Welcome to an exciting new year! We have hit the ground running, welcoming a beautiful bunch of new Receptions and Adin in Year 7. We welcome new teacher Danny Baker who will share the Middle Primaries with Kerry, and also work with most classes on the Arts. It’s also great to have Hailey and Mel back, with their children also starting in reception.

The Upper Primary information evening was a huge success with lots of families sharing a meal and learning about how the Upper Primary class operates. We have high expectations of our Uppers and they are given many opportunities to extend their learning and leadership. We have already elected house captains and the SRC, but more information will be forth coming in the next newsletter. Needless to say we have an amazing leadership team this year.

We have also had an incredible response to our call for committee membership. The purpose of our committees is to give our community the opportunity to turn learning into action for all of us: parents, students and educators. The Sustainability Committee drives the implementation of sustainable practices in the school and family, and the Lifelong Learning Community drives the implementation of our Site Improvement Plan. This year, we will be focusing on consistency of student and teacher judgement. We have even had a high school student and her mum nominate for the Sustainability Committee to support us to develop Farmer Jones’ Paddock.

Did you know that research has shown that there is more variation within schools than between schools? At Mypo, we have always tried to implement whole school approaches to learning to minimise the variation and develop consistency. Following swimming next week, we will be starting a new whole-school reading program. It will be based around the Levelled Literacy Intervention program we currently run, and will be expanded to include most students from Years 1-6. We are very excited by this challenge as the program focuses on the ‘Big 6’ of reading: phonological awareness, oral language, phonic, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. In order for our students to develop higher order comprehension strategies (drawing conclusions and making inferences, distinguishing between real and make believe, identifying author’s purpose, distinguishing between fact and opinion and interpreting figurative language) explicit and consistent teaching needs to occur across the whole school. As well as this, we will continue with the intervention programs run by Cass Martin. This may have an impact on parents hearing reading in the morning. Please talk to your child’s teacher about how best you can support the class if you are interested in hearing reading.

I was so proud to be in the audience of ‘Cats’ on the weekend. To our students, parents, and former students and parents, I congratulate you on an amazing job! At Mypo we believe that learning happens everywhere and I was astounded by the self discipline required in the theatre, which was magnificently demonstrated by all of the actors ranging from junior primary to adult. Congratulations to everyone associated with the production.

Lastly, on behalf of all of us, I would like to extend heartfelt condolences to the Holland family, on the passing of Barney. Barney was secretary of the Governing Council for many years, but more recently was involved in all of the ANZAC services conducted under my leadership. Barney’s commitment to our school supported us to show and grow our TIGER values into the wider community and we, while being sad at his passing, celebrate his contribution to building the culture of Mypolonga Primary School. We send out love to Carol, Tyson and Brad and their families.

Warm Regards,

Rita
Counsellor’s Corner

Hi Families,

Welcome back to the 2017 school year. My name is Kerry Daniel and I am the School Counsellor here at Mypolonga Primary School. My role is mostly proactive in supporting students’ wellbeing. I support students experiencing friendship issues, anxiety, anger management etc. I ask teachers to highlight any students they may have concerns with but am also happy for parents to chat with me regarding any issues I may be able to support their children with. I am also able to refer families to other support agencies as needed.

Please refer to the ‘Parent Grievance Concerns’ flowchart enclosed in this newsletter if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child. We believe clear communication directly with the person involved will save a lot of time and misconceptions.

My Counsellor day is Friday, and every second Thursday. Please email me or phone the school if you need to contact me.

kerry.daniel277@schols.sa.edu.au

Cheers, Kerry

Staff Profile

Introducing...

Danny Baker
Teacher (Middle Primary / Performing Arts)

This year, we welcome Danny Baker to our teaching staff. Danny previously taught at East Torrens Primary School and we look forward to sharing our learning journey with him.

Favourite quote… “Don’t criticise what you don’t understand. You’ve never walked in that man’s shoes.” Elvis Presley

What is your favourite app?… Bible & Guitar Tuner

What is the best holiday you have ever been on?… Tasmania

What is your most positive teaching experience?… Organising successful school concerts at my previous school.

What book are you reading now?… The Phantom comics & novelisation.

Why do you like working with children?… Children have an enthusiasm and imagination that adults tend to lose.

How many pets do you own and what are their names?… Maltese x West Highlander dog called Benny.

Mypolonga Playgroup

When: Tuesday mornings from 9:00am until approximately 10:20am
Where: Junior Primary classroom
Commencing: Tuesday 14th February 2017

There is no cost to attend our Playgroup and all newborn to preschool aged children are welcome!

Amy Stone is our Playgroup Co-ordinator and we look forward to seeing and hearing of the children’s fun learning activities throughout the year.

We extend a very big welcome to all our NEW STUDENTS and their families!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT (keep the date free!)
Friday 17th February 2017 at Woodlane Reserve, Mypolonga from 6:00pm
Further details will be provided this week!
School Assembly
As you may be aware, our school assembly is held in the Library on Friday afternoons between 3:00pm and 3:25pm. Three students (from the Lower Middle, Middle and Upper Primary classes) are rostered on to run the assembly each week. Notification of this is on the front page of our fortnightly newsletter.

