NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT DISCUSSIONS 16-27 February

A very important part of building positive relationships between the school and families is ensuring opportunities are provided for parents and teachers to meet and discuss teaching and learning for their child.

Parent-teacher-student discussions provide this opportunity, so I encourage all parents and caregivers to make a time with their child’s teacher. Teachers have sent all information home and hopefully parents have returned the slip to the teacher with 3 available times.

Parents would have also received a sheet where they record some information about their child to bring to the discussion.

This information sharing is so important; building positive relationships with students starts with knowing their interests and strengths.

We hope to see all parents at this very important first discussion.

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL

DECD requires all volunteers in schools, including classroom helpers, Parent Group members, Governing Council members, special event helpers, to have a DSCI Criminal History Screening and complete the Responding to Abuse and Neglect training for volunteers.

Many parents, grandparents and others attended our recent Responding to Abuse and Neglect – EC training last week. Thank you very much for coming along. Thank you also to our School Counsellor for running this session. More sessions will be run throughout the year.

The school will cover the cost of the Criminal History Screening; at the moment clearances are taking 8-12 weeks so you will need to get this done as soon as possible.

Please come to the office for more information.

DECD EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW

All DECD schools will undergo an external review. Our external review is 7th – 9th April, in the last week of this term.

Mr Rob Harkin, the Review Officer and Mr Matthew Saunders, the Peer Review Principal from Roseworthy Primary School, will be in our school examining student data, talking to parents, students and staff.

The five focus areas of the Review are:

• Student Learning
• Effective Teaching
• Effective Leadership
• School and Community Partnerships
• Improvement Agenda

More information through Governing Council and newsletters.

RENMARK ARTS PROGRAM (RAP)

Our year 6s started RAP on Tuesday and loved their sessions.

Two sessions during the day are run by Sara from RYT and Stu Nankivell, Animation, Video Production for Web & TV, Graphic Design, Web Development.

This fortnightly program will continue this year and hopefully into yr. 7 and 8. The program aims to build resilience and confidence through Performing and Digital Art.
In Science it is important to be able to collect, collate, display and analyse data. During the first 2 weeks of school we collated data about the students at our school. We discussed the data not being 100% correct as some students were away when the data was collected, it depended on whether the correct information was given by students and how some people see things differently to others e.g. blonde or light brown hair. The graphs below have been collated to show the whole school but we have other graphs displayed at the end corridor near the Science Rooms showing individual class data. (Note: the graphs on ages and male/females is taken from school office data making it more accurate)

Chris Blanden-Teakle and Alli Ingerson
The students from Room 1 – Room 12 discussed what forensic scientists do. We took our own fingerprints by putting graphite on our fingers from a pencil rubbing and placing sticky tape on top to lift the fingerprint.

We also measured body dimensions like an anthropometrist would to try to solve a crime. Did you know that your arm span is the same as your height? Below are Room 9 students measuring each other.

Figure 2: Inderdeep removing the sticky tape from his finger. Can you see his fingerprint?

Figure 3: Jake analysing his fingerprints. Are they a whorl, loop or arch?
Throughout the year students will be engaging with the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC). The teachers delivering the program have received explicit training in the Curriculum. It is a Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) responsibility under the Children's Protection Act (1993) and the Child Protection in Schools, Early Childhood Education and Care Services policy to ensure that effective abuse prevention programs are implemented and that all children and young people have access to the approved child protection curriculum. Although parent permission is not required under the Education Act (1972), we encourage parents/caregivers to seek further clarification if required and to provide the teacher with any relevant information about their child that could alleviate any concerns.

The KS:CPC is an evidence based, best practice curriculum developed collaboratively with child protection specialists, teachers, educational leaders and other professionals. It covers a range of concepts including new additional material on contemporary issues such as bullying and cyber safety. The KS:CPC is divided into 5 documents specific to the year level of the students plus 2 additional documents for educators working with students from cultural or linguistically diverse backgrounds and for students with disability.

There are 2 main themes:
We all have the right to be safe
We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust

There are 4 focus areas:

**Years R-2**

The right to be safe
- feelings, being safe, warning signs, risk taking and emergencies

Relationships
- trust and networks, rights and responsibilities, use and abuse of power

Recognising and reporting abuse
- names of parts of the body, recognizing abusive situations and secrets

Protective strategies
- practising protective strategies, persistence.

