

Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter



Students in Miss Polky's Maths group recently took it in turns to add up amounts of items in our school shop and count back change over the counter. A great way to take children's learning and putting it into a real life context! Pictured are Makayla Stimpson, Jessica Deane and Ava Lindner with Kim Polkinghorne.

Teamwork
Integrity
Generosity of Spirit
Excellence
Respect

16th March 2015

"I am still learning." ~ Michelangelo, age 87 ~

Term 1 Assembly Roster

Week 8 - Kyal McDonald, Ryder Egel, Rhea Kempe

Week 9 - Tyler Martin, Maddi Cain, Georgia Martin

Reminders

. Payment of 2015 School Fees

A reminder that this year's school fees are due to be paid by the end of this term, Friday 10th April 2015. If you wish to arrange an instalment plan, please see Annie or Necia in the office.

. Swimming Lessons - bus travel costs

Payment of bus travel costs for swimming lessons (\$15 per child) **was due on Friday 20th February 2015**. Please check your child's bag for a statement with swimming fees owed. If you haven't already, please make payment to Annie or Necia asap.

Diary Dates/Enclosed with this Newsletter

. Monday 16th March 2015

3:40pm Improvement committee meeting

6:45pm Finance committee meeting

7:30pm Governing Council meeting

SRC Casual Day - Wednesday 25th March 2015. A note will be sent home soon.

. Lower Middle Primary Fundraising tea - Friday 27th March 2015 from 5:30pm at the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club (before the school disco). Please return the enclosed order form and payment to the school on or before Wednesday 25th March 2015.

. SRC School Disco - Friday 27th March 2015 @ 7:00pm at the Mypolonga Institute. Please return attendance slip and \$5.50 payment per child to the school on or before Friday 20th March 2015.

. Parent/Teacher Interviews - Monday 30th March 2015 until Thursday 2nd April 2015. Please refer to the enclosed note re the online booking process. Bookings open 4:00pm Wednesday 18th March 2015 until 9:00am Wednesday 25th March 2015.

. School Sports' Day - Wednesday 8th April 2015 on the Mypolonga Primary School oval. Detailed information will be sent home in due course.

. 2:00pm RSL/ANZAC Service and 2:45pm End of Term Assembly - Thursday 9th April 2015

Happy Birthday

20/3 - Abbey (Year 6)

31/3 - Coen (Year 5)



Rita's Roar

Student Free Day

Last Tuesday, 350 leaders, teachers and support staff from the Murraylands attended professional development around executive functions, which are the self-regulation and stop-and-think skills required to be a purposeful learner. They are a range of processes such as planning, prioritising, verbal-reasoning, problem solving, sustaining and switching attention, multitasking, initiating and monitoring actions.

These abilities exert some control and direction over thoughts and actions. There are 3 core executive function abilities:

- **Impulse inhibition** – not acting without first thinking about it
- **Working memory** – holding information in your mind and mentally working with it
- **Mental flexibility** – changing perspectives, being flexible, adjusting to new demands

Professor Martin Westwell explained that studies have shown that the long held belief around socio-economic status (how rich or poor you are) being linked to student achievement is not necessarily correct. Researchers have found that the development of childhood self-control, is a clearer indicator of how successful students will be across a range of measures. Learners with lower levels of self-control are more likely to:

- Leave school without any formal qualifications
- Have a criminal conviction
- Have financial difficulties, lower income and lower socio-economic status
- Have poorer health outcomes

Across our partnership, we are working together to build our capacity to improve executive functions in learners from birth to year 12.

A busy end of term

Before we know it, it will be the end of term, and with so many things happening, please keep in the loop by checking the calendar on the back of the newsletter. Necia will also put reminders up on Facebook.

Helping your child with reading workshop

One of the things we are running on Thursday night is a workshop for parents about how to support your children at home with reading. We are finding that our students are over using sounding strategies and Jane and Hailey would like to give you some hints to help your children to broaden their repertoire of strategies when they don't know a word.

Some Special Feedback

We always get lovely letters from the Proud Mary but this one was extra special.

'Dear Teachers

We visited your lovely school last Friday and met some of your beautiful children. They restore our faith in the human race. When you meet children like yours, we realise that maybe all is not lost. Our future is in good hands. We have never met such a bunch of beautifully mannered children in all our lives. They really are a credit to you, the teachers and their parents.

Kindest Regards, Ann and Reg Hadley, Moonta Bay'

Congratulations Necia

I am very proud to announce that DECD has appreciated and acknowledged the exemplary work and higher-level administrative responsibilities that Necia does at our school and has rewarded her by reclassifying her from an SSO1 to an SSO2. Nothing is more deserved. We all love you Necia!

