



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 6, Term 3, 31st August, 2018

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## REMINDER

**Monday 3rd September is a School and Preschool Closure Day for families to attend the Royal Adelaide Show.**

**Friday 21st September is a Pupil Free Day for the School only. Wednesday 26th September is a Pupil Free Day for the Preschool only.**

## DIARY DATES

School/Preschool Closure Day for  
Royal Adelaide Show—Mon 3rd  
September

Pupil Free Days 2018  
- Fri 21 Sept (School only)  
- Wed 26 Sept (Preschool only)

Assemblies Term 3 at 2:30pm  
- Mon 17 September

Tues 11 September—7:00pm  
Governing Council Meeting

Tues 25 September—School/  
Preschool Photos

Fri 28 September—End of Term 3  
2:20 pm early dismissal  
OSHC closes 5:30pm

Mon 15 Oct—Term 4 begins

Mon 12– Wed 14 Nov—  
El Shaddai Camp Rec-Year 5

Tues 13-Fri 16 Nov—Canberra  
Camp Year 6/7s.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Can you believe we've passed the halfway mark already this term? It has gone so quickly! They do say time flies when you're having fun 😊

We have had a very busy term already with students being involved in lots of activities. The Ibis class has been making lanterns with Tony Hannan which many of them proudly carried during the Hahndorf Winter Lantern Festival parade last Saturday evening. They worked together well and were great ambassadors for the school on the night.

The Lorikeet class worked with Glen on some poetry workshops and some of the students entered them into the festival's poetry competition. Congratulations to Anna & Aria who both won awards and to Jemima who performed her poem at the festival. How wonderful that so many of our students participated in this community event. Well done everyone!

You may have also noticed that our students' art work was on display at the recent Echunga Community SALA Event.

In Week 8 the Lorikeet class will be working with artist, Wendy Wiley, on a piece of artwork that will be displayed as street art in Stephens Street in Mount Barker. I am really looking forward to seeing what they create.

At the moment the Kingfisher & Lorikeet classes are having a great time designing things that they will then print with the 3D printer we have on loan. Jackie & Georgie are part of a state project enabling our students to design products using Makers' Empire software and then printing them. The results of the project will be shared with other schools involved in Term 4.

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

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Visible Learning

All teachers are working on some research to gauge the impact they are having in their classrooms and how they can improve. There is a focus on using learning intentions and success criteria, giving and receiving feedback and helping students to be able to think more deeply and talk about their learning. We will be sharing our research with other schools in the Partnership at the next student free day on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## Enrolments

We are in the process of working out classes and staffing for next year. Please let us know if your children will not be attending Echunga PS next year (unless they are Year 7s) as this may affect planning. If you know of anyone planning to enrol their children at Echunga PS please encourage them to contact us as soon as possible.

Have a lovely long weekend – stay warm ☺

Pam

## *The ADVENTURES of Fairy Wren and Rosella*

On Monday, Rosella and Fairy Wren students worked together to plant Snow Pea Seedlings in Kindy's garden bed. Rosella have grown these seedlings from seeds. The Rosella students talked with Fairy Wren about caring for the plants' roots and how to carefully plant them in the ground. We look forward to having snow peas to eat.



## Rosella Class



The Rosella Class have been learning about persuasive writing, and with some school and community property being destroyed and disrespected lately... Rosella used this as their topic for writing this week.

Rosella created this shared piece of writing. **Topic:** Why should we look after our school and environment?

We all think, that we should care for our school and environment, because we don't want to hurt the animals or plants. They are special to us, they are living things and we don't want them to die.

We don't want our school to break because we like our school in Echunga. It makes us sad that people are breaking things, because we like to have them and we care about them.

It is ours, so we should care for it, or we won't have any safe play stuff. We need to care for our things and animals, because they're special to us and we don't want to hurt them. We don't want anyone to come in and hurt or break our things, because it's not theirs to break.

We are caring for eggs and we would be sad if anything happened to them, we want the chickens to grow.

We need to look after our school, and our class and other people's classes because otherwise they might break and then we won't have a school anymore and it will take a long time to make a new one. That costs a lot a money and we might not have the money and then we would have to go to another school and that would take a long time to get there.

