



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

# Echunga Primary School

Together we will strive for academic, social, emotional and personal achievement, working within a positive culture that promotes the pursuit of excellence and the understanding of others



Week 2 Term 1, 9th February, 2018

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## DIARY DATES

### Pupil Free Days 2018

- Mon 26 Feb  
- Fri 29 June  
- Fri 21 Sept

### Assemblies 2018 at 2:30pm

- Mon 12 Feb  
- Mon 5 March  
- Mon 26 March

Tues 20/2 Growing with Gratitude

Wed 21/2 Art  
Outreach Program

Thurs 22/2 Acquaintance Night &  
Governing Council AGM

Tues 27/2 Crows Visit

Mon 5/3-Fri 9/3 Water Safety Program  
R-5

Mon 12/3 Public Holiday

Tues 15/3 Patch Theatre Excursion  
Preschool

Fri 23/3 Sports Day

Tues 27/3-Wed 28/3 Aquatics at Port  
Noarlunga Yr 6-7

Fri 30/3 Good Friday

Mon 2/4 Easter Monday

View the newsletter on  
our website at  
[www.echungaps.sa.edu.au](http://www.echungaps.sa.edu.au)

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you enjoyed some great family time over the summer holidays, although they probably seem so far away now! It has been lovely to see the children return to school with smiles on their faces and lots of enthusiasm.

We have welcomed 14 new Reception students into Kayla's Rosella class this year. They have all settled in really well and are starting to learn the new school routines. So welcome to Tara, Brock, Angus B-M, Oscar, Jorja, Ellyce, Kayla, Orbs, Bailey, Aaliya, Angus R, Jackson, Lucy & Archie. Well done on a positive start and we hope you have a wonderful time here at Echunga Primary School.

We have also welcomed Olivia, William, Noah, Caleb, Gemma & Maddy who have started at Echunga Primary School this term.

During the first 2 weeks all teachers are working *with* their students to develop a positive learning culture in their classrooms and around our school. They are together developing their classroom expectations/norms so that everyone has a responsibility for the learning that happens at Echunga Primary.

Teachers will be incorporating learning about Growth Mindset/Fixed mindset learners and learner dispositions with their students. This is an integral part of our Visible Learning. I have also been meeting with groups of students to develop further our Learner Dispositions and what they actually mean. They have already talked about being resilient, having a go, asking questions and not being afraid of mistakes. Students will share more with you in a later newsletter.

### Tips for settling into school

Starting school is an enormous change for children. Education expert, and author of '[Your Child's First Year at School](#)' (published by Early Childhood Australia,) Jenni Connor has some valuable tips for parents to ensure the road into school is as bump-free as possible. Check out the article [here](#).

# SCHOOL NEWS

## **Acquaintance Night**

Class teachers will also be holding Acquaintance Night sessions as follows:

- ♦ 5:30-6:00 Reception/Year 1 & Year 3/4
- ♦ 6:00-6:30 Year 1/2 & Year 5/6/7

Please come along and find out more about your child's teacher and what will be happening in their classes this year. This is an opportunity to understand more about the learning strategies we use at Echunga Primary School and to ask any general questions. We would prefer if children weren't in the classes at this time but if you do need to bring your children we will put on a movie in the Music Room where they will be supervised by a member of staff. Children are not to be left unsupervised outside during the class sessions.

There will also be a sausage sizzle from about 5:30pm and a chance to chat with other parents and staff members. Please fill in the tear-off slip to let us know whether you will be coming to give us an idea for catering.

## **Governing Council AGM**

All parents/caregivers are invited to attend the Governing Council AGM at 7pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, following the Acquaintance Night sessions.

The Governing Council chairperson and Principal will present brief reports. Please consider nominating to join the Governing Council for 2017. Nomination forms were sent out this week and are due in by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. GC meets twice per term, usually weeks 3 and 8 between 7:00pm and 9:00pm. All council members need a current DCSI (criminal history) Screening.

## **Volunteers**

We welcome volunteers to help in a variety of ways. If you already volunteer in any capacity, thank you for your contribution. Volunteers can make a big difference to our school and our students. If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis you will need a DCSI screening, formerly known as a Police Check. Please let me or Merridee know and we will arrange to send you the relevant information.

Volunteers also need to participate in the Responding to Abuse and Neglect training. This training can be done online or face-to-face. If you wish to do the training online please contact us and we can send you the relevant instructions for accessing the training. If you prefer to do a face-to-face please contact us.

## **Crows Visit**

We will be having a visit from some of the Adelaide Crows players on Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup>. If your children would like some autographs they can bring something in to be signed, maybe a guernsey or a poster.

