



Port Wakefield Primary School Newsletter

Learning Respect Honesty Teamwork

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Dates to Remember:

Tuesday 28 th February 2017	Pancake Day
Thursday 2 nd March 2017	SAPOL visit – Cyber Safety Presentations
Friday 3 rd March 2017	Upper Primary Parent Information session - 9.30am in staff room
Mon 6 th and Tues 7 th March 2017	Junior Primary “ZooSnooze” Camp – Adelaide Zoo
Wednesday 8 th March 2017	Pupil Free Day
Monday 13 th March 2017	Adelaide Cup - Public Holiday
Tues 14 th March - Fri 17 th March 2017	Term Time Swimming - Week 7
Tuesday 21 st March 2017	Harmony Day Governing Council Meeting – 5.30pm in the staff room

Kimochi Presentation / Open Classrooms & Annual General Meeting

On Monday night we had our Kimochis Parent Information session with Michael Edgecomb, our open classrooms and our Annual General Meeting.

There were limited families who attended these events which was disappointing; however we knew that some families were involved with Little Athletics and a netball meeting.

We congratulate Wendy Amos for continuing as our Chairperson, Sandra Smith as our Vice Chairperson. We welcome Brett Dodd as our Secretary, and our Treasurer is Jo Jesnoewski, who was our secretary last year.

Our Finance Committee consists of Bronwyn Ruciak (Kindergarten Director), Lynne Pycroft, Jo Jesnoewski and myself.

Many of our parents have volunteered to be on committees and at our first meeting in March we will ask for more volunteers for our Grounds and Fundraising committee.

After our next meeting we will publish the names of the people who are on these committees. If you are interested you can come along to any of our Governing Council meetings, please join us!

The Annual Reports were presented from the Kindergarten and school and the information was shared by the Parents who attended.

If you would like a copy of the report for 2016 we have some available in the office for you.

The Governing Council approved the school's Pupil Free Day for Wednesday 8th March 2017 and also the Kindergarten's for Tuesday 14th March 2017.

Arrival at School

We have noticed some students' arriving at school with no parent supervision from 8.15am onwards. Can you please make sure that your child/children do not arrive at school until 8.30 or after this as we have no staff on duty before 8.30 am Thank you.

Premiers Reading Challenge

It has been pleasing to see so many children already reading books for the Premiers Reading Challenge and we are wondering who is going to complete reading 12 books first? The challenge is on !!! 😊

Reminder

Some children do not have a drink bottle at school and we ask if you can supply one for your child/children (named please) so that they have ready access to water within their classroom.

Also another reminder that children are not allowed to have soft drinks at school and we encourage healthy eating for recess and lunch.

Growth Mind Sets

It has been great to hear students' using their growth mind sets by saying things like “I am going to have a go at this”, “I can try new things” etc. as this helps children develop a growth mind set.

Growth Mind Set is a belief system that suggests one's intelligence can be grown or developed with persistence, effort and a focus on learning. We are



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also telling students that mistakes are valuable- mistakes grow your brain! It's good to struggle and make mistakes.

As a Parent giving your child/children positive messages such as "you can do this, I believe in you", is invaluable for their growth.

You will notice that in all the classrooms we have displayed some "think bubbles" to encourage students' to have a positive growth mind set, with sayings such as "if I get it wrong I'll have another go. I know when I've reached my target and what to do next". Please have a look at these sayings and at home and support your children by encouraging them to try different things and be persistent with the task.

DECD Hat Alert

Can parents please check to make sure that if their child/children are wearing a jumper that has drawstrings in them that they are removed as they may cause an accident to your child.

We would also prefer that children not wear "hoodies" to school as they could be a safety issue as well when children are playing.

Also if they have a broad brimmed hat that the cord is removed as there has been a few incidents that you may have read about in the paper that affected children where the cord became caught in playground equipment. This type of broad brimmed hat is not sold at our school; we only have bucket hats as part of our uniform for sale. None of our school jumpers etc. have drawstrings on them.

