



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 3, Term 1, 7th March, 2019

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REMINDER

Tomorrow, Friday 8th March is a Pupil Free Day. The school and OSHC will be closed.

Tuesday 12th to Friday 15th March is swimming at Woodside for Reception to Year 5 students.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Well, here we are at the midpoint of Term 1! They do say that time flies when you're having fun. ☺

This week we are welcoming Rachel Stevens, our new Pastoral Care Worker. Rachel is very excited to be working with us and is looking forward to getting to know students, families and staff. I know that our wonderful community will welcome Rachel and make her feel at home.

Most of our staff will be spending Friday with Mark Le Messurier and Lockleys Primary staff for a workshop on "What's the Buzz?" This is a program that fits well with our Positive Education values. It helps our young people to develop social skills and emotional and social intelligence.

From the "What's the Buzz?" website:

"What's the Buzz?" helps develop skills to:

- *optimistically interpret human differences*
- *improve social connections; greetings, exiting, social feedback and social referencing*
- *begin and maintain relationships and friendships*
- *identify and work with one's own emotions*
- *develop empathic 'mind-reading' capacities*
- *identify and constructively respond to behavioural dominance; put-downs, trash talk, bullying and cyberbullying and trolling*
- *self-regulate emotions more productively*
- *appreciate self-awareness and self-identity*
- *Navigate tricky social situations more positively and resiliently.*

DIARY DATES

Fri 8th March—Pupil Free Day

Mon 11th March—Public Holiday

Tues 12th-Fri 15th March—
R-5 Swimming at Woodside

Wed 13th March—7:00pm
Governing Council Meeting

Wed 27th March—Lunch &
Crunch Volleyball at
Heathfield H.S.

Fri 29th March—Yr 3-5 Living
Safely with Pets
Yr 6-7 Visit to Mount Barker
H.S.

Fri 5th April—Yr 6-7 Aquatics at
Murray Bridge

Fri 12th April—Lorikeet
Sculpting Workshop

Skoolbag app

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

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And while absorbed in this skill-building, we give children the chance to grow steadier emotions and better behaviours.

Teaching social and emotional literacy, continuously, is a highly effective way to benefit our relationship with, and between, students. All human beings, no matter their age or circumstance, profit from being methodically taught social and emotional literacy skills and being in an environment where these are nurtured.

We now know that when young people are unable to attach to peers or feel isolated, they are more likely to be at risk from behavioural turbulence, mental health difficulties and have a greater tendency for future anti-social behaviour.

We are all looking forward to the day with Mark and to developing these skills in our students.

Pam

Uniform - friendly reminder

We are in the process of updating our uniform policy. In the meantime I would like to remind you that jewellery is generally not allowed to be worn at school with the exception of a watch and stud or sleeper earrings. Please save any other items of jewellery for evenings and weekends. Whilst we are very proud of our students' involvement in community sport, football or netball jumpers are not a part of our uniform and we would appreciate these to be saved for sporting events.

Learner Dispositions

Developing powerful and effective learner dispositions is important for our students to be successful in their learning.

We have five learner dispositions that were developed by staff and students last year:

- ◇ I am Optimistic
- ◇ I am Reflective
- ◇ I am Brave
- ◇ I am Creative
- ◇ I am a Problem Solver

These are explicitly taught in our classrooms and are referred to regularly as part of teacher practice.

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.

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PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Hi Everyone,

My name is Rachel and I am your new Pastoral Care Worker, or PCW for short. A little about me, I am a wife to Andy, a fur mum to Noah our spoodle puppy, an (enthusiastic) artist, a budding seamstress, a good listener and have been working with kids for over 10 years. I have been a PCW before for just under 5 years at Kidman Park Primary School (on the flats), but have also worked at OSHC, been a private nanny, a Youth Pastor at a Church and volunteered with kids since I was 16. I also have a degree in community development, majoring in anthropology and community empowerment practice, and am about to finish my masters from Bible College SA, where I did a lot of courses on understanding culture, cross cultural communication, other faiths, ethics, and pastoral care.



