



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 9, Term 4, 13th December, 2019

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DIARY DATES

Fri 13 Dec—Last Day of Term 4.
Early dismissal 2.20pm. OSHC
closes at 5.30pm

Tues 28 Jan—Term 1 begins

Mon 3—Fri 7 Feb—R-5
Swimming at Woodside Pool

**Thurs 20 & Fri 21 Feb—Pupil
Free Days**

Tues 24 & Wed 25 March—6/7
Aquatics at Port Noarlunga

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.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Well, here we are, at the end of another school year. It seems to have flown by! It has been a very busy year with a wide variety of experiences including: a fantastic camp at Arbury Park; aquatics for the year 6/7s; swimming; Echunga's Got Talent; Book Week Parade; Footsteps dance lessons; Tarnanthi excursion; enterprise; our art exhibition; Hahndorf Winter Lantern Festival; Mount Barker Pageant and the list goes on.

Thank you to all of our amazing staff for their dedication and commitment to student learning and wellbeing this year. I believe our students have grown in so many ways during the year.

Our parent community has also been very busy with a wide range of fundraising activities, such as a stall at All British Day, and Bunnings BBQs. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fundraising events and those who have helped out in other ways to benefit our students.

End of Year Celebration

Our end of year celebration last week was a wonderful tribute to the school values and learner dispositions. I was so very proud of the students' efforts in their dance performances. You wouldn't have noticed but many of our students were challenged by performing in front of so many people but they put on an amazing show. Well done everyone! We also celebrated the Year 7 students who are graduating from primary school. Our Year 7s did a great job. They spoke so well and acknowledged the people who had helped get them to this stage. They then did a modified speech at the Year 7 graduation dinner this week. We are all so proud of them. We wish them all well on their next adventure into high school.



SCHOOL NEWS

Staffing

I am pleased to be able to advise you of our staffing for 2020:

Reception	Kayla Richardson
Year 1/2	Teena Wilks
Year 3/4	Kimberley Higgins
Year 5/6/7	Jackie Norris (4 days) & Georgie Patti (1 day)
The Arts & Technologies	Georgie Patti
Preschool	Libby Thornton and Helen Taylor
Admin	Merridee Stevens
Library	Sue Little
Student Support	Amanda Correll & Jo Rosenthal
Grounds	Rob Kelman

We are very excited about working with your children again next year and I know that teachers are already planning some exciting learning.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and peaceful New Year.

I hope you have a wonderful festive season with your families. See you in the New Year.

Pam

MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGE AND RECOVERY

Governing Council has approved the Materials and Services Charge for 2020 at \$300.

100% of families who voted to support Governing Council's recommendation to increase the legally recoverable amount to a "prescribed sum" of \$300, agreed to the charge. This means that in the event of non-payment the school is able to chase the full amount of \$300 through debt collection.

Invoices will be sent home to families the first week back at school. Payments can be made by EFT, cash, cheque, credit card or by direct debit and must be completed by the end of Term 1.

Families who are eligible for School Card need to apply each year. If eligible for School Card no fees will be payable for that year. Please see the information about applying for school card on the next page.

APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL CARD



All types of School Card applications
will be available online from
13 January 2020

You can access the online forms from any device that gets internet, including mobile devices, such as tablets and smart phones, as well as laptops and computers.

Applying online is easy! Simply follow the steps below.

- STEP 1** From 13 January visit sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard
- STEP 2** Select the type of School Card you would like to apply for (for example 'Type A') and follow the prompts.
- STEP 3** Complete all mandatory fields.
Please note: you cannot proceed to the next page unless all mandatory fields are complete.
- STEP 4** Once you have completed a page click on the 'NEXT' button.
- STEP 5** Once you have filled out all pages click the 'SUBMIT' button.
Please note: if you exit the form without clicking 'SUBMIT' your details will be lost.

You can save the form, and return to complete it at another time, by clicking on the 'SAVE' button.



sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard

Rosella Class

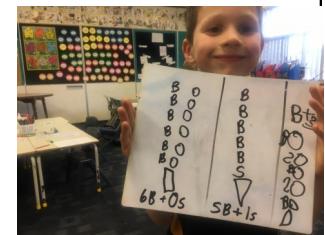


Term 4 has flown by, here are just a few snaps of things that have happened over the last few weeks.

New experiences



Buddy cooking and Gardening



New learning



Nature Play



Bowls



Mount Barker Christmas Pageant

Thank you to all our students, families and staff who joined us on our float in this year's pageant. It was a great turnout and we loved recognising familiar faces in the crowd.

Thank you to Anthony and Kate Bezzina, of AllTrends Auto Group, who kindly drove our float, and the Bernhardt family for loaning us your hay bales, as well as Sophia, who helped create costumes and decorations for the float. Our float looked amazing and it was a lot of fun!



Tarnanthi

On Friday the whole school went to visit the Tarnanthi Exhibition at the SA Art Gallery. Students explored the permanent collections, as well as the Tarnanthi collection and even came home with their own art that they created in the studio. Students showed great appreciation for the art and made strong connections and conversations about the artwork with their own ideas and thoughts.



One of the displays was interactive. If you stood still enough the fish would swim around you.