**Pam**

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Visible Learning

### Learning Intentions and Success Criteria

As part of our Visible Learning implementation last year we began working on making the learning clear to our students. All classroom teachers have been working on setting clear learning intentions and success criteria so that the intended learning is visible to our students and so that they know what they need to do to be successful.

When students don't have clear learning intentions it is like sending them into a tunnel without anything to light the way. Anything could happen in this scenario – bumping into things, getting lost, taking the wrong pathway or even doubling back and heading in the wrong direction completely! Obviously this isn't what we want in our students' learning!

A clear learning intention is the light in the tunnel – the light to guide students in teaching and learning. It helps students to know they are heading in the right direction, takes away some of the confusions and clarifies what they are actually focussing on in their learning. It can reduce the barriers that may be stopping the learning and understanding from happening.

Success criteria sit alongside the learning intentions and act as guides or signposts to help students along the tunnel of learning. Students can keep referring to the success criteria throughout the lesson, ensuring that they keep travelling in the right direction, not to go off on a tangent and keep their eyes on the light at the end of the tunnel.

## Skoolbag app

Have you downloaded our skoolbag app yet? It's a great way to get alerts, reminders, newsletters and other school info. Search Echunga Primary School in the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

### 2018 MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGE

Just a reminder to families that school fees are due as soon as possible.

Fees can be paid by cheque, cash or credit card at the Front Office. If you would like to have a Direct Debit set up to make payments at weekly, fortnightly or monthly intervals from your bank account or credit card please see Merridee for a form.

School Card Forms are available from the Front Office if you think you may be eligible. A new form needs to be filled out each year. More information about School Card is available on the DECD website.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Governing Council 2018

**Are you are interested in joining our Governing Council?  
We are looking for new members in 2018.**

**The Governing Council AGM will be held in the Alluvial Hall at 7:00pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.**

The Governing Council works with the Principal to develop future directions for their school.

In your role on the Governing Council you work with the Principal to:

- involve the local community
- develop and approve local policies
- set the broad direction and vision of the site
- monitor and review the [site improvement plan](#)
- be the [employing authority](#) of some services, including OSHC and canteen.

The Principal will work with the Governing Council to:

- give educational leadership
- carry out the site's policies
- carry out the site improvement plan.

A position on Governing Council is generally for 2 years but some positions may be for 1 year.  
Council meets twice a term, currently on Tuesdays 7:00pm to 9:00pm

The Council's role, amongst other things, is to facilitate the involvement of the school community in the governance of the school by providing a forum for the School Community's voice, approve the school's budget and monitor the financial performance against the budget, to be responsible for the care and maintenance of the school facilities and property and to raise funds for special projects undertaken by the Council on behalf of the School Community.

The Council cannot, employ, or affect the employment of any teacher or member of staff, set the curriculum or influence the day to day management/running of the school.

Council members are obliged to represent the School Community with objectivity and in an unbiased manner. This may mean that a Council member's own personal preferences or opinions must be balanced against the best interests of the school, rather than the interests of the individual. Where there is an actual or perceived conflict of interest on any matter being addressed by Council, the member concerned should declare that conflict and abide by the determination of the Council regarding their continued participation in any activity or discussion related to the matter.

If you are interested in joining Governing Council please complete the nomination form sent out recently and return to Merridee by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## ROSELLA NEWS

We learn letters, so we can learn to write and read – Jorja

We learn how to make things and cook things – Cyra

I like doing maths because we play – Aaliya

We learnt a new game called Fruit Salad – Angus R

We practise how to write – Charles

We have a go and try our best –  
Abbey

I like to play outside on  
the playground – Lucy



I like building train  
tracks – Ellyce

We come to school to learn  
things, so we can read – Oscar

I like playing  
sharks with lots of  
friends – Jackson

I like playing on the play ground, I like swinging, its fun – Hayley

We do art, we have been drawing  
lady bugs and then we made a  
mouse one and then we did a bird –  
Bailey

I like our school because there  
are wizzy dizzies in the  
playground – Archie

We do maths, we count numbers – Kayla

We can learn using our senses - Angus B.M

# SCHOOL NEWS

## PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Welcome back to school for 2018!! It's been really nice to reconnect with many of you and hear about the holiday break. A big welcome especially to new families!

I'm wondering if any of you have started off the year like this...

You pick your child up from school and ask:

"How was your day?"

"Good"

"What did you do?"

"Nothing"...We KNOW they didn't do *NOTHING*! But getting anything out of them is like getting water out of a stone!