Warm Regards, Rita

Invitation for all Reception to Year 7 Parents, Caregivers and extended family members...

Helping Your Child with Reading Workshop

Thursday 19th March 2015 at 7:00pm in the Upper Primary classroom

Learn what to do when your child doesn't know a word

Workshop run by teachers Jane Rumbelow and Hailey Perry

Tea and coffee facilities will be available

March 2015

'From The Proud Mary...'

To the children of Mypolonga Primary School



Thank you for showing us your school. You have a lot to be proud of. The garden and the shop are really terrific.

I come from Aspendale on Port Phillip in Melbourne.

Thank you again, Annette M. Brilliant

** As part of our school shop 'map' rotation, students invite our visitors to place a pin on our world map to indicate where they come from. Our students ask information about their home city/country and following their visit, we often receive beautiful postcards, which we display on our map board (pictured below).*



Counsellor's Corner

5 Parenting Goals for Every Family

by Slovie Jungreis-Wolff



I am continuing to publish one goal each fortnight from an article by Slovie Jungreis-Wolff. Goal number 3 is about working on social skills. Good Social Skills are a critical part of children's success and happiness as they get older—even more important than their academic skills or intelligence.

'3. Work on Social Skills

Help your child be successful this year by preparing him not just academically, but also socially. School is not simply about getting straight A's, it is also about learning how to get on with others and knowing how to develop friendships. A child who is happy in school is a child who can focus on studying and doing well. He wants to be there and be a part of things. One who believes that school is all about academics and no social life unfortunately makes a big mistake.

How can we better teach our children social skills?

- Set rules and follow through with consequences when needed. Set routines for meals and bedtimes that establish stability.
- Develop your child's ability to put himself in the shoes of others and grow more sensitive.
- Help your child learn how to express frustration, disappointment and anger without hurting others or retreating into sullenness.
- Establish basic rules of conduct: no hitting, kicking, biting, spitting, (no hands allowed), and no hurting others through our words.'

We get numerous comments every week from the visitors to our school shop on the manners and friendliness of our students. So many adults have lost faith in the notion of good communication between children and adults...please be reassured it is alive and kicking here at Mypolonga Primary School!

Cheers, Kerry

Tennis Skills

Special thanks to our Living Legend Bob Hancock, who has kindly been bringing out a ball machine for our students to practice their tennis skills. They learnt very quickly to keep their eye on the ball and to hit with accuracy.

Below: Baylee Cooper, Jayda Stimpson and Clay Burgess waiting to receive.



Above: Maddi Cain & Kye Fawdry with Bob Hancock and the ball machine.



Black and Gold Hair Accessories

A friend of a family member in our school community is continuing to offer to make black & gold hair accessories for our students to purchase.

We will be placing an order on **Monday 23rd March 2015** (and once a term thereafter if we have enough interest), for anyone wishing to purchase any of the items. To place your order, please call into the office and see Necia, together with money. Prices are as follows:



Headbands (2.5cm wide) - \$10.00
Curly ribbons on clip - \$4.00
Curly ribbons on hair tie - \$4.00
Clips - \$2.00

Pictured above is Madalyn Uren wearing a black and gold clip and curly ribbons on a hair tie.



You may also like to contact Brenda direct via email brendaswann@hotmail.com. Please contact Necia in the office if you have any queries.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

Introducing...

Tyler Martin
SRC Leader

As an SRC leader, I hope to...
 have people look up to me.

Something you don't know about me is... we have a dairy farm and we go to Port MacDonnell every year.

I like to read... non-fiction novels.

I like to watch... cricket, footy and tennis.

I like to listen to... various songs.

One day I hope to... be a professional cricket player.

If I could change something in the world I would...
 get rid of all poverty.

The best thing about Mypolonga Primary School is... you make friends easily and everyone is nice.

Someone I really look up to is... my Dad
because... of how hard he works.



Class Awards

Term 1 Week 5

Junior Primary class

Kallan Hearne - for showing improvement in his journal writing.
Linton Garner - working well with numbers in Maths.

Junior Primary 1 class

Jacinta Clark - for always trying her best in every learning activity.
Brandan Pahl - for working hard and finishing all tasks.

Lower Middle Primary class

Ava Lindner - excellent work in narrative writing.
Kiarra Gillett - working hard to improve her reading strategies.

Middle Primary class

Kye Fawdry - for his enthusiasm and his commitment to reading.
Erin McDonald - for her willingness to help anybody, anywhere, anytime.

