

# Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

## Term 1 Assembly Roster

**Week 4** - Mackenzie Rathjen, Jackson Ross, Makayla Stimpson

**Week 5** - Riley Smelt, Jayda Stimpson, Luke Abbott

## Happy Birthday

27/2 - Logan (Year 5)

28/2 - Jorja (Reception)

1/3 - Reegan (Year 3)

2/3 - Tehya (Year 1)



## Family Fun Night

**Above:** Ben, Harry, Jayda, Chloe & Abbey

**Below:** Logan & Linx, Shaylee with Dad Daniel



Teamwork

Integrity

Generosity of Spirit

Excellence

Respect

**'Teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success.'**

*~ unknown ~*

## Rita's Roar

### Family Fun Night

This year, the weather was on our side and we were able to stage our fantastic Family Fun Night down at the river. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other and meet your children's friends and their families, and their teachers. Thank you to Mark Pahl for helping Necia coordinate the evening and cooking the barbie with Rod Baker. Thanks also to the Rathjen family for donating the onions and Yvette for helping to cut them up. This event is always a precursor to our Governing Council AGM, which will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7pm in the Upper Primary classroom. Please think about joining either the Governing Council or one of its committees. This is a very rewarding experience and connects you more closely to your children.

### Improvement Committee

Last year, a group of parents, students and teachers were very lucky to be able to attend a workshop run by international educator Guy Claxton on 'Building Powerful Learners.' We have taken what we learned from that workshop and used it to transform the Improvement Committee's role to be much more about planning to move learning from skill attainment, to the development of dispositions for lifelong learning. Our first change was to include all staff in Improvement Committee conversations by combining staff meetings with Improvement Committee meetings; a simple but very powerful change. Last Monday night, we had our first meeting and teased out how we will use the findings of current research to inform our planning processes.

One of the most significant pieces of research has been around the dispositions of life-long learners. 'The Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory' (ELLI) is a tool that we can use to

- measure students' dispositions
- provide ways to build them

We are taking a whole-school approach to developing ELLI dispositions and you will hear about this throughout the year.

### Goodbye, Welcome and Get Well

You will remember Education Director Frank Mittaga's impassioned endorsement of our school at the concert at the end of last year. Unfortunately, Frank has made the decision to retire and I am sure you will join with me to wish him all the best for the future. Our new Acting Director is Stan Hagias, who has hit the ground running. Stan was the Principal of a Teaching for Effective Learning Pilot School, so he understands our focus on building powerful learners.

We send our best wishes to Groundsperson Brenton, who is on sick leave and welcome David Hughes to Team Mypo. David is also coordinating the garden part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, which will be undertaken by a very excited Middle Primary class this year.

**A Quiet Brag**

Last week, Academic Achievement Awards for 2014 were presented at Murray Bridge High School. Congratulations to Year 8 Dux Chloe Elliott, Academic Achievement Year 8 recipient Mitchell Walton and Gold Medal Winners Meg Daniel and Abbey Kruschel. Congratulations to Holly Wachtel in Year 9 for her bronze medal.

See you at the AGM!

Warm Regards, Rita

**Student Representative Council 'SRC'**

The SRC represents the views of the students of Mypolonga Primary School. It is an integral part of the decision-making, which occurs through the school. Our SRC Co-ordinator is Kerry Daniel. Class elections were recently held and we CONGRATULATE the following students on being elected SRC representatives for Terms 1 and 2:

**Junior Primary** - Drew Bettcher, Shaylee Martin, Ledja Gray

**Lower Middle Primary Class** - Isla Gielen, Ben Stewart, Kobe Hobbs

**Middle Primary Class** - Bella Smith, Coen Martin, Harry Stone

**Upper Primary Class**

SRC Leaders - Tyler Martin, Mackenzie Rathjen

SRC Treasurer - Kane Rankin (Term 1)

UP Representative - Paris Montgomery-Pittaway (Treasurer Term 2)

I am looking forward to working with such a great group of enthusiastic students.

Cheers, Kerry



**Above:** Introducing our SRC members for Terms 1 & 2

**Left:** SRC Leader Mackenzie Rathjen presenting Ledja Gray with his SRC badge

**Counsellor's Corner****5 Parenting Goals for Every Family**

by Slovie Jungreis-Wolff

*Each fortnight, I will publish one goal from an article by Slovie Jungreis-Wolff. The first is about being alert to what is going on with your child. Sometimes life gets so busy that you forget to 'stop and smell the roses' (old saying, but so true). As teachers, we totally understand how busy life is but we are here for your children. Please be assured that we will also 'keep our eyes open'.*

**'1. Keep My Eyes Open**

Sometimes, we notice that something does not feel right with a child but we get distracted. We are all very busy - it's true. We have great pressures and responsibilities pulling us in too many directions. The child who seems a little 'off', not himself, snappy or more quiet than usual is trying to tell us something. But it is easy to tuck this information away in a back pocket and only realise that something is wrong when a crisis occurs. We then think back and recognize that the signs were there, we were just too preoccupied to pay attention.