Attendance

Currently our attendance rate for this term is at 96%, which is a great start to the school year. Please remember that if your child is absent from the school can you please notify us via SMS message, phone call or a note in their diary/communication book about them being absent.

Regular attendance at school is very important for their learning and friendships. So if possible when planning holidays etc. please try and limit the amount of time children will need to miss school. Thank you.

Education Act reform – Have Your Say

The draft [Education and Children's Services Bill 2016](#) has been released by the government for public comment. The Bill recognises the important contribution that parents make to children's education and development. Attendance provisions have also been strengthened. To find out more about the changes and provide feedback, visit the [YourSay website](#) by **Friday 10 March 2017**.

Student Leaders

Last Friday, students were elected by their peers and staff to the Student Representative Council, School Captains and Peer Mediators. Congratulations to everyone who was elected.

School Captains - 2017



SRC Representatives – 2017



Peer Mediators - 2017



School Values Awards

Principal's Award

Week 3



Week 4



Congratulations to the following students for receiving the Principal's Award,

Values Cup

Week 3



Week 4

No award presented

Well done to the MP class for winning the Values Cup

Uniform Bear

Week 3



Week 4

No award present

The UP class won the Uniform Bear for week 3.

HAPPY Birthday!



Class Values Awards

Week 3



Week 4



Term Time Swimming

We will be swimming in Week 7 from Tuesday 14th of March until Friday 17th of March at the Balaklava Swimming Pool. The cost of transport and swimming pool entry will be met from within the school budget. More information will be sent home closer to the date.

Pancake Day

The Uniting Church in Port Wakefield is holding its annual Pancake Day on Tuesday, 28th February (Shrove Tuesday). This is a tradition handed down from the Middle Ages and celebrated to mark the first day of Lent (the 40 days before Easter) Of course it has been modernised and celebrated as the day of Pancakes to use up all luxury foods before the beginning of a fast.

As in other years, the Primary School students and Kindy children are invited to enjoy a pancake lunch in the Church Hall on that day.

A gold coin donation will provide each child with pancakes and toppings between 11.30 and 1.30. If you don't want your child to participate, then please send a packed lunch for them.

We look forward to a fun and filling time on the day.

Merry Bennett (Pastoral Care Worker)

March 2017

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
5	27 Pancake Day	28	1	2 SAPOL visit – Cyber Safety Presentations	3 UP Parent's meeting at 9.30am	4	5
6	6 Junior Primary "ZooSnooze" Camp – Adelaide Zoo	7 Junior Primary "ZooSnooze" Camp – Adelaide Zoo	8 Pupil Free Day	9	10	11	12
7	13 Adelaide Cup Public Holiday	14	15	16	17	18	19
Term Time Swimming - Week 7							
8	20	21 Harmony Day Governing Council Meeting – 5.30pm in the staff room	22	23	24	25	26
9	27	28	29	30	31		



PREMIER'S READING Challenge

Is your child taking up the Challenge in 2017??

If so, please ensure they fill in their student reading records as they read their books, gets them signed off as they go and please make sure your child hands it in to their teacher or the school contact person by:

Friday 8 September.

The Challenge is to read **12 books in total.**

In:

- Reception to Year 7, **8** of these books are to be from the Challenge booklists, available on our website, and **4** of their own choice.
- Years 8 and 9, students read **4** books from the Challenge lists and **8** of their own choice.
- Years 10 to 12, students read **12** books of their own choice, and these can include prescribed texts and any other texts from their studies.

Student reading records are available from your child's teacher, or from the school contact person, who is usually someone in the school library (ask your child's teacher).

Your son/daughter can also Rate a Read, reviewing the books that they are reading and send this in to us on the website. We award 1 winner every month with a book prize and their first name and school are entered on our website. Also, we have a student blog section for posting and sharing thoughts about the Challenge and books that they are reading – encourage your children to have a go!

Enjoy the Challenge!

Yours Sincerely,

Mark Williams

Premier's Challenges

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Literacy is everyone's business