Upper Primary class

Blake Fidge - using initiative in food preparation.
Jackson Hughes - using initiative in food preparation.

Term 1 Week 6

Junior Primary class

Jorja Kuhn - for quietly achieving fantastic results in all learning areas.
Shelby Rothe - showing leadership to the receptions.

Junior Primary 1 class

Drew Bettcher - for gaining confidence in the classroom.
Jayden Hearne - fantastic contribution to class learning.

Lower Middle Primary class

Logan Rankin - great improvement in reading strategies.
Jessica Deane - excellent narrative writing.

Middle Primary class

Clay Burgess - for taking responsibility for his own learning - excellent home learning.
Larissa Pike - for working hard to improve and complete set tasks.

Upper Primary class

Abbey Schofield - for maintaining a high standard in all areas.
Mackenzie Rathjen - for resilience and determination to succeed in her learning.

2015 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/teacher interviews for all students will be held during Week 10, commencing Monday 30th March 2015 until 2nd April 2015. We will again be using an online booking facility for interviews with your child/ren's classroom teachers.

Bookings open on Wednesday 18th March 2015. Please refer to the enclosed note regarding the booking process. If you have any queries, please contact Annie or Necia in the office.

Student attendance at the interview is at the discretion of parents/caregivers.

Young Environmental Leaders' Forum

Once a term, four students from schools around our region meet together at different venues to form a group called the Young Environmental Leaders' Forum to learn about sustainability.

Four of our Year 7 students, (who are also on our Sustainability Committee), Alisha Hutchinson, Darcy Elliott, Luke Crouch and Mostyn Payne (*pictured*) were selected to be this year's representatives to attend these meetings.

Here is their most recent report:

"Our first workshop for the year was held at the Monarto Sporting Complex. When we arrived, we were asked to go in a circle and introduce ourselves to all the other members. During the day, we learnt about the ozone layer and how toxic fumes are damaging it. We walked in the scrub and were asked to work out what animals may live in there. Later in the day, we went in pairs and found a spot on the ground to draw a picture, which related to something we had learnt during the day. The day was interesting and fun and we made lots of new friends, some who we already knew through combined sports' days with Jervois Primary School, cricket and football."



Upper Primary - "The Highwayman"

The Upper Primary class recently read a famous poem, "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes. They created artwork in the style pictured with the poem, which is presently on display in the Upper Primary classroom.



"The Highwayman Artwork"
by Year 6 student
Paris Montgomery-Pittaway

Asian Studies

As part of Asian Studies, students have been learning about Chinese New Year and how people throughout Central and South-East Asia celebrate the holiday. The Chinese year of the goat began on Thursday the 19th of February. We celebrated as a school by decorating our classrooms with dancing lions and dragons, red lanterns, making red envelopes as gifts and writing Chinese characters symbolising what we wish for our friends and family for the New Year. The Upper Primary Class also organised a feast of fried rice, and some Asian fruits for all students to try. *Pictured from left:* Linx Baker, Rhea Kempe and Paris Montgomery-Pittaway, Jessica Donald, Cameron Hazel, Blake Fidge and Amber Gielen.



Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory ("ELLI")

Research has shown 50% of academic achievement is based around a child's disposition to learn. The Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory (ELLI), is a way to build and measure a child's disposition to learn. At Mypo, we have a whole school approach to ELLI, with the 7 dispositions represented by animals. The 7 dispositions are:

- Changing and Learning; represented by Camilla the chameleon
- Critical Curiosity; represented by Katie the cat
- Meaning Making; represented by Sam the spider
- Creativity; represented by Unity the unicorn
- Strategic Awareness; represented by Ollie the owl
- Resilience; represented by Tiger the turtle
- Learning Relationships; represented by Billy the bee

Thanks to parent Emma Stewart for her wonderful sewing skills in attaching the name cards to our animals.

Pictured below with the animals are (from left); Linton Garner, Hayden Clark and Charlie Harrowfield.



Junior Primary Enterprise

Bookmarks & Bag Tags

Junior Primary class students individually design their bookmarks, which are then laminated, and hole punched to allow for a woollen tassel to be attached.

The bag tags contain a photo of the school shop, which includes a spot to write your name and address. At present, students are working on their own, individual designs! *Pictured are bookmark designs by Shelby Rothe and Dominick Swansson.*



Bookmarks and Bag Tags are priced at \$2.00 each.



School Shop Class Enterprise programs



As part of their enterprise education program, students from all classes design and make items to sell in our School Shop.