**Years 3-5**

The right to be safe
- exploring the concept of safety, reviewing the concept of warning signs, unsafe situations and acceptable risk taking

Relationships
- understanding rights and responsibilities, trust and networks, developing personal identity, power in relationships

Recognising and reporting abuse
- privacy and names of parts of the body, recognizing abuse, neglect and unsafe secrets, internet, telephone and media safety

Protection strategies
- problem solving and keeping safe, review of networks.

**Years 6-9**

The right to be safe
- safety and risk taking, warning signs and emergencies

Relationships
- rights and responsibilities in relationships, power in relationships, bullying as an abuse of power

Recognising and reporting abuse
- recognizing abuse, identifying abuse and neglect, electronic media abuse

Protective strategies
- problem solving strategies, network view and community support

The KS:CPC fits primarily within the Health and Physical Education learning area of the Australian Curriculum but can also be incorporated across other Learning Areas. Within the Health and Physical Education curriculum two focus areas Relationships and Sexuality, and Safety outline the learning.

**National Ride to School Day 13 March**

Renmark Primary School will be celebrating Active Travel Day on **Friday 13th March**. We encourage students and their families to leave the car at home and experience the benefits, ease and fun involved in walking and wheeling to school. Teachers will meet students at the Skate Park or the Parade Mini Mart and walk, ride, skate or scoot safely to school.

**Harmony Week**

In 2015, we celebrate 15 years of Harmony Day. It is a special day as we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. This year, we will celebrate Mon. 16th – Fri. 20th March. The lower primary and years 2-5 will have their activities on Tues. 17th March, and upper primary on Wed. 18 March. Lunch time activities in the Resource Centre and Hall will be run by House Captains and Student Leaders. They will run our special assembly at 12.25. Students are encouraged to wear orange on Thursday 19th March.

During this week, we will recognise National Day of Action against Bullying, with classes learning how to take a stand against bullying and how to be ethical and reasonable on line.

If you would like to help in Harmony Week, work with classes on specific cultural activities, have a current Criminal History Screening and RAN-EC training, please contact Renee Smith.
In Room 11 & 12

We have started the Arts this term. The year 6’s have been involved with the RAP program through RYT with Mrs Sluggett and the Year 7’s have started drama with Mrs D. Yesterday was our first day.

We had a ball practising mirroring skills, performing short role plays and learning about our spatial awareness!!

At the End of the Week 1, the upstairs classes went to the skate park for a few hours. They had a sausage sizzle and the opportunity to interact with others from our four classes.

We had a great day and would like to thank the parents and helpers who helped cook the sausage sizzle! What beautiful weather we had too!

Natural Maths

Maths has changed over the decades, from chanting out times tables, solving algorithms from the blackboard and test day on Friday.

Ann Baker, an Australian based teacher and researcher works with students and teachers to unlock the mystery of maths so it is engaging, powerful and meaningful. Last year some classes worked with Ann Baker and the school will continue to implement Natural Maths strategies across the site.

There are 3 parts to a maths lesson; mental routine, problematisation/skill development and reflection. Each fortnight we will share what this means and looks like in classrooms.

As a family you may like to be involved in the ‘Problematisation of the Fortnight’. As a family you can work through the problem and show a range of strategies for solving the problem e.g. draw a picture, use the ‘Secret Code’, algorithm. Hand in your strategies on a piece of paper with your names on it, and place in the entry box at the front desk. We will share various strategies in the next school newsletter.

**Problematisation #1**

Mrs. Bretag froze the Family Fun night sausages because it was cancelled due to the heat. She froze 405 beef sausages and 122 veggie sausages.

- Did Ms Bretag order enough sausages for 260 people?
- Were there enough for everyone to have 2 sausages each?
- How many loaves of bread will need to be ordered if there are 22 slices in a loaf of bread, 1 sausage per slice?

Regards Mrs. Wainwright – Numeracy Coordinator

Reminder:

**Apokries /Carnavale Parade**

Friday 20th February At 10:30 a.m

Under the Shelter.

Children can wear a mask or dress-up for the Parade.
Circle of Security
A Relationship Based Parenting Program

We are all “hard wired” to feel secure. This need for secure relationships is ‘built-in’ to our most important interactions throughout every hour of every day. This 4 session course is ideal for mothers, fathers, significant others, parents to be, grandparents, foster and adoptive parents or anyone that is providing care for children.

