

Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

**"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day.
Don't clean it up too quickly."**

~ Andrew Aitken Rooney (14/1/1919 – 4/11/2011) was an American radio and television writer ~

Term 4, Week 9 10th December 2020

We Roar as One!

Happy birthday...

11/12 - Aidyn (Year 2)
12/12 - Zara (Year 1)
21/12 - Jai (Year 4)
23/12 - Dom (Year 5)
24/12 - Jackson (Year 3)

2021

2/1 - Connor (Year 5)
2/1 - Hamish (Year 1)
5/1 - Ledja (Year 6)
5/1 - Levi (Year 6)
5/1 - Haiden (Year 5)
7/1 - Ava (Year 5)
8/1 - Kallan (Year 6)
13/1 - Alarah (Year 6)
15/1 - Drew (Year 7)
16/1 - Lachlan (Year 4)
19/1 - Reagan (Year 6)
21/1 - Lila (Year 5)
26/1 - Leila (Reception)
27/1 - Scarlett (Year 3)
28/1 - Madison (Year 6)

**Wishing everyone a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.. from
our family to yours!**



Staffing

Our staffing for next year has been approved. (In teaching terms, 0.2 is one full day). Jacob will return to 0.4 UP and 0.6 PE. Jo will work 0.4 with Hailey in the Reception / Year 1 class. Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Lexi, who has been able to secure full-time employment at Murray Bridge High School. Lexi has been a highly valued member of our team and we wish her all the best in her new role. We will miss you Lex! Fortunately, we were able to offer Lexi's 0.4 contract to Kara, who was going to leave us, so we are really happy that that will no longer happen.

Transition

Transition was particularly challenging this year, with parental entry on to the site still at a minimum. Necia and Annie came up with a process to ease the anxiety of new students and parents, while still following COVID guidelines. Things went very smoothly and parents were able to say goodbye and leave. Normally, I would meet with new parents, but we have postponed that until next term, when hopefully restrictions will have eased even further. Next year we will have two Reception / Year 1 classes.

Year 7 Graduation

Last night, we were able to celebrate and recognise our wonderful Year 7s at their graduation held at the Mypolonga Combined Sport's Clubrooms. Our wonderful community once again rose to the occasion and we had a beautiful dinner catered for, by our community volunteers. I particularly want to thank Annie and Necia for their tireless work to organise this event. It was great to be able to socialise again and we look forward to this once again being our normal.

The Concert we didn't have

When we were unable to run our 'Here Comes the Sun' celebrations as planned, we were bitterly disappointed. On Friday, we ran our concert without parents and filmed snippets to share with our community on Facebook. We have been really heartened by the number of views we have had. The theme was one of positivity and new beginnings and we hope that next year will fulfil our hopes.

Goodbye

It is always sad to say goodbye to families when their youngest child finishes year 7. Many of these families have been with us for a very long time and school has been such an important part of their lives. We say goodbye to the Stimpson, Ruckstuhl, Sinclair-Raves, Matheson, Tidy, Dahlitz, Bettcher, Martin (Daniel and Cass) and Peterson families. We also say goodbye to the McNeilly and Coull families and wish them well for their next journey.

Challenges for 2021

Next year, our graduating class will consist of Year 7s and Year 6s. We have already put a lot of thought into ways we can offer leadership opportunities to all graduates in 2021, while ensuring the Year 5s will be able to pick up the baton and run with it in 2022. We have come up with a plan, together with our graduates, to ensure this works smoothly and we are really looking forward to implementing this plan.

Quite frankly, while I will be glad to see the back of 2020, I have also been so impressed by the way our school and our community has dealt with uncertainty and change with such a positive and flexible attitude. Bring on 2021. We will be starting school next year on Wednesday 27th January 2021 (not the Monday). Hot off the Press! Dux of Year 8 at MBHS – not one Mypo student, but two! Congratulations Makayla Stimpson and Jessica – keep flying that TIGER flag proudly!

