Dear Parents,

At our Governing Council meeting earlier this week we reviewed the role of helpers and volunteers at our school. DECD have a number of expectations in place in regards to volunteers and their work in schools and this has highlighted some areas that we need to address as a school.

These areas are mainly around the documentation that we are required to maintain at the school and are described in the ‘Volunteers’ insert in our newsletter. Whilst some of the requested information may appear ‘excessive’ I trust that families will appreciate that community expectations have changed over time and that the levels of accountability that exist in all walks of life have increased and we need to adjust accordingly. However, the most important reason for addressing these needs is to promote a safe environment for our students and the volunteers that assist them.

Our school and students benefit greatly from the contribution of our parent volunteers and I am confident that this will continue to be the case and I thank our families in advance for your support in this area. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further after reading the information provided, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Stephen

Please find the following inserts with this newsletter:

- Student Profiles
- Information for Volunteers booklet
- Dance Scholarship reply slip
- Reception Class page
- Parent Club School Uniform order form
- Parent Club Birthday Luncheon invitation
- Parent Club Family Movie Night flyer

Last Friday our students participated in a buddy activity to acknowledge Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Respect - Participation - Success
DATES TO REMEMBER

August
Friday 9th
Salad Roster – Beck Family.
Issue 5 Book Club orders closing date.
SAPSASA District Basketball Day.

Tuesday 13th
Heat Ups Roster – Dearna Laney.
UNSW Maths Competition.

Friday 16th
Salad Roster – Chadwick Family.
Recorder Eisteddfod, Years 1-4.

Saturday 17th
Canberra Camp Sausage Sizzle fundraiser at Harvey Norman.

Tuesday 20th
Heat Ups Roster – Sally Wintulich.
Year 1&2 Excursion to Pumping Station.

Wednesday 21st
Parent Club Birthday Luncheon.

Friday 23rd
Salad Roster – Storck Family.

Advance Notice
Tuesday 27th August – Pupil Free Day.

STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

On Monday staff participated in a professional development day run by Dr Alison Davis, a Literacy expert. The session focused on Reading Comprehension and the strategies that help build student learning in this area. Developing students’ reading comprehension is a key focus for all of our teachers and this day provided a range of information that will be used to support and build on what is already happening in each classroom. A summary of some of the key ideas presented and ways for how you can help develop your child’s reading comprehension are described below.

Predicting
Have children make a prediction about what they are reading and get them to give a supporting reason for this. Read on further and re-visit their prediction; did their original prediction occur? Can they ‘re-predict’?

Visualising
This is a strategy through which readers draw on their senses to picture and think about the images they get in their mind as they read. What do you see/hear/taste/smell as you read?

Understanding photographs, captions, tables and diagrams.
This is an important feature of reading comprehension; children’s ability to interpret information in these formats. Questions you can ask when looking at these aspects include: what’s the main idea of the…(photograph, diagram etc)? What is a fact that supports this? Does it add information to the written text?

LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK ACTIVITY

Last Friday our students participated in a buddy activity to acknowledge Literacy and Numeracy Week. Students shared a favourite book and also completed a short mathematical and design task. It was very impressive to see the positive and respectful behaviour shown by the students towards each other during this activity.

SCIENCE COMPETITION

Last term students in Yr 3 -7 participated in the UNSW Science Competition. Well done to all students who participated. The following students achieved a high result:
- Mia Kirby: Distinction
- Wil Scanlon: Distinction
- Holly Baldock: Credit
- Riley Burn: Credit
- Harry Harding: Credit

MOUNT GAMBIER EISTEDDFOD PARTICIPATION

Over the past few weeks, including this week, we have had a number of students involved in Mount Gambier Eisteddfod activities. Well done to all students that have been involved, you represented our school very well. Next week the Year 1&2 and 3&4 students are performing in the recorder section.

LASERLITE

We have recently replaced some laserlite sheeting around the school, if you are interested or have a need for some second hand sheeting please contact us.

Respect - Participation - Success
**DANCE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

Through our involvement with Hype Dance during Move It, they have offered a scholarship for one of our students. Students are asked to nominate for the scholarship via the reply slip in this week’s newsletter if they meet the following criteria:

- The student is not currently dancing at Hype.
- The student is not currently dancing with another dance group.

The scholarship will cover tuition fees for 1 term of dancing. Please return the nomination form by next Wednesday 14\textsuperscript{th} August.

**SAPSASA GOLF**

Last week a group of Upper Primary students participated in the first round of SAPSASA golf try outs, with the next round being held in Naracoorte.