Assemblies involve the presentation of awards, presentation of students' work and an address from Rita, our Principal. Anyone is welcome to attend.

If you don’t usually attend our assemblies, we would love you to join us when time permits. The look on our students’ faces when they see their family and/or friends arrive is priceless!!

Our end of term assembly is conducted on the last Thursday of the school term at 1:45pm, where students are presented with Most Improved for the Term/Student of the Term and Kiwani Terrific Kid awards.

Experiences like these help our students to develop confidence when speaking in front of large groups of people.

School Uniform
As mentioned last year, our new t-shirt design is now available to purchase from our suppliers Red Dragon Embroidery or Intersport (details below). Black jackets and hooded jumpers are also available to purchase from our suppliers $32.00 without logo/$40.00 with logo.

Red Dragon Embroidery & Printing
Contact Anne: 0406 291 030
2441 Mannum Road, Murray Bridge
Pop in when passing.
*$1.00 per item will be donated back to the school.

Intersport (formerly Sportscene)
Contact David: 0409 096 263
Murray Bridge Marketplace (just above the escalators)

Stocked School Uniform Items
Below is a reminder of what items you may like to purchase from the school:
- School bags $43.00
- School dress fabric $8.00 per metre
- School dress buttons .35c ea
- Hats:
  - Legionnaire style $5.00 (one size)
  - Broad Brimmed $7.70 (small, medium & large)
  - Bucket Hats $7.00 (small, medium & large)
- Drink bottles $2.00
- Hair clips & headbands (black & gold), as displayed in the office. Please see Necia for hair accessories ordering information.

* Please remember to label ALL items! Thank you.

SRC Second Hand Clothing
A number of clothing items have been kindly donated by a number of families whose children have outgrown or transferred to High School. If you would like to view the items, please see Necia or Annie in the office. Clothing items are $2.00 each and include t-shirts, jumpers, pants and school bags ($5.00).

All proceeds support our SRC.

For a full list of our uniform items, please call into the office for a flyer or download/view the flyer on our website www.mypolongaps.sa.edu.au.
Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

Mypolonga Primary School
Teamwork | Integrity | Generosity of Spirit | Excellence | Respect

6th February 2017

Mypolonga Primary School
17-27 Williams Street
Mypolonga SA 5254
Principal: Rita O’Brien
p 85354191
f 85354160
www.mypolongaps.sa.edu.au
info@mypolongaps.sa.edu.au

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

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Planning Calendar
Term 1 2017

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<td>11/2 &amp; 12/2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>9:00am P&amp;F Meeting Newsletter Swimming Lessons (Reception to Middle Primary students only)</td>
<td>14/2</td>
<td>15/2</td>
<td>16/2</td>
<td>17/2</td>
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<td>13/2</td>
<td>3:35pm Life Long Learning Community meeting</td>
<td>9:00am Playgroup Commences Lower Middle Primary enterprise recess commences (ice cream in cone)</td>
<td>Middle Primary enterprise lunch commences (salad rolls)</td>
<td>Junior Primary enterprise commences (sausage in bread)</td>
<td>Assembly 6:00pm Family Fun Night</td>
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<td>22/2</td>
<td>23/2</td>
<td>24/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/2</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
<td>Governing Council AGM</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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Diary Dates for Terms 1 and 2 (subject to change)

Monday 6th March 2017 - Student Free Day (the school will be closed on this day)
Monday 3rd April 2017 - Wednesday 5th April 2017 - Parent/Teacher interviews
Friday 31st March 2017 - School Disco
Monday 10th April 2017 - School Sports’ Day
Friday 19th May 2017 - Student Free Day (the school will be closed on this day)

Ambulance Cover

There’s no way anyone can know when they or their loved ones may need an ambulance. Ambulance costs are not covered by Medicare and even if you have private health insurance, your policy may not cover the cost of an ambulance. Many private health insurance schemes only cover you and your family for emergency ambulance services. Many illnesses or injuries require additional patient transportation, which are classified as ‘non-emergency’ (e.g. for tests, ongoing treatment or transfer to another hospital). We strongly recommend checking with your private health insurance provider to find out if you are covered for ambulance transport and if so, your level of cover.

The cost of an emergency ambulance is generally around $934.

Ambulance Cover Rates

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<tr>
<td>Single</td>
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<tr>
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Community News

Mypolonga Unitiing Church 95th Anniversary
Celebration will be held on Sunday 26th February 2017 starting at 9:30am with morning tea, with the service at 11:00am. The Mypolonga Institute will be open for anyone who would like to visit the local history display and there will be competitions for the best apricot based cooking and best Church drawing. Please see Anne Martin for details.

Murray Bridge United Soccer Club Come ‘n Try / Registration / Information Night – Friday 10th February 2017 from 4.00pm to 6.00pm, at the clubrooms, Beatty Terrace, Murray Bridge. Past and new players, boys and girls, juniors and seniors welcome!