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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**Fun Day**

Well we had our last “Let’s have some fun just for the sake of it day” on Monday and funnily enough, everyone had some fun!!! The activity was water play again and we had children, and one or two adults, playing in the sprinklers, throwing water balloons, using water pistols, tipping buckets of water over each other, making bubbles and getting thoroughly wet. It was great fun.

**Farewell**

We say farewell to Cecilia Kerr at the end of this year. Cecilia has been with the school for 27 years and decided to call it a day. She has decided to retire and move on to the next phase of her life. Cecilia worked in the preschool for many years and has worked with many children in student support helping those who needed some extra help. She has also spent time in the library supporting Marina with library matters. Congratulations Cecilia, many of the students you worked with are now adults with children of their own. We wish you all the best in the future.
Farewell to our Year 7 graduates

We have 8 year sevens graduating this year. Congratulations to Caitlyn, Chloe, Bree, Jenny, Jess, Caleb, Mack and Will on reaching the milestone of finishing their Primary schooling. We wish you all the best in the next stage of your education and beyond.

Thankyou

A big thankyou to all the parents/carers who have put time into the school, whether it be through working bees, redevelopment projects, fundraising, Governing Council, helping with reading, helping out teachers or helping in any other way. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

Cherries

After being in the ground for about 5 years we have finally got a crop big enough that could be shared with all the students. Today everyone picked and ate cherries. They were delicious!!

As this is the last newsletter for the year the staff and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and Happy Holidays!!

For those of you, who are coming back, see you next year in 2016.

MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGE 2016

At the Governing Council Meeting held on Monday 30th November the Materials and Services Charge for 2016 was approved as a “prescribed sum” of $260.00. This is the same fee as this year.

A Polling Letter and Voting Slip has been sent home to all families who will be affected by the charge in 2016. The Governing Council is asking you to support their recommendation that the legally recoverable amount for 2016 be the “prescribed sum” of $260.00. This means that the school is able to recover the full amount of $260.00 in the case of debt collection. If you would like to vote please return the voting slip to the Front Office by close of business on Friday 18th December.

Invoices for next year will be sent home the first week back of next year.
OSHC NEWS

OSHC Awards Term 4

And the OSHC Awards go to…

7. Javre B
8. Brianna R

Vacation Care December 2015/January 2016 Program

Our Vacation Care Program is getting booked out quickly. We have just one spot left for the Gingerbread House day and one spot left for the Christmas Extravaganza at the Library. All Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are booked out. We do have room on all Thursdays and all the Fridays in January.

Please remember the last day of term early finish legal requirements

To comply with Child Care Benefit requirements on the last day of term, we have changed our service operating hours. **OSHC will be open at 2:20pm and close at 5:30pm.**

Farewell to Alex Bates

We sadly said goodbye to Alex Bates, who has been a fantastic educator in OSHC and wish her well in her new teaching position in Victoria. All the best Alex.

New OSHC Educator

We welcome Carly Pickett, a Year 2/3 teacher from Oakbank Area School. Carly will be working as the other qualified educator during the holidays.
**ZOOkation Care**  
A school holiday program for 5 to 12 year olds (5 year olds must have spent 2015 at school). 9am -4pm. Spend the day with a qualified conservation educator exploring the Zoo! $65 per child, $55 for Zoo members. Drop the kids at the Zoo and head into the city for some last minute Christmas shopping. Available Monday 14th December to Thursday 24th December and Thursday 14th January to Friday 29th January.


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**SA Water VACSWIM**  
SA Water VACSWIM is a program to waterproof the confidence in young South Australians, in and around the water. It is a South Australian Government supported initiative to provide children aged 5 to 13 years with opportunities to develop a range of skills and positive experiences in the areas of water safety, confidence and competence in the water, personal survival activities and basic aquatic emergency procedures.

These skills are delivered at over 130 pools, beaches and lakes throughout South Australia by one of three primary program providers—Royal Life Saving Society, Surf Life Saving and YMCA—who engage qualified instructors to teach the children of South Australia.

The majority of programs take place from Monday 4th to Tuesday 12th January, 2016; they run for 45 minutes a day for 7 days.

For more information about the program ring your local swimming centre.

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**INVITATIONS IN DECEMBER**

- **Sunday 6th**  
  Community Carols, Echunga Institute, 7:00pm

- **Sunday 13th**  
  Christmas Nativity, Echunga Uniting Church, 10:00am

- **Sunday 20th**  
  Christmas Drinks and Nibbles at the Manse, 5 Hagen Street, Echunga from 7:00pm

- **Friday 25th**  
  Christmas Day, Echunga Uniting Church, 9:30am