

Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

17th November 2014



Teamwork

Integrity

Generosity of
Spirit

Excellence

Respect

**"Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it.
Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."**

~ Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe ~

Term 4 Assembly Roster

Week 6 - Madz Sorensen, Holly Rathjen, Jeremy George

Week 7 - Paige Vandenberg, Holly Temby, Georgia Martin

Notes to be returned

- . 2014 magazine order form and money (\$12.00 ea) by 21/11/14.
- . Year 7 jumper/t-shirt order form and deposit (\$20.00 per item) by 24/11/14.
- . JP end of year concert costume note and money (\$15.00 ea) by 28/11/14.
- . UP 2015 apricot coating roster note.

Enclosed with this Newsletter

- . JP enterprise pancake breakfast note. Please return orders and money to the office by 19/11/14.

advancedlife Photography Family Portrait Fundraising Day 16/11/14

Unfortunately, our photography fundraising day, which was to be held on Sunday 16/11/14, did not go ahead as we did not reach the required minimum number of bookings.

Happy Birthday

- 20/11 - Sachin (Year 4)
- 22/11 - Larissa (Year 4)
- 22/11 - Zoe (Year 3)
- 22/11 - Leroy (Year 1)
- 25/11 - Nick (Year 6)
- 27/11 - Paris (Year 5)
- 28/11 - Koby (Year 1)
- 30/11 - Riley (Year 1)



CONGRATULATIONS RITA!

On behalf of the Governing Council and all sub committees of the school, I would like to congratulate Rita on her successful application for the position of Principal of our School. We are grateful for your leadership and passion for education and we look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Regards

Ian Payne, Governing Council Chairperson



Rita's Roar

Guy Claxton Workshop

As part of the Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL) Pilot, we were invited to attend a workshop presented by international educator Guy Claxton at the Lakes Resort last Thursday. Guy's message is that we need to build learning power by taking more of a 'coaching' approach whereby we focus on improving our 'personal best'. Guy also advocates the importance of students owning their learning. Guy's message is so similar to ours; it's uncanny: we believe academic achievement is not the most significant indicator of future success. I have said this many times: it is about developing character, working hard to learn, making mistakes and being prepared to learn from them. This was an amazing opportunity and we elected to take a team of 17 parents, students, SSOs and teachers to hear his message and discuss it. My instinct was to invite the current Improvement Committee members to attend, but quickly realised that the Upper Primary members would be on camp. This was meant to be, because it made me look to the future. I invited Middle Primary students and their parents to express interest about being on next year's Improvement Committee. The Year 4/5s had already done significant work on feedback with Mikelle, our TfEL Pilot Leader, and I immediately received lots of interest.

This was one of the best experiences of my teaching career. Long time Improvement Committee convenor, Yvette Rathjen led the charge with her daughter Holly, followed by Mary Gill and Kane Rankin, Karen Montgomery and Paris Montgomery-Pittaway, Mrs Kym and Riley Walton, Mark and Chloe Pahl and Larissa Pike who joined Kerry, Necia, Jane, Kim Polkinghorne, myself, and community member Meagan Wynne. Our discussions were amazing and we are so looking forward to working together next year. Guy mentioned that, 'If the purpose of the workshop was to develop student voice, why wouldn't you invite students to attend?' Of the 250 participants only 2 schools sent students: Murray Bridge High School and ourselves.

But the best was yet to come. Yvette was asked to summarise the day on behalf of parents. She addressed her comments directly to Guy in such an assertive and knowledgeable way and I realised that all the hard work Yvette has done as Improvement Committee convenor, catering coordinator and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden volunteer has seen her grow as a life-long learner, which she modelled to a captive audience. Then Paris delivered the students' perspective. I was pretty much in Principal heaven!

Camp

One of the best ways to develop, observe and assess resilience is through camp. Anne and Macca ran a brilliant aquatics camp for the Upper Primary class. I was in-and-out due to commitments such as Guy Claxton. On camp, I spoke with a person who informed me that another school charged the same amount we did for the camp (\$75), however the students did not sleep over, and no food was provided. We work so hard to make this happen; because it is a way to move our kids out of their comfort zones, and that they have to try and try again. We save money by parents offering to drive in and out and to bowling. Thank you all. Many schools now do not have camps due to student behaviour but I am pleased to say our kids are so well behaved and so grateful and appreciative of our efforts. Our teachers commit to cook and organise food and to subsidise camps through fundraising to ensure all camps are affordable for our families and that all students can participate. Because our camp was in Murray Bridge, our amazing parents came to help us cook and clean which we really appreciated. This just reinforced what we all heard at the Guy Claxton workshop.

There is a lot going on for the next month! Keep looking at our Facebook page and the newsletter to stay in the loop.