Please don't take trees out of the ground, they are living things and we planted them.

Please don't break our things, we care for them. We need to show our school some respect.

Please don't pull out living things, or take things without asking and getting the school's permission.

We are saying stop we don't like it – we don't like it when you hurt our school.



# SCHOOL NEWS

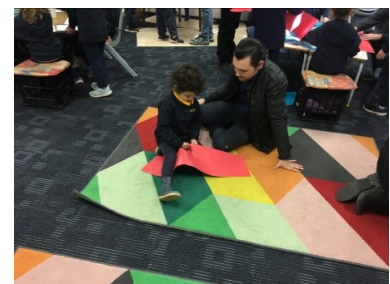
## RECENT EVENTS



## Splash Theatre Performance



## Fathers Day/ Special Persons Breakfast





# SCHOOL NEWS

## Book Week 2018 'Find Your Treasure'



# SCHOOL NEWS

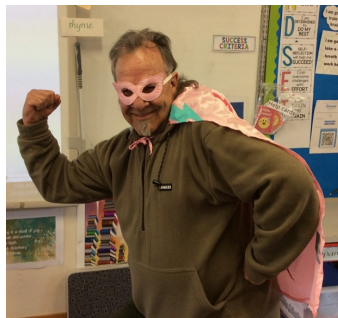
## My Super Dad

He is super kind and awesome.  
He lets me watch YouTube.  
He believes in me.  
He takes me to awesome places.  
He calls me a legend.  
He never hurts me.  
He always helps me when things are on my mind.  
He gets me great presents.  
He cheers for me when I play football.  
He practises football with me.  
He helps me face my fear.  
He always tells the truth.  
**That is why my Dad is the best Dad.**  
**love from Austin**



## Super Grandpa!

My Grandpa gives me money. He helps me.  
He is my Super Grandpa.  
He drops me at volleyball.  
My Grandpa tells me Stories  
We go to the playground  
Me and my grandpa go and have Fun  
We go outside and he tells me some  
Good things.  
Thanks for being my Super Grandpa!  
Love from Cody





# SCHOOL NEWS

## COMMENTS FROM THE PRESCHOOL CHILDREN ABOUT OUR CFS EXCURSION

**Cameron:** My favourite thing was talking on the walky talky. I said: there's a fire at Echunga Preschool! We learnt *Get down low and go, go, go!* The black rug was the smoke and we learnt Stop. Cover. Drop. Roll!



**Alice:** When there's a fire you call 000! When there's smoke you have to move air through you for your lungs so they wear a helmet and thick clothes.



**Lachlan:** The best bit was when we were spraying the water. We were trying to knock down the emergency cone with the water. You pull the hose for the water. Tia Sue put the helmet on and she looked like a racing car. They had food in the box on the fire truck.

**Oliver:** There's a chainsaw in the truck to chop trees that might have fallen on the road. You call 000. I loved climbing in the fire truck. Tia Sue dressed up in their uniform. My favourite thing was spraying the hose because I nearly got my dad!

**Alex:** I liked the microphone, Cameron was talking on it. If there's smoke you get down low and go, go, go. To call the fire engine you dial 000. The fire fighters didn't put their boots on because they were stinky. I tried to knock the cone down with the hose. I liked everything.



**Grace:** We played with the walky talkies. We pretended there was a fire and we bended down and go, go, go! You ring 000 when there's a fire or someone's hurt. We got to turn the siren on. The best things were the walky talkies, going on the fire trucks and playing with the hose.



**Raf:** One of the teachers dressed up like a fireman! It was funny. I climbed on the truck. They have a chainsaw. The black rug was the smoke. We had to go go go! The best bit was spraying the hose. It was too hard to knock the cone over. I jumped in the puddles.

**Amelia:** I liked doing the hose. I sprayed the cone down and I even splashed the tank! We played *Get down low and go, go, go.* I talked on the walky talkies. They had food for if they get hungry and thirsty.