Warm Regards, Rita

Class Awards - Term 4 Week 8

Junior Primary Gold

Oliver O'Shea-Coulter - showing great perseverance whilst drawing his sunset.

Hamish Newman - helping settle in the new Receptions on transition day.

Junior Primary Black

Zara Hagger - taking pride in her work and showing persistence when things get tough.

Cohen Bender - always bringing a positive attitude towards learning and using his initiative in the classroom.

Middle Primary Gold

Sirat Judge - working hard to understand and learn new spelling concepts.

Noah Martin - showing kindness to his peers.

Middle Primary Black

Bella Pope - precise measurement in Mathematics.

Pippa Smith - always being a mature and focussed student.

Upper Primary Gold

Linton Garner - a very entertaining and informative Surprise Me presentation.

Blake Kennedy - working and trying so hard to independently write his poem.

Upper Primary Black

Riley Hagger - greatly improving his leadership and the way he communicates with his peers.

Braeden Watts - having an increased focus in class and delivering high levels of work.

FINAL Champion's Cup Results for 2020

Gold (Finnis) 87 points / 3407 points

Red (Murray) 76 points / 3311 points

Blue (Hindmarsh) 54 points / 2621 points

Congratulations FINNIS on taking out this year's Champion's Cup!



School Shop program

This year, the Proud Mary tour group continued to include our School Shop in its weekly itinerary (when COVID restrictions allowed).

Students in the Upper Primary unit mentored Junior and Middle Primary class trainees, allowing all our students to be involved in the shop in some way.

When the shop was closed for business, we had the opportunity to stocktake all our school shop items. We hope the easing of restrictions will allow us to welcome back our school shop visitors early next term.

Pictured below; Madison & Ellie working 'on the Inside Counter' / Danté and Amilee helping with the stocktake of School Shop items.



Spreading Christmas Joy

This week, Mrs Stone's Reception students decided to spread some Christmas joy around the school. A postbox was made and all students and staff members in the school were asked if they would like to write a Christmas card to someone who has showed kindness or helped them in any way during the year.

Just like the good 'ol days, after Crunch 'n Sip, our little postmen sort the mail and distribute the cards personally to the recipients.

It has been a lovely surprise for us all! Pictured right; Owen and Paige.



"The joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you."
~ John Greenleaf Whittier ~

Class Enterprise Program - Thanks for your support!

Thanks to everyone who supported our classroom enterprise program this year. Money raised has helped us subsidise excursions and to purchase resources, whilst teaching our students food preparation and money reconciliation. Pictured left and ready to take orders; Bailey & Azalea.



Kiwanis Club of Murray Bridge Terrific Kids for Term 4 2020

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students on receiving the Kiwanis Club of Murray Bridge 'Terrific Kids' award for Term 4 2020. These awards are presented to students in Terms 2 and 4 who live our TIGER values.

Junior Primary Gold

Leila Frew

Junior Primary Black

Hamish Shanahan

Middle Primary Gold

Trik Eldridge

Middle Primary Black

Samuel Castle

Upper Primary Gold

Haydn Castle

Governing Council End of Year Report

The year 2020 will be remembered for times of great change. COVID-19 has tested our patience, and our ability to function in our normal tight and social community we know as team Mypo. Adapting has been taxing on our energy and our resources, and we have risen to the challenge many times throughout the year. Our parents and caregivers have been the missing ingredient in so many of our events and learning opportunities. Without the occasion to share in our normal end of year activities like assembly, choir etc, it feels to me as though the year has come to a sudden halt.

Importantly, our children have displayed incredible resilience. Some of the younger students have thrived with the kiss and drop scenario COVID has created, which was evident on transition day.

Our staff have continuously gone above and beyond and it's hard to put into words how to express enough gratitude. Their endeavours to be flexible, to adapt and to be as fair as possible, have not gone unnoticed. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you.

We have our sights focussed on calmer waters in 2021. This will be the last year that all Year 7 public students will be taught in Primary school in South Australia. The strategy we adopted starting this year to form 6 classes for the first time in our school's history has been well received. The leadership opportunities for the year 6 and 7s has been thoroughly considered.