I am so excited to be joining the team here at Echunga Primary School. My role means that I am here to provide care and support to students, staff and parents to see the whole community thrive. Part of my job means I will be working one on one with students or with small groups from time to time. If you would not like your child to participate in these activities, make sure you keep an eye out for the permission form coming home in the next week. If you would like to get in contact with me to see how I could support you and your family here's how:

- ◆ In Person: Pop in on a Tuesday or a Thursday
- ◆ Email me @: Rachel.stevens842@schools.sa.edu.au
- ◆ Phone: call the front office and leave a message for me and I will get back to you.
- ◆

I can't wait to meet you all,
Rachel Stevens

THE BIG BOOGA AND WHY WE WASH OUR HANDS EXPERIMENT

All kids go through a phase where they love to pick their noses. It's as inevitable as the sun rising and paying taxes. However, this is an unhygienic practice as our nostrils contain loads of germs. Generally, these germs are fine living among our boogas and are harmless provided they reside in our nostrils. However, under certain conditions, they can be very, very harmful outside of the nostrils. Also, our hands are covered in germs, which can also be harmful under certain conditions. That is why it is important that we develop and maintain good hand hygiene practices by correctly washing our hands.

To discover how many germs can be on the finger we stick up our nose as well as on our dirty hands, the students in Rosella, Kingfisher, Ibis and Lorikeet undertook an interesting experiment. The purpose of this experiment was not only to investigate the germs that live on us, but also to encourage students to wash their hands correctly and to not pick their noses.

One student in each class put the fingertips of a dirty (unwashed) hand in a petri dish of agar (a nutrient rich jelly-like substance used to grow bacteria for study in experiments). The index finger of this hand had also recently picked their nose. Another student washed their hands with soap and water, dried their hands and then placed their fingertips in a petri dish of agar. Finally, a different student sterilised their hands using alcohol-based sanitising gel and then placed their fingertips

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in a petri dish of agar. Each dish was labelled with a letter for the class ('R' = Rosella, 'K' = Kingfisher, 'I' = Ibis and 'L' = Lorikeet) and the level of hand washing ('dirty', 'washed' and 'sterile'). The petri dishes were sealed to prevent contamination and left out for 4 days to allow bacteria to grow. They were then placed in a fridge to slow the growth of the bacteria so we could distinguish different growths.

Our results are shown in the photographs below (the yellow circle is the where the finger from the nose was pushed into the agar):

Rosella (front)



Rosella (back)



Kingfisher (front)



Kingfisher (back)



Ibis (front)



Ibis (back)



Lorikeet (front)



Lorikeet (back)



As can be seen from the petri dishes, dirty hands and 'booga' fingers harbour a lot of germs. We also discovered that if you sterilise your hands correctly (like the students from Ibis and Lorikeet did), you can eliminate the germs on your hands. Unfortunately, we discovered that we are all doing a very poor job washing our hands, so we watched a video on correct hand washing practices and then practiced this in class.

Rosella News Term 1 Week 6

Rosella have been learning and discussing the brain and what our brain can do.

After reading, 'The Fantastic Elastic Brain', students wanted to learn more about the parts of the brain and what they are responsible for. We continue to extend this learning further by having conversations and exploring how we can strength-



We can stretch our brains by:

Amelia: don't give up and keep on trying.