“Recently we participated in the SAPSASA District Golf Day at Attamurra Golf Course. We played 9 holes in the rain. Jhett won with a score of 34, Saige was 3\textsuperscript{rd} on 42, Patrick and Conor scored 53 and Cameron 62. Jhett, Saige, Patrick and Conor will now play in the Regional tournament in Naracoorte to see if we can make the final team that will go on to play in Adelaide.”

**Patrick, Cameron and Saige**

**SCHOOL VALUES AWARD**

Jorja Mitchell for displaying a helpful attitude and encouraging others.

Harrison Millard for showing a caring and respectful attitude toward others.

**CERTIFICATES**

Dante Earl for practising her sounds at home.

Thomas Johns for being so enthusiastic to write.

Eliza Beck for learning our classroom routines so quickly.

Caelin Hayman for having such a great attitude about learning.

Ashley Beck for staying on task and trying her best to finish all her work.

Brad Scanlon for working his hardest in all subject areas.

**Harry Robinson** for a consistently conscientious attitude to all aspects of school life.

**Flynn Harfull** for consistently high achievement in Visual Arts.

**Tayne Perry** for excellent improvement in time work in Maths.

**Cameron Savage** for designing an excellent Scratch program based on the Percy Jackson novel for his book club presentation.

**Rebecca Smaling** for her initiative and the persistence she demonstrated when planning for and delivering her ‘Pop Art’ art lessons.

**Levina Gruzlewski** for settling into the Upper Primary class very quickly and positively, and showing excellent effort in her homework.

**Zoe Simpson** for injecting so much positive energy, skill and enthusiasm into our Move It practices and performance.

**FRENCH AWARDS**

Certificates were presented to the following students for their work and efforts during French lessons:

- Jennieva Burn
- Alex Lamb
- Flynn Harfull
- Macy Breen

**PARENT CLUB NEWS**

**Birthday Luncheon**

The Parent Club 74\textsuperscript{th} Birthday Luncheon will be held in the school Library at 12noon on Wednesday 21\textsuperscript{st} August. All are welcome to attend and guests are invited to stay and view the Bouncers skipping demonstration. Please bring along a small plate of food to share.

**School Uniform Samples**

Parent Club are organising a new range of items for the school uniform. These items will be on display near the Library each day during the week 12\textsuperscript{th} – 16\textsuperscript{th} August. Please refer to the enclosed order form for further information.

**School Get-together**

Parent Club are organising a get-together for all families on Friday September 6\textsuperscript{th}. A sausage sizzle will be provided and movies for the children.

**Next meeting:** Thursday 12\textsuperscript{th} September at 9.00am in the Library. Hostess: Suzanne Harding.
"Last week we participated in the Eisteddfod Debating. Our school entered four teams. Team 1 was entered in Division 1 and consisted of Brianna Scanlon, Patrick Mitchell and Riley Burn. Our topic was ‘Zoos do more harm than good’ and we were the Negative side. We entered 3 teams in Division 2. Holly Baldock, Ben Gaffney and Harry Harding were Team 2 and argued the affirmative ‘Every house should have at least one TV’. Team 3, Chloe Kirby, Harrison Millard and Jack Newton had the same topic but were the negative side. Team 4 included Ella Davies, Hamish Paul and Cameron Savage. Their topic was ‘Cats are better than dogs’ and they had to argue on the affirmative. All four teams won their debates. Holly received a medal for Division 2 Runner-up Best Debater.”

Brianna Scanlon, Ella and Holly

“I entered in the Speech and Drama Eisteddfod in six sections and received first placings in 3 – Scholarship, Humorous Recitation and One Sided Debate, 2 second placings in Australian Recitation and Impromptu Reading. I received the Under 12 Aggregate trophy and a certificate and cash scholarship prize. I really enjoyed participating in the Eisteddfod.”

Holly

“Mr Robinson took us to the Wehl Street Theatre for the Speech and Drama Eisteddfod. We signed in and waited until the performances started. We both presented a Humorous Recitation and were nervous to begin but gained confidence as we spoke. We were the only two competitors in our section and so we both received a placing. Wil recited ‘The Spaghetti Challenge’ and Harry recited ‘Allergic’. Chloe, Mia and Charlie K also participated.”

Wil and Harry

COMMUNITY NOTICES

AKUNA KINDERGARTEN QUIZ NIGHT
Friday 23rd August, 6.30pm at St Pauls Hall. 8725 9146 or dl.6510.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

DOUBLE HELIX SCIENCE CLUB – Lights, Colour, ACTION
Thursday 15th August, 6.45pm at TW College Science Lab. 8725 9051 or tshaughnessy@stmartins.sa.edu.au

Respect - Participation - Success
Last week the children in the Reception class created labelled posters of the members of their immediate families. They considered how large to draw the faces to make the best use of the space. They drew and coloured the faces with oil pastels, and then painted the background. After that, they glued labels next to each family member on their poster.