This course will cover:
What your child’s behaviour might mean
How to help your child organise their feelings
How to help your child feel secure in their relationships
How to help your child engage more in play and learning
How to support you in your role as a parent when times are tough
How to support your child in managing difficult behaviours: tantrums, attention seeking, clingyness.

When: Thursdays, April 23, 30 and May 7 and 14.
10.00am to 12.00pm.
Where: Relationships Australia (SA) 9 Kay Ave, Berri
Cost: Free
For booking or enquiries Contact:
Traci-Lee at Relationships Australia (SA) Phone: 08 8582 4122

Fruit Donations
Thank You to those parents/families who have donated fruit. The children love their crunch and sip.
If anyone has excess fruit /vegies, donations are always much appreciated.

Riverland SAPSASA District Swimming Carnival
The event takes place at the Loxton Pool on Friday 27th February 9.30 – 1.30pm.
This event is open to all students born 2005 -2002. Students need to be competent swimmers and can compete in all four strokes: freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke. Parents are responsible for transporting their own child to the pool.
Swimmers who are successful on the day are invited to join the Riverland SAPSASA Swimming team.
If you wish for your child to be involved ask them to see Mrs Hueppauff for a note regarding this event.
Beth Hueppauff
PE /SAPSASA Co-Ordinator.

SONGBIRDS SINGING SCHOOL
Director - Hayley Ramsay
Songbirds is a singing school in Renmark offering lessons to primary and high school students who love to belt out a tune! Director Hayley Ramsay has a degree in Music Theatre and has performed her self-devised cabarets in Adelaide, Melbourne, and Edinburgh.
No experience required!
Search for Songbirds on: facebook
For more information, call Hayley on 0417899373

Fundraising Committee members wanted!
If anyone is interested in joining our Fundraising Committee we would be delighted to have you.
We have a short meeting once a term in the Primary School meeting room, from 3:45 pm to organise events that raise funds to benefit our students.
If you would like to be involved please contact our Fundraising Committee Co-ordinator, Sharyn Robinson at the Primary School.

RENMARK PRIMARY SCHOOL – OFFICIAL

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS ARE DUE IN ON THURSDAY’S – Ready for delivery on Friday’s.
What’s On

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 8586063.

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.

Renmark Music & Movement – For babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers & their carers. Mondays 9:30-10:30am at the Renmark Uniting Church Hall. $2 a family per session. Contact Laura Strout for more information on 0429 953 495

Berri District Youth Club (Gymnastics, Acrobatics & German Wheel) - 2015 Registration Day Saturday 21st February 10am-2pm. All current members must re-register to maintain their placement. BBQ lunch fundraiser, Club Shop open for uniforms, training gear and accessory purchases. If you are unable to attend please call the head coach Jane McFarlane ph: 0400 179 899 to secure your spot.

MILO in2CRICKET Program
MILO in2CRICKET is the national grass root program for cricket in Australia, with the aim of introducing kids aged 5-8 to the great Australian game. Your nearest Centre/s will be run at, Renmark Primary School, starting Thursday 5th February at 4:30pm. By registering and paying for the Program not only will you enjoy some great cricket fun this term but every registered child receives an in2CRICKET Participant Pack. To find out more details about your nearest Centre and to register for this season, log on to www.in2cricket.com.au and type in your post code.

Renmark Olympic Soccer Club
2015 Player Registrations. To register online go to and follow the prompts at. www.myfootballclub.com.au Payment can either be made online or a cash payment can be made at the soccer club on Wed. March 4th between 4pm and 6pm. For further information please contact the club Registrar Kerryn Van Dyk on 0408 169 532

FFSA
FREE Junior coaching clinic held on Saturday the 21st of March at Steve Poutakidis Soccer Grounds. Ph: Tina on 0412680042 or see notice board for details.

Marsters Games
Dates are 26th – 29th of March. Registrations close 6th of March. Contact 1800 242520 or go to www.claremastersgames.com.au

Loxton Craft ‘n’ more Fete
Anglican Church Grounds – Edwards St Loxton. Saturday the 28th of Feb 10am to 3pm. Entry is Gold coin donation.

