



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

# 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 2, 11th May, 2018

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### DIARY DATES

#### Pupil Free Days 2018

- Tues 12 June (to be confirmed)
- Fri 29 June
- Fri 21 Sept

#### Assemblies 2018 at 2:30pm

- Mon 14 May
- Mon 4 June
- Mon 25 June

#### Orienteering

- Thurs 10 May
- Thurs 24 May
- Thurs 31 May

Tues 15/5 7:00pm Governing Council Meeting

Tues 15/5-Fri 18/5 NAPLAN Years 3,5,7

Fri 18/5-Mon 21/5 Book Fair

Mon 21/5—Biggest Morning Tea/Special Persons Morning

Thurs 24/5—Mount Barker High School Enrichment Day

Mon 4/6—Healthy Harold Life Education Visit to Preschool

Mon 11/6—Public Holiday

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

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have had a very positive (and busy!) start to Term 2.

All classes have been participating in orienteering with Kay from Orienteering SA. This has been made possible by the Sporting Schools grant. Our first session was a bit wet but the children all had a great time and didn't seem to worry about the weather. Yesterday, the weather was a little better. The students have had a wonderful time and I have received very positive feedback from the Orienteering SA coaches regarding their enthusiasm, positive attitudes, team work and behaviour. We have 2 more sessions in Weeks 4 & 5. It would be a good idea for children to have a change of clothes and a rain jacket just in case the weather is wet.

### Learner Dispositions

For the first half of this term we will be focusing on the disposition of "I am a Problem Solver". The key points for this disposition are:

- ♦ I try different strategies in my learning
- ♦ I keep on trying when something is challenging
- ♦ I take time to think and come up with new ideas
- ♦ I am curious



We would really appreciate parents and families supporting our Learner Dispositions by using the same language at home and acknowledging children when they are using the dispositions.

### NAPLAN



All Year 3, 5 & 7 students will be sitting the NAPLAN assessments in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions & Numeracy next week. All of the tests will be online except for the Year 3 Writing test which will be paper-based. All students have participated in a practice test so that they are familiar with the online platform.

Pam

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Hope Springs Eternal Dog Rescue Visit

Last week we had a visit from Ray & Chris from Hope Springs Eternal Dog Rescue in Mount Barker Springs. They came to thank the students for their donation raised from the casual day on the last day of Term 1. Chris & Ray talked about their rescue and the different types of support they provide to dog owners. It was very interesting. They certainly do a wonderful job and show great compassion for both animals and people. Rosie & Tucker also came for the visit and they were definitely the stars of the day! Rosie was a real socialite and enjoyed the cuddles whilst Tucker was a whizz with the soccer ball.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## LUNCH AND CRUNCH

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April the Lorikeets competed in the 2018 'Lunch and Crunch' volleyball carnival at Heathfield High School. We entered seven teams into the event: Electrifying Echunga, Echunga Eagles, Echunga Scorpions, Echunga Destructors, Echunga Rockets, Planet Echunga and the Echunga Voyagers.

This was a perfect opportunity for our students to meet other children in the area and engage in friendly competition with other schools in the district. The timing of the carnival was perfect as we had just finished a series of school-wide volleyball coaching sessions delivered by Elke Jarvis from Volleyball SA as part of the Sporting Schools Program, and our students were enthusiastic to test their newly developed skills.

Steve and I were so impressed with how the Lorikeets performed, winning an amazing 21 out of 26 games! All of our students had a great time, playing exceptionally well, 'giving it their all' and being great sports. Each of our teams won the majority of their games, with three teams (Electrifying Echunga, Echunga Scorpions and Planet Echunga) being undefeated. It was really inspiring to see how much our students had grown in the sport across the term.

Well done Lorikeets!

Keep up the great work Echunga!

Rowan  
(Physical Education Teacher)



## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed the challenge:

Angus B-M, Oscar, Jorja, Jackson (Rosella); Katya, Max, Daniel, Noah, Tyson (Kingfisher); Cody P (Ibis); and Samara (Lorikeet).

# SCHOOL NEWS

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We are hosting our annual Scholastic Book Fair this month.

Students will preview the books with their class on Thursday 17th May.

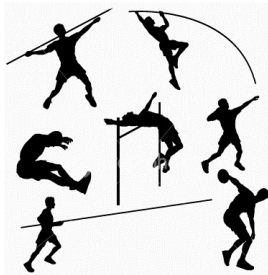
The fair will be open to the Community on Friday 18th and Monday 21st May from 8:15-9:00am and 3:15-4:00pm on both days.