Don't allow problems with your child to fester and grow. Open your eyes and observe if a child seems sad, withdrawn, distant, more moody than usual, or angry. Recognise if there seems to be greater confrontation between this child and siblings, if friends stop calling or coming over, or if the child can't seem to find his place in school. Because before you know it, half the year can go by and what could have been a small problem has now become a 'situation' that requires major time and investment and causes terrible aggravation.'

*Set yourself a little goal to be extra vigilant this fortnight.*

Cheers, Kerry ☺

**Second Hand Uniform Items**

A reminder that the school stocks second hand uniform items, which have been kindly donated by families and are available to purchase at a reasonable price through the office. The proceeds of all donated items will go towards our SRC. If you have any items, which you would like to donate, or would like to see what items are available to purchase, please see Necia or Annie in the office.

29/1/15

Dear Principal

As a member of Brighton Ladies' Probus Club, I am

writing on behalf of 16 members of our club, who recently enjoyed a weekend on the 'Proud Mary' and were surprised and delighted to receive our gift of chocolate dipped apricots in our cabins. They were delicious; could you please pass on our thanks to the children of Mypolonga Primary School.

Sincerely, Margaret Dupne



**'From The Proud Mary...'**





## Kitchen

This year, we get to use our new "Rita's" kitchen for the program. We have set up stations for the children, bought a lot of new equipment including aprons, which look great and we are all eager to cook. Last week, we introduced the children to knife skills and talked about safety in the kitchen. This week, we will be cooking Vietnamese Cold Rolls and one group will be preparing a salad of the imagination. Can't wait to see what they come up with.



Josh, Maddie and Katie showing off our new aprons.



Zoe identifying plants in the garden

## Garden

In the garden, we have already started to prepare the garden beds for planting and the children have walked through identifying plants.

Karen Ruckenstuhl has helped tremendously obtaining us support from United Nurseries and Yates with seeds, seedlings and tools for the garden. Thank you to all these people for your support, it is important to us and very much appreciated. The children will start planting seeds and looking at doing a vertical garden outside the kitchen area.

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

This year, our Middle Primary Class will be participating in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. It is a nationally run program that is designed to teach children about growing, harvesting, preparing and then cooking with fresh food.

Our program will run on Tuesdays from 11.45am to 1.15pm.

The class is split into two groups Red and Green and they alternate each week from garden to kitchen. We commenced the program last year and will be continuing with David Hughes in the garden and Natalie Smith and Ian Oxborrow kindly volunteering to assist him. Rita and Kerry will be in the kitchen assisting the children to learn and try new things with Yvette Rathjen volunteering to help them. Thank you to these volunteers; the children and staff appreciate your time you give to them.

If you would like further information about the Kitchen Garden Program, please head to their website where you can see what our school and other schools have been up to.

[www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au](http://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au)

Annie Hughes - Coordinator



Checking out the sunflower



# SWIMMING LESSONS

'I learnt lots of new skills and enjoyed the free time.'

Erin McDonald

Boat Survival Skills



Craig

Kallan & Shelby



'I liked learning the boat survival skills and the backstroke.'

Thomas Tidy

Haydn

'I liked laying on my back and floating on the water. It was so much fun.'

Autumn Stapleton

'Before I started doing bubble arm/breathing arm, my arms were hurting. Then after that, they got better.'

Leroy Rathjen

Ryder



'We had to find toys at the deep end of the middle-sized pool.'

Charlie Harrowfield

Tahlia



Sachin

'I liked going in the big pool and floating on the animal boards.'

Ava Hagger



Ava & Claire



## Premier's Reading Challenge

Once again, we are participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Premier Jay Weatherill has agreed to continue to help and inspire children to read. Each student has a record sheet kept at school where they record books they have read. Teachers, SSOs or parent helpers chat with them about the books to establish that the student has comprehended the story.

It is a requirement that to finish the challenge, a student reads a minimum of 8 books from the Premier's list, and 4 books of their own choice.

Please help younger students to read their library books, returning them to the Library on their borrowing day;

**Junior Primary class** - Thursday

**Junior Primary 1 class** - Wednesday

**Lower Middle Primary class** - Wednesday

**Middle Primary class** - Thursday

*Cheers, Anne Martin*

## School Photo Day

A few reminders regarding school photo day being held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015:-

\* Parents can pay for all of their children's orders in one envelope. However, each child requires their OWN envelope on photo day to ensure their order is placed and processed (even if the payment is in a sibling's envelope). Please don't seal envelopes inside each other.