Sophia: never give up

Jack: learning new stuff

Chloe: keep on trying

Lachlan: thinking how to write words

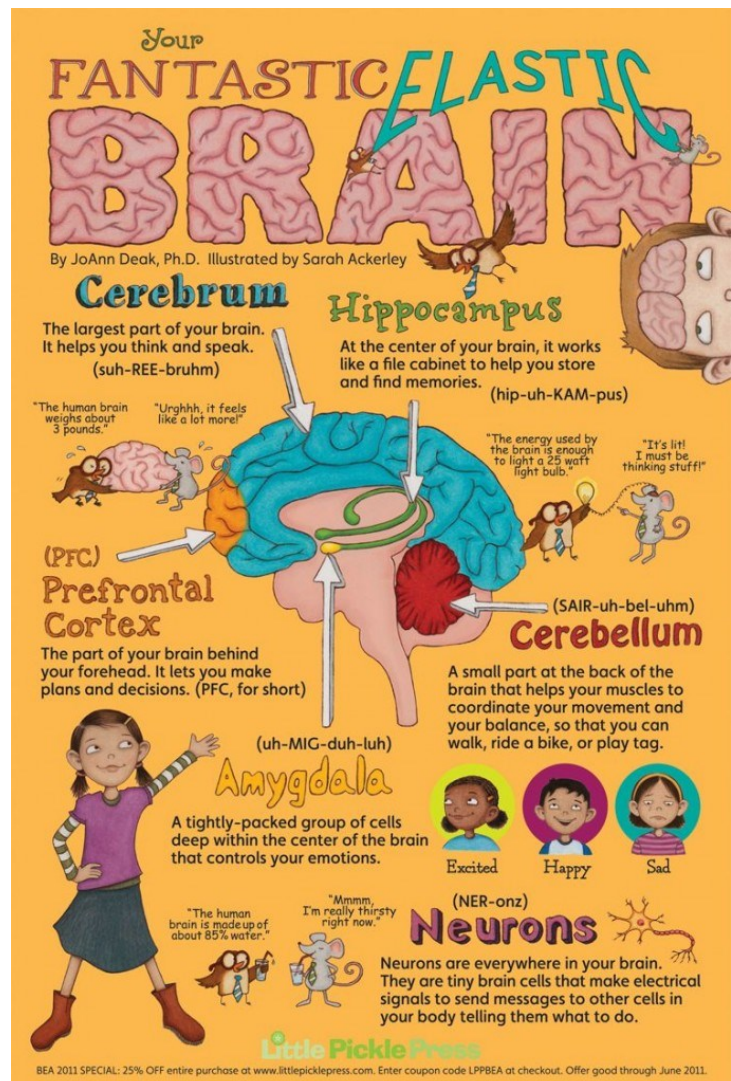
Archie: keep on trying and you will get better

Angus: Never give up, Even if you can't do it, Keep on trying. If you give up your brain wont grow.

Alex: never give up

Tara: I keep trying

Bailey: make mistakes! it will



Here are the different parts of our brain and what they do.

Ibis News

We have had an excellent start to the year in Ibis! We have been focusing on the school values and our learner dispositions, and have developed a positive learning community with a Growth Mindset culture. We have been having a lot of fun along the way!



Learning Pit Posters

'When you learn you go through the Learning Pit. People can help you get through it' – Charlie

'You can move through the Learning Pit by asking for help or thinking of other ways to solve the problem' – Gemma



Growth Mindset Wall

'If you have a Growth Mindset you don't give up when things get hard' – Kym

'Having a Growth Mindset is useful because you can get better at things' – Jayden

Sammy the Sustainable Scarecrow

In Design and Technology, we are building a scarecrow that will be entered in the Mount Barker Show on the 23rd of March. Our scarecrow's name is Sammy the Sustainable Scarecrow. Sammy is being made out of natural, recycled and donated parts, with limited plastic. It has been a bit of a challenge so far but we are working through it together!



This is the design process we are following. We are up to the 'Create' part.

1. Ask – What is the problem? Are there any challenges?
2. Imagine – Brainstorm ideas and pick the best one!
3. Plan – Make a list of materials and draw a labelled diagram.
4. Create – Follow your plan. Test it! Does it meet the goal?
5. Improve – Did it work? Can you make it better? What could be done differently?
6. Share – Is the problem solved? What changes need to be made? What do others think?

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LORIKEET NEWS by Ada, Maddi, Kate and Tabby

Sports Captains

Last week we voted for our sports day captains.

Our Kuitpo captains are Tabitha and Jaxen and vice captains are Finley and Ruby.

Our Battunga captains are Katelyn and Liam and vice captains are Maddison, Austin and Alice.

Our Jupiter captains are Stephanos and Mia and vice captains are Maddy and Tristan.

We also have a new thing this year. We have school captains. They are Finley and Tabitha and the vice-captains are Ada and Stephanos.