Our school receives a generous commission on all sales, resulting in more books for our students to enjoy in our Library.

The normal Scholastic brochures will not be sent home this week due to the timing of the fair.

If you are unable to make it to the fair and would like to order books via the brochure we will have them available in the Library.

## DISTRICT ATHLETICS



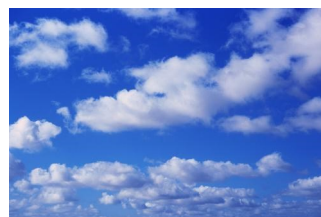
Echunga Primary School attended the Barker District Athletics, held at Oakbank High School, April 11. We had 14 participants from the upper primary who participated in every individual discipline. We as a school performed extremely well finishing 3rd in the district, not that far from the leaders. All excelled and we had a number of students who placed in the finals, with several gaining individual ribbons and some qualifying to represent the Barker Athletics team at the State Athletic Championships.

One of the most satisfying moments for me as a teacher and especially at Echunga Primary School was the Sportspersonship shown by our wonderful students, which was epitomised by a speech from Olivia and Katelyn. They stated, "they were scared and disappointed with their performance". They also added that on reflection they had learnt a lot from experience, that it's OK to feel scared especially trying things for the first time; and that they had done their best and they will try even harder next time!

Well done to everyone, including the great support shown by parents, Steve

## KINGFISHER REPORT

Kingfisher are off to a great start this term, learning about maps, clouds and measurement. We have been joining with Rosella to do some collaborative maths and working with Ibis in the veggie patch. Some of the Kingfisher class members have joined Art Club this term working with Georgie on art projects that will be used around the school to add some colour and excitement to our yard. Last week in PE we started Orienteering with Rowan—we had lots of fun outside in the rain in our boots and jackets. Last term we were focussing on Optimism as one of our learner dispositions and this term we are focussing on being Problem Solvers.





# *The ADVENTURES of Fairy Wren and Rosella*

Fortnightly on a Monday (starting in Week 2) the Rosella Class and Fairy Wren are buddying up to engage in Nature Play and STEM projects.

Week 2's session began by reading 'The Gruffalo' and then the opportunity to engage and explore in the Kindy environment. We saw students work together to build a Gruffalo from nature, engaging in deep conversations about how and what they needed to collect; there was lots of creative thinking. Others chose to utilise the mud kitchen and create some Gruffalo Crumble, and play some ball games.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## NEWS FROM THE FAIRY WRENS AT PRESCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY

The Fairy Wren children have joined a program where used toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and packaging can be sent off for recycling into garden beds, picnic furniture and compost bins. We would like as many people to help us collect these items to save them from going to landfill. We will have collection boxes at various places in Echunga as well as the Preschool and school office. Here is a poster of what can be donated. Thank you

**HELP OUR SCHOOL WIN  
A COMMUNITY GARDEN!**

  
**RECYCLE  
& WIN**  
A COMMUNITY GARDEN  
FOR YOUR SCHOOL



Our school is competing in the Colgate Community Garden Challenge!  
By recycling oral care waste, we're in the running to win  
a recycled community garden set!

### DROP YOUR ORAL CARE WASTE HERETO HELP US WIN

We accept any brand of used:

Toothpaste tubes and packaging, Non-electric toothbrushes and packaging,  
Floss containers and packaging, Interdental brushes and packaging.



You can also vote for us online at  
[www.terracycle.com.au/colgategardenvoting](http://www.terracycle.com.au/colgategardenvoting)

To find out more about the Colgate Community Garden Challenge and  
for full terms and conditions, please visit: [www.terracycle.com.au/colgategarden](http://www.terracycle.com.au/colgategarden).  
If you have any further questions, call TerraCycle on 1800 983 324



# SCHOOL NEWS

## PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you all had an enjoyable break, particularly given that the weather was so nice! The chill is really starting to set in now though!

Last term I mentioned some points from the Resilient Kids Conference I had attended, highlighting the importance of outside play. This week I'm going to touch on the rising concerns around mental health for our young people today.

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg - one of Australia's highest profile psychologists who specialises in children, parenting and mental health – spoke of the rise in childhood anxiety and depression, referring to this generation of kids as 'the most vulnerable generation of young people in Australia'. The recent 2017 Youth Survey Report (run by Mission Australia in which 24000 young people participated), indicated that the top 4 concerns of young people were mental health and stress, school, study and body image. This was the first time, since the inaugural report in 2001, that mental health topped the list. And, although this survey was geared mainly at adolescents, statistics are indicating that as many as 1 in 7 primary aged boys, and twice as many girls, are likely to develop mild to moderate anxiety and depression. There is no doubt that many families and schools are witnessing and experiencing this increase first hand. Anxiety in particular. Anxiety and depression can be crippling and have significant impact on one's wellbeing and quality of life.

