**News from the Principal**

**NAPLAN**
Congratulations to every year 3, 5 and 7 student who completed the NAPLAN tests last week.

The students had to maintain stamina to stay on task for at least 40 minutes, they received only allowable minimal support and had to rely on what their knowledge and growth mindset to complete the tests on their own.

I was very proud of our students and look forward to receiving the NAPLAN reports in term 3.

I also sincerely thank all parents and caregivers for encouraging their children to complete the tests. Children will face many challenges in their lives and we have to make sure they tackle them with confidence and support.

**RENMARK EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP REVIEW**

The site leaders from the DECD sites in Renmark, Renmark Primary, Renmark West and Renmark North Primary, Renmark Children’s Centre, Renmark West Pre-School and Renmark High School, met with a senior executive team from Adelaide and our new Education Director, Mr Con Kouvaniaris, on Tuesday. Together we reviewed how our partnership is working together to ensure all students receive a high quality education and progress well.

It was a very valuable review, highlighting the great practice in our schools and identifying areas as an education partnership and community that we need to keep working on.

Resilience is an area that our schools are all working to improve. We want every student to be able to face challenges confidently and understand how to work through them rather than giving up.

The Renmark Arts Program, highlighted in our last newsletter is one way we are addressing that together, through the Arts.

Another wonderful event for our whole community will be held late in September. Andrew Fuller, a renowned Australian psychologist who works in the area of building the resilience of young people, will be coming to Renmark to work with staff and students. He will also speak to members of the Renmark community in an evening session, particularly about the vulnerability of our young people as shown in the data from the Resilience Australia survey completed by all year 5 and 6 students in our three primary schools, late last year. This will be a great event and we will provide all details as they are confirmed.

Andrew Fuller is a fabulous presenter; he is very down to earth, has a great sense of humour and his workshops are fantastic. You won’t want to miss it!!

**CYBER SAFETY PARENT SESSIONS COMING UP SOON**

Following a request from our Governing Council to hold parent information sessions about children’s Cyber Safety, Renee Smith, our School Counsellor is currently organising this, hopefully for later this term. Dates and details out very soon.

It is very important for parents and children to understand the risks involved with using Social Media, sometimes children are involved in activities that have the potential to be very unsafe; they don’t recognise the risks so we have to make sure we are all as well informed as we can be.

The benefits of safe use of Social Media are amazing and we want children to experience them in a safe and supported environment.

**CAR PARKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

Parents, caregivers and anyone who drives children to and from school, **cannot park on school grounds, including in staff car parks**. Staff car parks are also definitely out of bounds to children at all times unless staff are supervising.

Many parents and children are in the school before and after school and during the day and we don’t want anyone’s safety compromised by cars being driven in and out of the school.
National Volunteers Week

Carol and Tahlia reading together...

Last week, staff and students celebrated National Volunteers week with a special assembly to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who give up their time to help our students succeed. By having volunteers in our school, we are able to offer students wood work, gardening, reading, cooking, mentoring and LAP programs which could only happen through the generous support of our volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in our school, please see Rachel or Sarah at the front office for a volunteering pack.

GIVE HAPPY LIVE HAPPY

Growth Mindset...

What it means to us...

Students are continually learning how to have a growth mindset. We want to teach our children to have a growth mindset. As teachers, we don't just want our students to be successful... we want them to enjoy the journey to success. We want them to be successful for all the right reasons. We want them to be resilient in achieving success and handle any setbacks on the way gracefully. And when they are eventually successful, we want it to bring them deep satisfaction and fulfilment.


Five Quick things you can do to help develop a growth mindset in kids: (Wonder of Children, 2011)

Ask open-ended questions to solve a problem or achieve a goal. “What do you think will happen if...” or “Why do you suppose...” These questions build logical thinking skills and often lead to rich discovery.

Use specific feedback that identifies what the child accomplished. What small steps led to a larger outcome? Be supportive when your child attempts something new. It might not be the way you’d try to solve a problem, but if it works, acknowledge it honestly and without judgment. It brings a child great satisfaction to say, “I did it myself!” Skills that build persistence simultaneously allow children to feel confident and independent. When frustration rears its head, offer an encouraging word about what steps worked well.