Our vice-captain for Kuitpo and school captain Finley said, "It's good being captain and I like being a good role model for other kids".

Genius Hour

Every Wednesday before lunch we have an hour of free time called genius hour. First we have to set a goal and then we have to accomplish it. Some of the ideas students have been exploring include making book gardens, Aquaponics, Macramé, Painting, baking cakes, making sushi and some have been coding using Scratch. Maddy D says: "I have been enjoying genius hour. It's lots of fun! I am cooking a cake".

Brain Games

For the past few weeks, we have been watching a show called 'brain games'. It is about little games that trick your mind. Imogen said, "It's a good challenge for your brain and they really make you think and you are surprised by the answer" After you have a good look at what your brain is seeing (How our brain is being tricked) they tell you and explain why your brain is making you see that way.

Try it! ->



Makers Empire

This term we have been designing using Makers Empire. Makers Empire is a program on the computer that you can make things on and then you can print it in 3D. We have chosen groups to work in and we have made things that we need around the school and in the Lorikeet classroom. Here are some examples about the things that we have made: Plant pots, magnets, rubbish bins, basketball hoops, earrings and kids' dominos. This is what Austin H said about Makers Empire: "I'm in a group with Tristan and we are making dominos for the younger kids. I enjoy Maker's Empire because you can design your own unique thing".

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FROM THE LIBRARY...

Book sale

Thank you to everyone who bought a book or two at our Booksale. There will be another Booksale in week 9.

Harmony Day

Celebrated on Thursday March 21st, Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background. Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day, so wear something Orange and celebrate Harmony Day.

Donations

The Library is looking for donations of games in good condition for the children to play before school and lunchtimes, when the weather is wet. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and can be left at the Library desk.

Premiers Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Emily, Hayley, Chloe, Jack, Henley, Cyra and Max who have already completed the Challenge.

Further information about the Premiers Reading Challenge is available on this website <http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au>

Until next time, Happy Reading

Sue 

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAYS



URRBRAE

AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN DAY

FOR PROSPECTIVE YEAR 8 STUDENTS

TUESDAY MARCH 19TH 2019

2 hour programme (9.30 - 11.30am or 1.00 - 3.00pm or 5.00 - 7.00pm) includes Application Information, Farm Tours and School Tours

Students wishing to enrol at Year 8 level in 2020 and their parents are invited to attend. Parking on the School Oval with access via Gate "C" off Cross Rd. Proceed to the Gym.

- Urrbrae is a Special Interest School which offers a comprehensive curriculum including Agricultural Studies.
- Selection for enrolment is based on the student's interest in Agriculture, the Environment and Technology
- Application Packages available from March 19th
- Enrolment applications close 5pm Wednesday May 1st

505 Fullerton Road, Netherby, SA, 5082
Ph: (08) 8274 7455
d19796.admin@schools.sa.edu.au
www.urrbrae.h.s.sa.edu.au



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Open Day

For prospective students

Wednesday 10th April 2019
9:00-11:00am and 5:00-8:00pm

Principal's address and school tours during opening times

We specialise in:

- Girls' Education
- Gifted and Talented Program (GIFT) Academic
- Gifted and Talented Program (GIFT) Dance
- STEM Collaborative Inquiry

Kyre Avenue, Kingswood, South Australia 5062
Phone: +61 8 8272 8233
Email: d19933.info@schools.sa.edu.au
www.mitchamgirls.h.s.sa.edu.au

A girls' school | A public school | An unzoned school
Achieving Academic Excellence

Parent Information Evenings

Thinking of enrolling your daughter in an all girls' school?

Mitcham Girls High School is an outstanding public school that is unzoned.

We welcome interested families to join us at any of the following locations, from 6:00-7:00pm, to hear more about our wonderful school.

Wednesday 13th March
Mitcham Memorial Library
131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

Wednesday 20th March
Woodcroft Morphett Vale Neighbourhood Centre
175 Bains Road, Morphett Vale

Wednesday 27th March
Payneham Community Centre
374 Payneham Road, Payneham

Tuesday 2nd April
Mitcham Girls High School Performing Arts Centre
Kyre Avenue, Kingswood



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