Warm Regards, Rita

Dear Parents / Care providers

The selection panel for the position of Principal, Mypolonga Primary School has completed the selection process.

I would like to announce and congratulate Mrs Rita O'Brien as the successful applicant. The selection panel is excited that Rita has accepted the position and will lead Mypolonga Primary School for the next 7 years and continue to build on the community understanding of Mypolonga as a high performing school.

Congratulations to Rita, we are confident that her commitment, trust and respect for the school community will ensure exciting and explicit opportunities for students, staff and parents.

Regards
Mr Frank Mittiga, Education Director
Education Director

Class Awards

Term 4 Week 2

Junior Primary class

Levi Gray - fantastic work in Spelling.
Haydn Castle - for moving up in his reading levels.

Junior Primary 1 class

Koby Stimpson - for being an absolute trooper in persisting with his fractured arm.
James-Noah Peterson - for a positive attitude towards learning.

Lower Middle Primary class

Jessica Deane - thoughtful reflection on her learning.
Bella Pike - improvement in Spelling and word knowledge.

Middle Primary class

Coen Martin - thoughtful contributions in all class discussions.
Holly Rathjen - excellent partner work in history explanations.

Upper Primary class

Jessica Donald - for persistence and perseverance to achieve her goal.
Brayden Vandenberg - for always going the extra yards.

Term 4 Week 3

Junior Primary class

Charlie Harrowfield - great story writing in Writer's Workshop.
Reagan Martin - for taking such care with work presentation.

Junior Primary 1 class

Craig Gillett - excellent improvement in his reading.
James Mueller - for fantastic effort in his Spelling.

Lower Middle Primary class

William Schofield - improvement in English.
Isla Gielen - always maintaining a high standard of work.

Middle Primary class

Middle Primary Class Choir - excellent performance at the Town Hall

Upper Primary class

Nick Lewis - for using his initiative to improve his learning.
Madeline Sorensen - for always maintaining a high standard, especially in Writing.

Counsellor's Corner



Handy Hints for Improving Learning

The following handy hints for improving learning are extracted from Andrew Fuller's book "Help Your Child Succeed At School." I will include some of these in upcoming newsletters.

No. 2 Organising a Learning Space for Your Child - As your child grows and develops, there will need to be somewhere set up for them to study and do projects. Some kids just can't get themselves organised and may need a parent to take care of the practical aspects of setting up a home study area. The parent may also need to be responsible for keeping it neat. It's ok for parents to assist by thinking of ways to better organise notes as well.

No. 3 Organising a Learning Space for Your Child - Lighting - Natural or indirect lighting such as a desk lamp is best for learning. It is best for your child not to study under fluorescent lighting as it is related to raised cortisol levels in the blood stream (an indicator of anxiety and agitation). Cortisol also suppresses language functions. If you are purchasing a desk lamp try to avoid fluorescent lights.

From "Help Your Child Succeed at School" by Andrew Fuller
www.andrewfuller.com.au

It's all the little things that can make a huge difference. Sometimes we just don't think of them and it's always great to have reminders. I know I need them!

Cheers, Kerry

Upper Primary excursion Tri-State Games Opening Ceremony

Last Monday, the Upper Primary class travelled to Murray Bridge to attend the opening ceremony of the Tri-State Games, which occur every 2 years for disabled people to compete against each other.

The students brought streamers and signs to cheer on the competitors. This year, in replacement of Port Power's Chad Wingard, Brad Hartman from the Geelong Cats opened the games. Students from St Joseph's Primary School came along to sing a few songs.

Thank you to our bus driver David Rogers for transporting us to Murray Bridge.

Madeline Sorensen



SAPSASA

Congratulations to four of our students who recently represented the Murraylands and competed in the State Carnivals in their respective sports in Adelaide.

Tennis

Kailan Challenger and Holly Temby participated in SAPSASA tennis for the Murraylands region.

There was a boys team and a girls team, each with six members. It involved a full week of tennis at the Seacliff Tennis Club, south of Adelaide. They played against other regions, and had both a doubles and a singles game against each team. Most days they played against two teams. In all, there were eight other teams to play in their division.

The competition was strong, and overall the Murraylands lost more games than they won. However, this did not dampen the spirits of the tennis players.

There was opportunity to meet new people, and improve personal skills in a competitive but fun competition.

To top it off, the team bonded by attending the new indoor trampoline venue called "Bounce".

Cricket

Nick Lewis and Kyal McDonald had a successful week in Adelaide winning 3 out of the 4 games of cricket they played. They finished 3rd in their division and thoroughly enjoyed their time in Adelaide.

We also take this opportunity to thank Mike Innes for all his hard work and commitment as SAPSASA Convenor over the years. Enjoy your well deserved retirement Mike!