Encourage kids to take a risk. Watch and listen to your child so you can take cues about what else they are ready to tackle. Gently nudge kids to use what they know to try something just a bit out of their reach, but yet developmentally appropriate. By offering small but achievable challenges, confidence and persistence emerge.

Be persistent and growth-orientated yourself. Narrate your thoughts as you try something new or frustrating. Your child may even be able to offer some helpful tips. This allows children to see we all have to work hard to solve problems and we all continue to learn new things.

Don’t sweat the small stuff. Accidents, and mistakes happen. Show your child that there’s something to be learned when we don’t achieve what we set out to accomplish. Maybe someone else lends a hand. Maybe you return to the task at another time. Maybe break things down into smaller steps. Be specific about what worked, identify the emotions involved, and offer encouragement for the next time.

For more information of this, please see the following links: https://wonderofchildren.wordpress.com/2011/07/21/5-things-you-can-do-to-encourage-a-growth-mindset-in-kids/

National Walk Safely to School Day

Don’t forget- this Friday, 22nd May, is National Walk Safely to School Day!

Staff will meet students either at the Skate Park or Malhi Mini Mart at 8.15am.

Once students are safely at school, the Parent Group will provide a healthy breakfast for us all.

We hope to see you there!
Pupil Free Day

Week 6 – Friday 5th June
OSHc is available.
Please phone 85864481 for bookings

Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that the Breakfast Club will be held every Thursday from 8.15-8.45 am in the kitchen. Any coin donation helps!

School lunch orders

Are on Fridays – orders need to be in by 9am on Thursdays.

Walk to School Day

TOMORROW!! Friday 22nd of May!

Seen page 2 for details about how to get involved!

Boat Licence Evening

A Boat Licence Night will be held on Monday 15th of June in the Renmark Primary School Resource Centre at 7.00pm. Interested persons can ring the school on: 8586 5737 to make a booking.

Cost will be $35.00, payable before the night. Handbooks are available from the front office.

You will need to bring the following:

- I.D., e.g. passport or birth certificate
- driver’s licence
- Medicare card
- a pen.

Students under the age of 18 are to be accompanied by a parent and need to bring:

- I.D., e.g. passport or birth certificate
- driver’s licence
- parent’s Medicare card
- letter from their teacher on school letterhead, indicating they attend the school.
- a pen.

Sharyn Robinson, Convenor, Fundraising Committee

Chaplaincy – Renmark High School Inc.

Please support Renmark’s Pastoral Support Workers;

Pammy Main - at the Renmark High School and Maria Dowzard - at the Renmark Primary and Renmark North Primary Schools

By attending our AGM on Monday 25th of May at 7:30pm in Maria’s Room at the Renmark Primary School – near the Dental Clinic (will be sign-posted or see Front Office for directions).

- Come and hear about their wonderful programs
- Give us ideas for ways to continue to support them
- Enjoy a tasty Supper

Ellen Traeger
Chairperson

Lorraine George
Secretary

The Hook in 2 Hockey program is for 5-10 yr olds.
Renmark Hockey Club’s Hook in 2 Hockey sessions have just started for this year (7th of May). They are held every Thursday during the term from 3:40pm at the RHS COLA (near the Chaffey Theatre car park). For 10 weeks. It is free! However you will need to register your child through our website www.renmarkhockey.com.au Any questions please contact Rebecca Keynes (0407087016) or Laura Strout (0429953495)

Down to Your Last Beans???
What’s On

**Dates to Remember**

**TERM 2**

**Week 4**

May 18 PUPIL FREE DAY (Monday)
22 Walk to School day
22 Festival Choir cluster practise (Berri T/Hall)

**Week 5**

May 25 SAPSASA Netball/Football State Carnival
26 National Sorry Day

**Week 6**

June 1 Assembly 2.40pm, in the Hall
4 SAPSASA State Cross Country - Oakbank
5 PUPIL FREE DAY (Friday)

**Week 7**

June 9 PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Queen’s Birthday
12 Riverland Tackle Rugby Carnival

**Week 8**

June 15 Governing Council Meeting, 6pm in the Meeting room
17 Yr.7’s Pop Stars 90s – Chaffey Theatre 11:30am

**Week 9**

June 22 SAPSASA Soccer & Hockey Carnival
26 Amalgamation Official Opening - assembly at 1:50pm in the Hall

**Week 10**

June 29 Festival Choir cluster practise (Berri T/Hall)
July 2 SAPSASA District Basketball Carnival

**TERM DATES 2015**

Term 1 January 27 – April 10
Term 2 April 27 – July 3
Term 3 July 20 – September 25
Term 4 October 12 – December 11

**Community Notes**

National Karate Academies Renmark - at R-7 Hall on Wednesdays (enter from 19th St. Renmark). Phone Jeff on 0417 938 076.