**Jack:** My favourite thing was squirting the hose. You hold the hose and pull the lever and spray the water at the cone to try and knock it over. My other favourite thing was looking at the old stuff like the red helmet. I got to use the walky talkies and I said: we'll be there right away. There was steps up on to the fire truck but the water smelled like carpet – it smelled so bad! The number you have to call but only when there is a bad fire at your house is 000. When smoke is in your hallway you get down low and go go go!



**Taylor:** I liked when we were talking the microphones – the walky talkies. And I liked going on the fire truck. We sprayed the fire hose trying to knock the cone over and the CFS person said let's try and get on the roof but I couldn't. I got to wear a helmet. It was funny when Tia Sue dressed up as a fireman.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## HAHNDORF WINTER LANTERN FESTIVAL

This term the Ibis class were lucky enough to be invited to make lanterns for the festival in Hahndorf. Over the first five weeks of this term students had the opportunity to work with Tony and Evie to create a lantern using bamboo, grease paper and cellophane. Students showed creativity in their designs, persistence when things didn't work, they then became problem solvers and had to work out how to adapt and change their ideas so that the lantern was a successful design.

On Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup> we had a large group of students attend the lantern festival to showcase their lanterns and parade them through the main street of Hahndorf. Students did a wonderful job of representing our school and sharing their learning with the wider community.

Thank you to the parents, grandparents and especially the students for participating in a wonderful community event.





# SCHOOL NEWS

## IBIS YOGA

Every Thursday afternoon, local yoga instructor Pat Rothe conducts a forty minute yoga and mindfulness lesson with our class. The children are learning how to control their movements and increase their balance and flexibility.

They practise moves such as downward dog, butterfly and the frog and end the session with relaxation and reflection, enabling them to focus on slowing down their thoughts, their breathing and creating a state of calm.



## POETRY AWARDS

Anna and Aria were lucky to win awards for their poems, shown below, at the Lantern Festival on the weekend.

### **By the Warm Fire**

Written by Anna Burford

Cold heavy rain, almost hail  
Rugged beneath a blanket.  
Whispering sisters, listening to music.

### **Stuck in a World I Never Asked to Be In**

Written by Aria Lyons

All I see is darkness, emanating from the small box surrounding me.  
I cannot see the sky.  
Hear the music of the universe.  
All I hear are my silent, unheard cries for help.  
I envy other who live in flowing freedom, whilst trapped in everyday routine.  
Perhaps my silent cries for help, might one day be heard.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Many parents ask parenting expert Michael Grose how to develop responsibility in their kids. I'm **all ears** when it comes to this topic!! My kids do not do a great deal to help out at home and even when I ask them nicely, offer bribes, cajole them or make *irresistible deals*, they do an awful lot of moaning and groaning!! So I often just do it myself!

According to Michael, the answer is simple – give them responsibility! Let them feed the family pet, empty the dishwasher and clean up the living room at the end of the day. Most kids rise to a real challenge when it's sincerely given and backed by realistic expectations. We tend to give responsibility to the kids who don't need it – the 'easy' kids. But we often ignore those in our family who really would benefit from having some trust – the difficult kids - those that require following up. Sometimes the extra parenting work they require can seem all too much.

### Michael Grose's 5 tips for promoting responsibility in your kids:

1. Start from an early age. Children as young as three are keen to help out and take some responsibility. Too often we dissuade them, saying they can help when they're older. Train your kids from a young age to *make a contribution* so it becomes habit-forming - remembering that not every child will help equally. If your children are school-aged, start with a few jobs each day and gradually increase the number.
2. Give kids responsibility that scares or surprises you. Get your 4-year old to unpack the dishwasher - plates and all. Have your 5-year old help her younger sibling with breakfast. Assign taking out the garbage to your 10-year old with **zero** reminders! In most cases kids will rise to the challenge set by their parents. Give your child something that makes you think "NO WAY! He can't do that!" You might be surprised!
3. Make sure the responsibility is real. Setting the table, making beds and tidying rooms are jobs that benefit others. Rather than giving kids jobs because you think it's good for them, give jobs that others rely on. This teaches them that their help is needed.
4. If a child forgets then **no one else does the task**. If a child doesn't empty the dishwasher, it's still there when they come home from school. Sounds tough but that's how the real world operates. Emptying it yourself makes it your responsibility. When we're time-strapped it may seem easier to do kids' jobs for them. This is okay once in a while as we help each other out in families. However, if you are always doing a child's job then it may as well be yours.
5. Use a roster. This has the advantage of placing responsibility onto kids and takes you out of the picture. Remind them to check the roster, not to do their jobs! It's a subtle but important difference.