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

What’s On

Dates to Remember

TERM 1

Week 4
Feb 17 Parent Teacher Discussions
Feb 20 Yr 6. RAP

Week 5
Feb 23 SAPSASA Swimming Carnival, Loxton
Feb 25 Assembly, 2:40pm in the Hall

Week 6
Mar 2-6 Swimming Rooms 1, 2, 15-19

Week 7
Mar 9 Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
Mar 10 Yr 6. RAP
Mar 10-13 Swimming Rooms 3, 5, 6, 10
Mar 10 Safe Internet Day
Mar 13 National Ride to School Day

Week 8
Mar 9 6.00 Governing Council AGM
Mar 16-20 Swimming Rooms 9, 11, 12
Mar 16-20 SAPSASA State Softball
Mar 16 Governing Council Meeting, 6pm in the meeting room
Mar 18 Camp Quality Performances 9.15am, 10am
Mar 19 Harmony Day Celebrations
Mar 20 National Day of Action Against Bullying

Week 9
Mar 24 Yr 6. RAP
Mar 27 Year 7 Leadership Day

Week 10
Mar 30 SAPSASA District Football/Netball-Berri
Apr 3 Good Friday Public Holiday

Week 11
Apr 6 Easter Monday Public Holiday
Apr 7 Yr 6. RAP
Apr 8 SAPSASA District Cross Country-Berri
April 10 End of Term Dismissal, 2:30pm
Fact Sheet for Parents/Caregivers

What is the Sports Vouchers program?

The Sports Vouchers program is a State Government initiative administered by the Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS). It is an opportunity for primary school age children from Reception to Year 7 to receive a $50 discount off sports club/membership fees. All families with eligible children in South Australia will receive a letter through school (or home if home-schooled) informing them of the Sports Vouchers program and how it works. Sport providers can then offer a $50 discount on fees and subsequently be reimbursed by the Office for Recreation and Sport.

What can the $50 be used for?

Each eligible child can access a $50 voucher which can be redeemed to offset the cost of membership fees for participation in a minimum 10 week sports program. The discount cannot be used for equipment purchase or a one-off ‘come and try’ type event.

When will the program start?

The letters will be sent to schools during weeks 2-4 of Term 1 2015. Sport providers will register to be involved from November 2014. You will be able to claim your $50 subsidy at any time until 31 December 2015.

Who is eligible?

Children who are residents of South Australia. Children who are at Reception to Year 7 age during the 2015 school year. Note: only one $50 subsidy can be claimed per child per year.

Who are the providers?

Incorporated not-for-profit sport clubs and registered businesses affiliated with State/National Sport Organisations are eligible to register for the Sports Vouchers Program. Sport providers will need to demonstrate that they comply with the Children’s Protection Act 1993 and provide a Child Safe Environment. Registered organisations will also be subject to random audits of membership, financial reporting and Child Safe Compliance Statement.

Which sports will be included?

The Sports Voucher can be used for fees associated with any sport recognised by the Australian Sports Commission. Organisations for people with disabilities recognised by the Australian Sports Commission are also eligible.

What do I need to do?

Once you have received your letter, follow the instructions on how to search online for providers in your area or in the sport you are interested in. There will also be information on how to gain free access to computers and the internet via SA public libraries. Then take your Medicare card (or Australian Visa if you don’t have one) to a provider registered with the Sports Vouchers program to receive your $50 subsidy. When registering your child with a sport provider you will need to provide the following information:

• Name, age, date of birth, address
• Ethnicity
• Gender
• Information on whether your child has played sport previously
• Medicare number (or Australian Visa if no Medicare number is held)
• Confirmation that you consent to share this information with the Office for Recreation and Sport
• Confirmation that you have not previously claimed a Sports Vouchers $50 subsidy with another provider for the same child.

For further information on the Sports Vouchers Program please email SportsVouchers@sa.gov.au
PARENT GROUP 2015

• Want to be more involved with Renmark Primary School?
• Want to enjoy doing some fun projects with your child’s school?
• Do you have fun creative ideas you would like to see in action?
• Would you like to be part of helping with activities at school?

♥ SPECIAL LUNCHES, FUNDRAISING, RAFFLE TICKETS, GARDENING, MOTHERS DAY, FATHERS DAY, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, WALK TO SCHOOL DAY LUNCH, FRUIT DAYS.....

Who is responsible for all of these great activities and projects?

PARENT GROUP!!!

If you are interested in joining, or just want to find out some more, please return the slip below to the school office and someone from Parent Group will contact you.

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Please contact me; I am interested in finding out some more about PARENT GROUP at Renmark Primary School.

Name: ___________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________________________________________________

Child’s Name & Room Number: ___________________________________________

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