Renmark School Dental Clinic – Phone 8586 6403.
Emergency nos. when clinic closed: Berri 8582 1969 or Waikerie 8541 2434. See Dental Clinic notice board for important information regarding clinic services, dates open and emergency details.

Guitar Mania – Free Guitar lessons for 5-10 year olds and their parents in Term 3 & 4, Wednesdays, 3.30-4.00pm. Bookings are Essential. See notice board for details or phone Wendy on 85866063.

Kids’ Club is where children can have fun while learning new skills. Light meal provided. Gold coin donation per child. Kid’s Club held at R-7 Hall on Fridays 4-6pm for chn. aged 7-13yrs.
Info on school notice boards. M. Dowzard,

Renmark Junior Golf Coaching Clinics - For children 5-17 years. Friday’s at the Renmark Golf Club, 4.30pm-5.30pm. All equipment supplied.

Song Birds with Hayley Ramsay - Songbirds is a singing school in Renmark offering lessons to primary and high school students who love to belt out a tune! For more information, call Hayley on 0417899373 or search for Songbirds on Facebook.

Take home a big brother or sister - Give your children the wonderful experience of having an international ‘big brother’ or ‘big sister’ by hosting one of our exceptional, carefully-screened international students for a 3, 5 or 10 month program. Arriving in July 2015. Visit us on Facebook or at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 to request a booklet of international students.

Renmark Hockey Club
Hook In2 Hockey for children aged 5-10 is free!
RHC’s accredited coaches will run Hook In2 Hockey sessions on: Thursdays 3:40-5pm at the Renmark High School COLA.
Contact Laura Strout (President) on 0429953495 or email renmarkhockey@gmail.com Visit our website and like us on Facebook to find out the latest news.
Creative Education Partnerships: Artists In Residence Project - Renmark Arts Partnership

All year 6 students from Renmark Primary, Renmark West and Renmark North Primary Schools are participating in the Renmark Arts Program (RAP) delivered by two artists in residence, Stu Nankivell, a digital artist and a performing artist, Claire Glenn. We hope that funding will continue for these students in year 7 and year 8. The goal of this program is to develop and increase student resilience. The students are producing a short film to enter into Junior Tropfest early in Term 4.

Hazal interviewed Stu Nankivell, Digital Artist

Q: What do you enjoy most about RAP?
Stu: There are so many things I enjoy, that I find it tricky to pick a single aspect. I love sharing my industry experience with the students, as well as making my industry software and production equipment accessible. I also love being surprised by the students – I’m constantly thrilled, amazed or amused by the ideas they come up with, so there’s never a dull moment. Lastly, it’s great to work with Claire, as I’m always learning new skills from her – I think we bring a diverse, yet complimentary range of skills to the classes.

Q: What do you hope to do in the future?
Stu: I certainly hope I can continue to working here in the future as it’s very rewarding. I also hope I can continue to work in the fields of animation and visual effects – it’s complicated and very labour intensive work, but a great way to earn a living.

Grace interviewed Claire Glenn, Performing Artist

Q: How are you enjoying your time at our school?
Claire: I like coming to Renmark and meeting people there. It’s good to see students challenging themselves and stepping out of their comfort zone. Also watching the creativity of students coming alive.

Q: What lead you to where you are now?
Claire: I have always thought of building my own youth theatre. I have performed and produced all over the world, although I’m not yet rich and famous. I have worked with many young people in workshops and theatre.

Some activities enjoyed by Year 6 students
Stop Motion, Acting/Performing, Monster Drawing, Crime Scene, Zombie Chairs.

Student Comments

You have to learn to work as a team.
I love acting.
It’s fun and interactive
You can learn how to use technology
It’s a great way to express yourself and to develop quick thinking.

Kirra and Cameron using editing software
Caseylee, Shaelea, Teneisha with Claire writing the script