\* Payments can be made online (\*preferred option) or by cash, cheque or money order. If you would like to pay by credit card, please write your details on a slip of paper and enclose it in your child's envelope. The CORRECT amount needs to be put into the envelopes, as the photographers do not carry change.

\* Spare INDIVIDUAL envelopes and FAMILY portrait envelopes can be obtained from Necia or Annie in the office. Please make your children aware if they are to have a family photo taken.

\* Envelopes (including payment) can be returned to the office at any time prior to photo day for 'safe keeping', preferably no later than Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

\* Photos will arrive at the school approximately 4 weeks after photo day.

We look forward to having your child's school memories captured forever!

Please contact the office or MSP Photography direct 83913951 if you have any queries.

## Class Awards

### Term 1 Week 3

#### Junior Primary class

**Ava Hagger** - great start to her first year of school.

**Alarah Sipos** - showing great leadership.

#### Junior Primary 1 class

**Elouise Kuhn** - settling into class well and always doing her best.

**Phebe Nutt** - mature and helpful class member.

#### Lower Middle Primary class

**Kobe Hobbs** - mature and responsible class member.

**Georgia Martin** - making a great start to Year 3.

#### Middle Primary class

**Samuel Montgomery-Pittaway** - a very positive start to Year 5.

**Coen Martin** - shining brightly in the MP class.

#### Upper Primary class

**Paris Montgomery-Pittaway** - for positive input into class discussions and problem solving.

**Blake Fidge** - for enthusiasm in reading and class work.

## Middle Primary Art

The Middle Primary Class has made drawing book covers depicting the work of Kandinsky - a Russian Artist. This is a form of abstract art (art based on emotions rather than real people or objects). The concentric circles were painted in student's choice of colour based on how they felt at the time.





## Community News

### Mypolonga Football Club

#### Football Training commences:-

U13, U11 & U9 - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015 from 4:45pm-5:45pm.

Trainings for all teams will revert back to Thursdays on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

If you weren't able to attend the recent registration night, and intend playing for the Tigers in 2015, please notify the Junior Committee Secretary Mary Gill on 0448669957 as soon as possible.

#### Merchandise

The season's drawing near TIGERS! Polo shirts, caps, anoraks, hoodies & sports bags all with our MFC logo - ready to be yours! A bulk merchandise order will be placed at Im-Press Promotions at the end of February. Call in and see Stuart or Sam at Im-Press Promotions, 132 Adelaide Road, Murray Bridge (Ph: 85324283) to place your order. Prices and details can be found on the Mypolonga Football Club Facebook page. Tiger scarves can also be purchased from the office at Mypolonga Primary School for \$20.00!

#### Facebook Page

Have you 'liked' the official **Mypolonga Football Club** Facebook page yet? By liking this page, you will receive recent junior and senior news, results, photos, details of upcoming events and all things happening at Tigerland in your news feed.

#### For Sale

Size 6 black & gold t-shirt with Mypolonga Primary School logo. Incorrect sizing and never worn. \$30.00. Please see Necia in the office for further details.

### Murray Bridge United Soccer Club

#### Player Registration

New and past players welcome, including boys, girls, juniors and seniors. (There have also been some 3 year old children participate in "Rooball" in previous years!) For more information, please contact Grant Klenke on 0411057039 or email admin@murraybridgeunited.com.

## Term 1 & Term 2 Anticipated Diary Dates (subject to change)

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 - **Student Free Day**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 - **School Disco**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015 - **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 - **Sport's Day** (Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 - **Sports' Day Back Up Day** if bad weather on 8/4/15)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 - **Student Free Day**

## Planning Calendar Term 1 2015

MCSC – Mypolonga Combined Sports Club

MFC – Mypolonga Football Club

MCC – Mypolonga Cricket Club

MNLC – Mypolonga Netball League Club

MBHS – Murray Bridge High School

4	16/2 Newsletter	17/2 Scholastic Book Club orders due	18/2 Milo Cricket Workshop (whole school)	19/2	20/2 <b>Swimming (bus) costs due</b> 3:00pm Assembly	21/2 & 22/2 MCC AI Fresco Evening
5	23/2 <b>School Photo Day</b> 7:00pm Governing Council AGM	24/2	25/2	26/2	27/2 <b>Auburn Primary School visit</b> 3:00pm Assembly	28/2 & 1/3
6	2/3 Newsletter	3/3	4/3 MFC U13, U11 & U9 training commences	5/3	6/3 3:00pm Assembly	7/3 & 8/3
7	9/3 <b>Public Holiday</b>	10/3 <b>Student Free Day</b>	11/3	12/3	13/3 3:00pm Assembly	14/3 & 15/3

## Mypolonga Primary School

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