Kailan



Holly



Kyal



Nick

Murray Mallee Regional Music Festival

As promised in the last newsletter, we are proud to share with you some photos from the Murray Mallee Regional Music Festival, which our school choir performed in.

Pictured right is soloist Sachin Bartholomeusz.



Mypolonga Primary School Talent Quest

Thursday 27th November 2014
2:00pm - 3:00pm
at the Mypolonga Institute

An invitation has recently been extended to all students who either play a musical instrument, sing, dance or have some other hidden talent to perform at the Mypolonga Institute.

We are currently receiving expressions of interest and look forward to seeing the students perform on the day!

Parents and community members are welcome to come along and watch.

Community News

Mypolonga Cricket Club - Saturday Night Tea

Saturday 22nd November 2014. Meals served from 6:00pm at the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club. All welcome!

Mypolonga Netball League Club - AGM

Friday 28th November 2014 at the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club @ 6.00pm. All welcome!

Mypolonga Football Club

. Meet the Coach Day - Sunday 23rd November 2014 at the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club from 11:30am. BBQ, salads and bar facilities will be available. All supporters, sponsors, players and families are welcome to attend!

. AGM - Friday 28th November 2014 at the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club. Junior committee AGM 7:30pm / Senior committee AGM 8:00pm. All welcome!

Let's Slam Dunk Leukaemia - fundraiser for Brett Altschwager

Sunday 30th November 2014 at the Murray Bridge Basketball Stadium from 10:00am-5:00pm (teams to book in at 9:30am). Come along to a fun filled day! 3 on 3 competition (\$50 per team of 4 players - mens and womens competition). Ages 16 years and above. Come dressed in a theme eg. Ninja Turtles, Lebron James, Wiggles. Lucky squares, sausage sizzle and slam dunk competition. All welcome! Contact Shirley Hartman 0400254519 or Paul Salter 0427002402 for team nominations and enquiries.

~ ac.care Christmas Hamper ~

You can help make Christmas cheerful...

Please help the SRC demonstrate our TIGER value – **Generosity of Spirit** by donating to the ac.care Homelessness Service this Christmas.

464 people accessed the ac.care Murraylands Homeless Service in the last year and 84 were children.

This facility is in the process of collecting non-perishable food goods to fill their Christmas hampers. While all donations are gratefully accepted, it may be beneficial as you donate, to think about the types of food you would like for Christmas. Also, we kindly ask that food be sealed and unopened in its original packaging.

The hampers will be given to individuals and families who are accessing the ac.care services.

Donations are welcome at our school until Monday 1st December 2014 and can dropped off in the box in our school's front office.

Thanking you in anticipation.

SRC



MCSC – Mypolonga Combined Sports Club
MFC – Mypolonga Football Club
MCC – Mypolonga Cricket Club

**Planning Calendar
Term 4 2014**

MNLC – Mypolonga Netball League Club
MBHS – Murray Bridge High School

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|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| 6 | 17/11 Newsletter UP students: Picasso Cow Presentation / Martin Dairy farm visit | 18/11 'Loaded Dog' Drama Performance (whole school) | 19/11 12:00noon - 2:00pm Kitchen Opening | 20/11 Casual Day (proceeds to Christmas Child) | 21/11 Junior Primary breakfast 3:00pm Assembly Myo RSL Bingo BBQ Tea | 22/11 & 23/11 22/11 - M/B Christmas Pageant 6:00pm MCC tea 23/11 - MFC Meet the Coach Day |
| 7 | 24/11 Concert tickets available to purchase form 8:30am 2:30pm - visit by Year 8 MBHS students | 25/11 | 26/11 7:00pm Sustainability Committee meeting | 27/11 2:00pm-3:00pm Mypolonga Primary School Talent Quest @ Myo Institute | 28/11 3:00pm Assembly 3:30pm C&S Meeting Student Free Day for MB High School students MNLC & MFC AGMs | 29/11 & 30/11 |
| 8 | 1/12 Newsletter 3:30pm Improvement Committee meeting 7:00pm Finance Committee meeting 7:30pm Governing Council meeting | 2/12 | 3/12 | 4/12 Myo PS whole school transition day (to next years' classes) Year 7 Transition Day @ MBHS | 5/12 NO ASSEMBLY MCSC Friday Night tea ★ SCHOOL CONCERT | 6/12 & 7/12 6/12 - Mannum Christmas Pageant |
| 9 | 8/12 | 9/12 | 10/12 Year 7 Graduation Dinner @ the MCSC | 11/12 2:45pm Assembly (inc presentation of term and year awards) | 12/12 LAST DAY OF TERM 4 Newsletter NO ASSEMBLY 2:30pm Dismissal | 13/12 & 14/12 13/12 - Mypolonga RSL Christmas Party |

Saturday 20th December 2014 - Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club Christmas Tea

Mypolonga Primary School

Principal: Rita O'Brien

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