Michael ends by saying that many parents call this type of responsibility 'jobs' or 'chores'. He prefers to call it 'help'. It may be just a little rewording, but it better reflects what it's essentially about.

I'm wondering if number 2 has you on edge already!! It does me! But I'm willing to give it a go! (maybe using plastic plates ).

Good luck! I'd love to hear any feedback!

Take care,  
Karen

# Important Information for all OSHC families

### **OSHC Accounts, Invoices and Software**

As many of you are aware, we have been experiencing many issues with our new software provider, from incorrect data being returned from Centrelink to incorrect calculations on invoices (and very long – 9 page invoices) which are difficult to read....even for me!

As I only get 10 hours of admin per week to do everything including programming, documenting and assessing children's learning against the National Quality Standard, assessing our service against the NQS and ensuring we comply with the many regulations, policies and laws we need to follow, to writing reports for different government agencies, cleaning the OSHC room, shopping for food and resources etc, attending Hub and Director meetings, plus so much more - there is not much extra time to do anything else.

So I have been spending ALL my admin time plus a heap more of unpaid hours just using the software to do bookings, cancellations, and sorting out all the mistakes. Some of the issues we have, have been the same as the other OSHC services in the hills who changed providers to comply with CCS.

I have been actively looking for another software provider along with four other Directors' of Hills OSHC services. We finally found one yesterday that we are all very happy with and we will be transitioning over soon. It will take quite a few weeks to transition, so please be patient a little bit longer.

If you need more information please come in and see me in OSHC.

### **October Program**

As I have been dealing with the above issues our program will be out one week later. It will be available from next Wednesday (Week 7).

### **Seesaw**

We are in the process of setting up Seesaw in OSHC. All enrolling parents and carers will be getting a permission form and QR code. Please come into OSHC if you don't have yours yet.

Seesaw is another great way that we can communicate with families and share in their child's journey and time in OSHC.

## **BEDWETTING**

For information on all the causes of bedwetting and an outline of the treatment options available to cure the condition please see the Bedwetting Institute® website.

[www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au](http://www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au)



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## September Connections - Echunga Uniting Church

Sunday services 10:00am including creche and children's programs.

Details of connection points for all ages in the Echunga community are listed below. Programs meet in Wandeen (next to the church building) unless otherwise stated. Visit our website for further details - [echunga.ucasasa.org.au](http://echunga.ucasasa.org.au) or contact Rev Matthew Carratt on 0438 856 167.

## Father's Day Bacon & Eggs

Bacon and eggs will be on offer at 9:30am before our service this Sunday. Gold coin donation. From 10:00am our young people will lead the Father's Day service and share some of their recent experiences. All welcome.



## MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Thursday June 28th, 9:30-11:30am

Guest speaker Jessica Duke from Sands on supporting a friend through pregnancy loss

Craft: Pebble magnets

For more information contact Bec on 0439 622 224 or join the Echunga MOPS Facebook group

## Echunga & Meadows Youth Events—Ages 11-18

\* MasterChef Night - Friday 14th 6:30pm-9:30pm, \$5. Team mystery box challenge cook-off

\* Escape Room - Friday 28th 6:30-9:30pm, \$3

RSVP to Bec Hughes (Youth Worker): 0416 076 085

MEETING PLACES: Echunga Uniting Church OR Meadows Uniting Church

Follow us at [facebook.com/hillsyouthgroup](https://facebook.com/hillsyouthgroup)

## Coffee Mornings @ Echunga General Store

Ladies Coffee - Tuesday 4th 10:00am

Men's Coffee - Wednesday 19th 9:30am

## Craft, Cuppa & Cards

Meeting each Wednesday from 1:00pm. Bring along your own craft or come to play cards or board games. \$2 a week. Contact coordinator Valerie Trim on 0407 602 800