This is a common scenario for many families – mine included! How can we do this better so that it works for us as parents/carers and for our kids?

Donna Broadhurst - a counsellor who works with children and families and consults with the Department of Education and Child Development - says that 'When we come together with our child at the end of the day, we really need to **focus on the reunion** because, more often than not, our kids have missed us. If we start with something like "There you are! It's so nice to see you. I've missed you" and really focus on the relationship, children can relax into the reunion which helps ease the transition from school or kindy into the family again.

Coming in and asking them a lot of questions such as 'how was your day, where is your bag, did you do a painting, who'd you play with today....??' can be like an interrogation. This puts a lot of pressure on our kids. They get overwhelmed and don't always know how to respond. What if you were thinking they might play with Joe and they didn't play with Joe. Are they going to be in trouble now? 'What do I say to Mum or Dad when they are asking me that?' 'What's the right answer?'

Instead, focus on the reunion, give them a couple of minutes to reconnect with you and collect whatever else they need and **then ask "How was your day?"**

If you still get little response, **tell them about your day!**

**Modelling how to have that conversation** can be useful. For example "Okay, let me tell you a bit about my day. I went shopping at Kmart.. I had a meeting at work.. I ate a toasted cheese sandwich for lunch... I chatted with Mary..."

Adopting these strategies can potentially make the reunions a whole lot better.'

Of course I had to try this out! And you know what?? I had moderate success! I actually heard a bit about my kids' days!! Nate went to the library at lunch with his friend Ethan and Matilda played on the monkey bars with Kelsie!! Now she has blisters and Nate drew pictures of the Titanic.

Families who have tried these ideas have told Donna "I can't believe the difference this has made!" "I don't have the tears that I used to have." "I don't have the big behaviours that I used to have". It goes much more smoothly."

So if you're struggling to get information out of your kids at the end of the day, try this! Let me know how you go!

\*\*For more information on other strategies to better help relationships within your family (there's some advice on sibling rivalry and setting limits), check out [www.cherishingthechildparentrelationship.weebly.com](http://www.cherishingthechildparentrelationship.weebly.com)



# SCHOOL NEWS

## SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking Days are held every Thursday. Students put their bank books and money in the blue banking bag in the classrooms for pick up first thing in the morning.

### Get ready for a Super Savers adventure with School Banking.

This year in School Banking, your child will join the Dollarmites on a Super Savers adventure, developing strong savings skills.

School Banking encourages children to learn the value of saving and rewards those who demonstrate a regular savings behaviour.

#### New Super Savers reward items.

Introducing an exciting new range of reward items with two released every term.

Available in Term 1:

- Twister Power Handball
- Secret Scratch Notepad.

Your child can redeem one of these rewards, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.



**Remember,** with the CommBank Youth app, it's easy for your child to monitor the Dollarmites tokens they earn when making School Banking deposits and track their savings. Available to download from the App Store on any iOS9+ device.



#### A chance to win a family trip to Hawaii.



Students who truly are Super Savers will have the chance to win a family trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, staying 7 nights at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort, plus AU\$2,000 spending money.

To enter, students simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3 2018, and they will automatically enter the Super Savers Grand Prize Competition.

To find out more about School Banking, or explore fun activity sheets for your child, visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

**Things you should know:** The 'Super Savers Grand Prize Competition' (Promotion) is conducted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (ABN 48 123 123 124) of Level 30, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. The Promotion starts at 9am AEST on 22/01/18 and closes at 11:59pm AEST on 29/03/18. Entry is open to Australian residents aged 4-13 years only who have made 15 separate School Banking deposits into their CommBank 'youthsaver' account during the Promotion period. Eligible entrants will be automatically entered into the draw. Maximum 1 entry per person. The first eligible entry randomly drawn will win a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, USA for two adults and up to three children (aged 17 years and under), including 7 nights accommodation and \$2,000 AUD spending money, valued at \$17,666 AUD. Terms and conditions apply. The draw will take place at 12pm AEST on 10/10/18 at the address above. The winner will be notified by telephone and email, and will be published online at [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) and in The Australian on 17/10/18. Winner must claim the prize by 5pm AEST on 15/01/19 or the prize will be redrawn. The prize will be awarded to the winner's nominated parent or guardian. Conditions apply to accepting the prize. Full terms and conditions available from [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) Authorized under NSW Permit No: LTPS/17/18318, ACT Permit No: ACT TP 17/01969 and SA Permit No: T17/1878.