This fortnight, we are showcasing items from the Junior Primary, Junior Primary 1 and Lower Middle Primary classes.

The designs on the bookmarks and notebooks reflect students' ideas of the Mypolonga area and school.

The items make great, small gift ideas and are available to purchase by calling into the office or by visiting the school shop during rotation time (Fridays 12:00pm-12:45pm).

Lower Middle Primary Enterprise Notebooks

The Lower Middle Primary class notebooks have individual designs on the front cover, contain recycled paper and have a magnet on the inside front cover so you can use it as a fridge magnet once all the pages have been removed. The notepads sell for \$2.50 each. *Pictured below are designs by Jeremy George and Claire Ruckenstein.*



Community News

Mypolonga Football Club - Training

Football training reverts back to Thursdays for all teams on Thursday 26th March 2015.

Saturday 11th April 2015 - Round 1 -v- Mannum @ Mannum. Following the game, enjoy a bonfire, music and food at Rathjen's Shed at Caloote. More details to follow!

Sports Vouchers Program The State Government Sports Vouchers Program is an opportunity for primary school age children from Reception to Year 7 to receive a \$50 discount from sports club/membership fees. Visit www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au or contact your sporting club if you require further information. The Mypolonga Netball League Club and Mypolonga Football Club are both part of this program.

Mypolonga Cricket Club

Presentation Night

All Mypo Cricket Club members, friends & family of U/10 Div 2, U/12 Div 1, U/15, B Grade & A Grade teams are invited to attend the Mypolonga Cricket Club 2014/15 Presentation Night to be held on Saturday 28th March 2015 from 6.30pm @ the Mypolonga Combined Sports' Club. Trophies will be presented to U/10s (Div 2), U/12 (Div 1), U/15s, B Grade & A Grade players. Children's meals \$5.00-\$10.00 / Adult meals \$10.00-\$15.00. For further enquiries, please contact Kym Walton 0488020715 or Al Schenscher 0400252952.

Finals

Congratulations to the B Grade team on winning the Div 2 Murray Towns Cricket Association ('MTCA') grand final on the weekend. Best of luck to the A Grade team, which will be playing in the MTCA grand final this weekend.

Mypolonga RSL - BBQ Bingo Tea

Friday 20th March 2015 at the Mypolonga RSL. Bingo teas are inexpensive, fun nights out for the whole family. Teas commence at 6:00pm, bingo starts at 7:30pm. Please BYO salad or plate of sweets to share.

Murray Bridge Basketball Association

Winter Season

We are looking for players for the upcoming Winter season commencing Monday 4th May 2015. New players are welcome! If you are interested, please contact Petrina at the Murray Bridge Basketball Association on 85310755 or email admin@mbba.com.au and we will then put you in contact with a club.

3x3 National Basketball Competition

The Rural City of Murray Bridge has been successful in attracting a National 3x3 Basketball competition to Murray Bridge. The competition is open to players of all abilities, with male and female U14, U16, U18 open categories and is being held on 9th-10th May 2015 from 8:30am-6:00pm at the Murray Bridge Basketball Stadium and Unity College. Prizes to be won! For further enquiries, and to register, visit www.basketball.net.au

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

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

Friday 5th June 2015 - **Student Free Day**

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

Planning Calendar Term 1 2015

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

8	16/3 Newsletter 3:40pm Improvement comm. meeting 6:45pm Finance Meeting 7:30pm Governing Council meeting	17/3	18/3 4:00pm - Online bookings open for Parent / Teacher interviews	19/3 7:00pm Helping your Child with Reading workshop	20/3 3:00pm Assembly Mypo RSL bingo bbq tea	21/3 & 22/3 21/3 - Harmony Day
9	23/3	24/3	25/3 SRC Casual Day 9:00am - Online bookings close for Parent / Teacher interviews	26/3 MFC footy training reverts back to Thursdays for all teams	27/3 3:00pm Assembly LMP Fundraising Tea / SRC School Disco	28/3 & 29/3 28/3 - MCC Presentation Night
10	30/3 Newsletter Parent/teacher interviews	31/3	1/4	2/4	3/4 Good Friday	4/4 & 5/4 5/4 - Daylight Savings Ends
11	6/4 Easter Monday	7/4	8/4 School Sports' Day	9/4 2:00pm RSL/Anzac Service 2:45pm End of Term Assembly 3:25pm Dismissal	10/4 Newsletter No Assembly 2:25pm Dismissal	11/4 & 12/4 11/4 - MFC & MNLC -v- Mannum @ Mannum + bonfire night

Mypolonga Primary School

Principal: Rita O'Brien

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