Jess and Holly, in an effort to contribute to others within our global community. What a great day it was. We even featured in The Courier. The girls ended up raising $91.

**Outdoor classrooms:** How beautiful has the weather been. To make the most of it Lorikeet and Kingfisher took the opportunity to experience a classroom without walls. Lorikeet spent all day out there doing their usual work while Kingfisher spent lots of time out there building shelters as part of their technology and history curricula.
**Loud Shirt/Clothes Day**: It was wonderful to see so many of our students (Preschool to Year 7) participate in this event. We got close to 100% participation and raised $102.60 for the Cora Barclay Centre (centre for children with impaired hearing). It’s great to see our children working towards the greater good, helping out the wider community (Meaning in PERMA incorporating the character strength of Citizenship) and having some fun.

**Upcoming events**

We have our bonfire tomorrow evening – 7:30.

Next Friday will be our disco night – note the change - there won’t be a disco at the end of the year as our preschool and year 7 graduations and a community assembly will take its place. The junior disco (Preschool – Year 2) will be held 5:30 – 6:45 and the senior disco 7:30 – 9:00, with hotdogs available in between at a cost of $2.50.

Our whole school camp is coming up on 11th and 12th November.

Community assembly – Thursday 10th December. Please put this date aside in your calendar as it will incorporate both graduations and a community tea afterwards. If you would like to perform at this assembly please see me.

Please look out for other events as well along the way.
POSITIVE EDUCATION ASSEMBLY

On Monday 26th October as part of our focus on community and citizenship we have invited a guest speaker to explain her work with school children in Africa. Philippa Robb (the wife of Trevor, a former teacher here) has spent many years supporting children in orphanages and schools in that country and she is giving a short presentation to which you are invited, in the Alluvial Hall from 9:15-10:00.

NUDE FOOD DAY

Next Tuesday 27th October the school is participating in Nude Food Day.

The aim is to encourage staff, children and their families to remove packaged food from lunchboxes, use reusable containers rather than wrapping and focus on long term sustainable choices.

On Tuesday, all classes and the Preschool will have lunch together. Children will receive 10 points for a wrapper free lunch as well as 10 points if recess is also wrapper free. At 2:30, we are having a community assembly, where you are invited to share your tips and strategies for reusing, recycling and reducing waste, or just come along to get a few simple ideas.

PARENT SEMINAR
‘THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF TODDLERS’

Parenting SA is providing a free seminar for parents ‘The wonderful world of toddlers’, from 7.15 to 9.00 pm on Wednesday 4 November 2015. The seminar will help you understand more about toddler development and provide practical ways to help them thrive and manage their strong feelings. Attend in person at the Adelaide Convention Centre, or view the live webcast. To book or access the live webcast, go to Eventbrite.

KEEP YOUR KIDS SMILING

Dental care is FREE for most school-aged children and ALL preschool children at the Mt Barker School Dental Clinic. All babies, children and young people, aged 0-17 years, are welcome to attend.

The Mt Barker School Dental Clinic is open during the Christmas school holiday break.

Please phone 8391 0858 to book an appointment.
COMMUNITY NEWS

ECHUNGA UNITING CHURCH NEWS

Messy Church this Friday
Craft and activity, music and story, plus tea provided for the whole family! 4:00-6:00pm Friday October 23rd in Wandeen (Echunga Uniting Church). Contact Narelle for more information on 0409754298. Find us on Facebook—www.facebook.com/echungamessychurch

Encouragement for Mums

Roller Skating—Echunga & Meadows Youth Group
6:30-10:30pm Friday October 30th. Meet and pick up at Wandeen. Cost $10 plus $$ for Hungry Jacks. Contact Narelle for more information on 0409754298. Find us on Facebook—www.facebook.com/hillsyouthgroup
OSH Awards Term 4
And the OSHC Awards go to…
1. Austin R
2. Bethany D

Hats at OSHC
Please remember to bring a spare hat into OSHC for your child to wear after school, as we encourage children to keep their school hat in their tray at school.

Vacation Care December 2015 /January 2016 operating times
The end of year school holidays are extended by an extra week this year, so children will have an extra weeks’ holiday, and OSHC will need to be open an extra week. Normally we open for 3 weeks, one before Christmas and two after. But at the end of this year we will be open for one before Christmas and three after. School begins on Monday 1st February 2016.

Here are the dates we will be open and closed for:

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Vacation Care December 2015 /January 2016 Program
We are in the process of planning our program now and will have it ready in a few weeks’ time.

For those keen children who keep asking me, Gingerbread House Day will be on Monday 14th December.

Catastrophic Days
As the weather warms up there could be the possibility of Catastrophic Days being forecast. If this happens during the school term you will get an SMS from the school informing you of this, and OSHC will be closed along with the rest of the school.

If a Catastrophic day is forecast during the December/January Holidays I will be calling the families who are booked in for the Catastrophic day and informing them we will be shut.

Vacation Care October
We had so much fun over the holidays. We welcomed Tania from Bunnings who showed our children how to make Dinoscapes. We went to the movies to see Blinky Bill, and then made the best damper afterwards. Since the weather was kind most days we spent a fair bit of time outside enjoying our beautiful surroundings.