# OSHC NEWS

## **Welcome to OSHC**

We would like to welcome the following children to OSHC: Lachlan, Chloe, Jack, Alex, Angus, Kayla, Ellyce and Cameron.

## **Staff**

Jodie will be working Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and Karen will be working Mondays, Thursdays and every second Wednesday (even weeks).

## **OSHC Awards**

OSHC Awards are given to children who are kind, fair and help other children and staff at OSHC.

Week 1: Archie W

## **Vacation Care December/January**

We had so much fun in the holidays. Our highlights included going on a joint excursion with Meadows and Hahndorf OSHC to Latitude in Adelaide, making fairy garden pots, decorating Gingerbread Houses of course, going to the movies twice and just having the chance to play.

## **2018 Bookings**

For the first time in nearly 8 years we will be having two staff work every second Wednesday (even weeks) as we have 14 children booked in. We are becoming booked out for quite a few sessions with permanent bookings as well.

As our service continues to grow with permanent bookings, we may look at having a second staff person rostered on extra days. We currently have a few children on a waiting list for spaces for some sessions.

We are restricted to having only 4 preschool children in at any one time and school age children will be placed on the waiting list ahead of preschool children as we are an approved School Age Care Service.

Casual users may continue to call and book if there are spaces available, because you never know when there will be a cancellation.



## **TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR SISTER EXPERIENCE FRANCE AT HOME HOST FAMILY OPPORTUNITIES**

In June each year, students aged 15-16 years from France will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 12 weeks. Opportunities are available to become a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity.

Host families help provide each student with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to practice your French, share your stories, learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance, a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Your extended family and friends will grow and learn as you all get to know your new 'son' or 'daughter' from another land. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, we would love to hear from you...

For further details, please contact Jenny Hanson (SPANZ SA Placement Co-ordinator)  
Ph: 08 8323 0973 / Mob: 0409 890 184 / Email: [info@studentplacement.com.au](mailto:info@studentplacement.com.au)



# COMMUNITY NEWS



**GET in2FUN  
GET in2CRICKET**

MILO in2CRICKET introduces girls and boys, aged 5 - 8, to Australia's favourite sport. It's great fun, kids learn the basic cricket skills and is available for kids of all abilities.

All kids receive a **BONUS PLAYER PACK** when they register!

Echunga Cricket Club Milo In 2 Cricket Program, Echunga Oval. Thursdays 4 to 5pm from 1/2/18-29/3/18  
Further details contact Ben Hull 0428762359 Register on line @ Play Cricket.com.au

Visit [PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU/IN2CRICKET](http://PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU/IN2CRICKET) to find out more

**MOPS-MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS**  
9:30-11:30am next Thursday Feb 15th  
Mentor Bron Anderson speaking on the 2018 theme 'Free Indeed'  
For more information contact Bec on 0439 622 224 or join the Echunga MOPS Facebook group  
Read the Term 1 newsletter at <http://echunga.ucasa.org.au/activities/>



**Aldgate Dance**

"developing the skills to succeed & the talent to perform..."

Classical (RAD)  
Jazz  
Tap (CSTD)  
Contemporary  
Body Conditioning

Principal: Nan Iversen ARAD, CSTD (Tap)  
ENQUIRIES  
Phone: 08 8370 8380  
Email: [aldgatedance@me.com](mailto:aldgatedance@me.com)  
[www.aldgatedance.com.au](http://www.aldgatedance.com.au)

Providing quality dance education in the Adelaide Hills since 1977



**Echunga Meadows Youth**  
(Years 6-12)

**-BEACH NIGHT-**

**6:30-9:30PM**  
**9th February**


Bring your friends, bathers, towel and \$5 for fish n' chips

-Check out our Facebook, Instagram, website or contact us for further details & updates-

**MEETING POINTS:**  
Echunga: Wandean ( building next to Echunga Uniting Church)  
Meadows: Back of Meadows Uniting Church

Term 1 Plan coming soon..

**FOLLOW US:**  
f Echunga & Meadows Youth   
[www.echunga.ucasa.org.au](http://www.echunga.ucasa.org.au)

**CONTACT US**   
Rev. Matthew Carrat: 0438 856 167  
Bec Hughes (Youth Worker): 0416076085

## TEAR OFF NOTE

**ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT**  
**FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE**  
**THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY**

If you are intending to come on the night and would like to grab a sausage or two could you please indicate below your family's name and how many sausages you would require so that we can cater correctly. Please return the order to Merridee in the Front Office or email it back to [dl.0123\\_info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0123_info@schools.sa.edu.au) by Friday 16th February. Thank you.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sausages required: \_\_\_\_\_