Many parents ask Dr Carr-Gregg how to know if their child is doing okay. Some of his key points to look for are:

- ♦ The ability to obtain, maintain and retain friends. It doesn't matter if your child has few or many friends – having solid friendships is a major predictor of wellbeing in kids.
- ♦ Independence from adult caregivers. Are they able to be away from their parents for some time without displaying separation anxiety or distress
- ♦ Enjoyment of school
- ♦ Do they have a spark? A passion? Something which gets them up in the morning? (examples of this may be friends, pets, sport, art...)
- ♦ How they deal with, overcome and grow from adversity. When things just don't go right....



Understanding, spotting and talking about mental health concerns are important steps towards managing it. The Raising Children Network is starting a free 4 week webinar course this week around anxiety - [Anxiety in your family: webinar course | Raising Children Network](#)

Although this starts on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, you may be able to watch a repeat of the first session or follow on for the remaining 3 sessions. I'll be signing up and taking notes!

In the next newsletter I'll give you Dr Carr-Gregg's 'Building Blocks of Wellbeing' – things we as parents can do to enhance our kids' wellbeing and mental health.

Please, if you feel concerned about your child's mental health or wellbeing, see your GP or other health professional.



## SCHOOL/COMMUNITY NEWS

COME AND JOIN...



Tuesday Lunch Time in the  
Art Room with Miss Georgie.

Echunga  
Primary

Visual Art  
Showcase

Term 2 Week 6

Open: After School till 4.30pm  
Monday 4th - Friday 8th June

## COMMUNITY NEWS

FREE DYSLEXIA SEMINAR

**ATTENTION**

Strathalbyn: Monday 28 May  
1pm - 2:30pm

Venue: Strathalbyn Library

Cost: **FREE**

**Register@**

**[www.dyslexia.com.au/register](http://www.dyslexia.com.au/register)**

This Dyslexia Seminar will be 90 minutes of tips,  
insight and practical knowledge about what dyslexia  
is and how you can go about remediation.

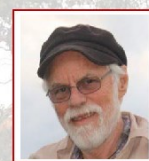
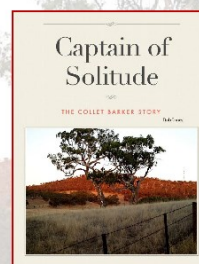
MOUNT BARKER  
COMMUNITY LIBRARY



MOUNT BARKER  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

A Local History Presentation with

**Bob Innes**



Join local author Bob Innes as he  
shares the story of Captain Collet  
Barker, an officer of the 39th Regiment  
in Australia and whom the town of  
Mount Barker is named after.

Bob tells the story of Captain Collet  
Barker and his accomplishments  
in Australia, in particular of his  
enlightened relationship with the  
Aboriginal people he engaged with.

This entertaining evening will include a  
slide presentation and a selection of  
songs performed by Bob.

Tuesday 29 May 2018  
6.30pm – 8.30pm

Mount Barker  
Community Library

Dumas Street  
Mount Barker

FREE EVENT

Tea, coffee & cake provided

Book online: [mbcl-innes.eventbrite.com.au](http://mbcl-innes.eventbrite.com.au)  
or phone 8393 6400



# COMMUNITY NEWS



**KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE ONLINE**

**FREE** PARENT INFORMATION SESSION  
with practical support for families

**Wednesday, 16 May at 7pm**  
Wallis Auchendarroch House, Mount Barker

RSVP: [rebelkhasharkie.com.au/safeonline](http://rebelkhasharkie.com.au/safeonline)

**REBEKHA SHARKIE MP** and *Carly the Ryan* @rebelkasharkie

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Register now to play football with 300 NAB AFL Auskick centres operate in schools and local football clubs across South Australia there's bound to be a centre near you!

YOUR LOCAL NAB AFL AUSKICK CENTRES ARE:

Birdwood FC	Bridgewater FC	Eshunga FC	Gumeracha FC	Hahndorf FC
Ironbank FC	Kersbrook FC	Lobethal FC	Moorleefield FC	Meadows FC
Littlehampton	Kangarilla FC	Mt Barker FC	Mt Lofly FC	Nalme Bremer FC
Onkaparinga Valley FC	Torrens Valley FC	Uraidia FC		



**play.afl/auskick**   