This art work showed us the lifecycle of a turtle and was made from shells and rib



So much wool was used for this art, students utilised different view points to appreciate this artwork



Governing Council 2019

A big THANK YOU to all our families support and help with our fundraising this year. This year we hosted All British Day, Bunnings BBQs, Special Lunches and more. We ended the year with a total of \$7361.14 in our fundraising account. A big thank you goes to Glen, who was our fundraising co-ordinator for the majority of the year.

Governing Council will have \$5,861.14 in there fundraising funds at the start of 2020, and have committed to buying some new stage blocks for the hall. We also have \$6,500 in our 'developing the play space' fund. We will be looking to create a working group in 2020 who will support GC and EPS staff in adding to our play spaces in the near future.

Governing Council fundraising goes towards supporting our school, preschool and playgroup community. With our first 2020 major fundraiser being 'All British Day' on Sunday February 9th, please let us know if you are able to help us out on the hot dog stall.

Wishing you safe and happy holidays with your family.




ECHUNGA PRIMARY AND PRESCHOOL

**ALL BRITISH DAY
HOTDOG STALL
FUNDRAISER**

Sunday February 9th 2020

Volunteers needed - we'd love for you to put your name down now!!! See roster on Facebook Page 'Friends of Echunga Primary School'

The poster features a red and yellow background with illustrations of hot dogs and a bun.





ECHUNGA PRIMARY AND PRESCHOOL

**LOOKING FOR
2020 GOVERNING
COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Joining the Governing Council is a great way to be greater involved in the school community.

AGM TO BE HELD IN TERM 1 WEEK 3

Chat to a current GC Member or staff to find out more about GC -to register your interest, please email Merridee.

The poster has a red border and a white background.

SCHOOL NEWS

THANK YOU FROM TIA SUE

My heartfelt thanks to everyone for my recent awesome 'farewell, retirement' assembly and afternoon tea.

It was a very special moment to see the items the children had prepared from songs and poems with so many kind words and gifts from the children, community and staff. As I watched and listened to the items, I could remember something special about each and every one of the children who had attended the Preschool, while at the same time also being amazed at how much they had all grown since the last time I saw them!

Thank you to all of the parents I spoke to, before the assembly, at the assembly and after the assembly, including one family who had travelled 3 hours from their new home to be there (how amazing is that)!

It was lovely also to catch up with current and former staff members and share some memories of our times together.

It has been an absolute privilege to work at and be a part of Echunga Primary and Preschool which has the most delightful children ever, with an equally, incredibly supportive parent community and a dedicated and hardworking staff to match.

My ten years at Echunga did go very fast but I feel like I have so many fantastic memories that will last me for a very long time when you consider the unique fresh perspectives of a preschool child you get to experience on a daily basis.

One such beautiful and endearing conversation went something like this;
"Tia Sue, Tia Sue, I've looked everywhere, but *I just can't* find those paper cages." After a few questions, the light bulb went on and I realised the child was looking foran envelope!

I may have retired from my everyday teaching at Echunga Preschool, but such is my continued connection to Echunga Primary and Preschool, you may just see me back now and then for some relief teaching days.

Warmest Regards,
Tia Sue

SCHOOL NEWS

PASTORAL CARE WORKER NEWS

Hi all, I can't believe it's the end of the year! It has been an amazing first year for me and I wanted to thank you all for being such a welcoming community to come into. It's been a joy to be here and I am very excited to be coming back next year. However, I won't be coming back alone, next year the school will start a mentoring program called KIDS HOPE, which originally started through World Vision.

KIDS HOPE AUS is an early intervention, school-based mentoring program that has been operating in Australia since 2004. The program aims to develop emotional and social resilience in children, and so enhance their capacity to learn. The model is built on a long-term partnership between a local school and a local church. Carefully screened and trained mentors from the church meet the children for one hour per week at the school. Over 10,000 children have been matched with mentors in primary schools all around Australia. The results show us that the program changes lives.

KIDS HOPE AUS is a registered 'Quality Assured Program' with the Australian Youth Mentoring Network, and it meets or exceeds the national mentoring benchmarks. An evaluation by Griffith University concluded that, "KIDS HOPE AUS is reliable and easily implemented – the clear program of choice for many schools. It is valued by parents and, most importantly, it is making a difference to child wellbeing"

I am really excited to have members of our community volunteering time to connect with students. Students will be matched with mentors based on interests and personalities and will spend the time connecting and having fun. Last newsletter I spoke about the importance of empathy and connecting, having people come in 1 hour a week to listen and connect with one child is a really special gift and I think it will be a great program. Michelle who has been helping out this year in the Garden with Kingfisher will be one of the mentors as the children work at Echunga Uniting Church along with others. We will have more info in the new year but until then I hope you all have a great break filled with love, joy, peace and hope.

From Rachel your PCW



COMMUNITY NEWS



Give life. Give blood in Mount Barker

31 December - 3 January



Mount Barker
Mobile Blood Donor Centre
St Mark's Lutheran Church
35 Hampden Road



Hills Fleurieu

Woodside Pool Party

Friday, 17 January 2020
10 - 17 years 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Adelaide Hills Community Pool - 8 Nairne Road, Woodside

Places limited. Tickets available online from
Monday, 6 January 2020 at www.trybooking.com/580827

FREE event



ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE ENVIRONMENT
POLICE SUPERVISED/LOCK-IN EVENT



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
HILLS FLEURIEU POLICE ON 8398 1752