We will have a new adult toilet block arrive over the summer period, and there will be some upgrades to facilities during 2021. We thank the Department for Education for their funding opportunities and leadership during this time.

The School Governing Council is a sounding board for Rita and the management staff. Please consider joining the Governing Council. Meetings are Monday evenings at 7.30pm of Week 3 & 8 each term, averaging 1.5 hours. The AGM will be held Week 4 on Monday 15 February 2021 and we hope to see you there.

Mypolonga Primary is a high performing school. Our NAPLAN results are one way this is measured and so is our community involvement. As parents and caregivers, we walk side by side with teachers in helping our children thrive and learn. Every best wish as you spend time with your children over the festive season. This is a time we will never forget, and perhaps the opportunity to reflect on things we take for granted.

In the words of our children singing online at the concert, 'Here comes the Sun' for a brighter 2021.

Kelly Kuhn, Governing Council Chairperson



Young Leader of the Year 2020



This year, our Upper Primary Young Leader Award recipients receive \$50.00 each, which has been kindly donated by Rita & Bill O'Brien and Anne & Graham Martin

Jayden Ladson and Shaylee Martin

Student of the Year 2020

This year, our Student of the Year recipients receive a \$25.00 Big W Gift Card, which has been kindly donated by Kevin and Julie Savill from the Mypolonga General Store.

Upper Primary Black

Jacinta Clark

Upper Primary Gold

Brandan Pahl and Ava Hagger

Middle Primary Black

Charlotte Pahl and Charlotte Ladson

Middle Primary Gold

Scarlett Perry

Junior Primary Black

Emily Rathjen

Junior Primary Gold

Abby Peacock and Imogen Martin

Most Improved Student for 2020

Upper Primary Black

Autumn Stapleton

Upper Primary Gold

Molly Day

Middle Primary Gold

Tayla Roden

Junior Primary Black

Kaylee Polak

Junior Primary Gold

Oliver Carroll



2020 Academic Excellence Award

Our Upper Primary Academic Excellence award recipient receives \$60.00, which has been kindly donated by Di Coventry and Ken Coventry OAM.



Hayden Dahlitz



2020 Tiger Values Award

Our Upper Primary Tiger Values award recipient receives \$50.00, which has been kindly donated by the Kiwanis Club of Murray Bridge.

Drew Bettcher

Student of the Term - Term 4 2020

Our Students of the Term receive a \$15.00 Big W Gift Card.

Upper Primary Black

Elouise Kuhn and Koby Stimpson

Upper Primary Gold

Amilee Harvie

Middle Primary Black

Lilly Lear

Middle Primary Gold

Hannah Burdett and Carla Hanks

Junior Primary Black

Riley Frew

Junior Primary Gold

Isabel Hillam

Most Improved Student - Term 4 2020

Upper Primary Gold

Jorja Kuhn

Middle Primary Black

Bella Pope

Junior Primary Black

Olivia Scott

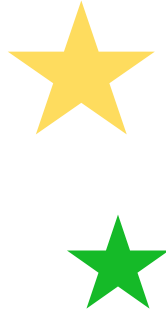
Junior Primary Gold

Vann Ryles



School Concert 'COVID Style'

Our end of year 'Concert' was held on Friday afternoon in our library. It was certainly a different feel and we were well aware that our support network was not present 😞. The show must go on as they say, and we couldn't be more proud of the way our students have continued to step up through such adversity. Snippets of class concert items were recently posted on our Facebook page.



Here Comes the
Sun



Mypolonga Cricket Club - Christmas Show 2020 - Saturday 19th December 2020. Meals available from 6:30pm. Further details can be found on the Mypolonga Cricket Club Facebook page.

Mypolonga Combined Churches - Christmas Carols Service - Monday 21st December 2020 @ 7:00pm, held at the Mypolonga Uniting Church. Supper provided. No donation of food required. Thank you! All welcome!

Class of 2020

Goodbye and Good Luck Year 7s

We will miss you!



Drew Bettcher



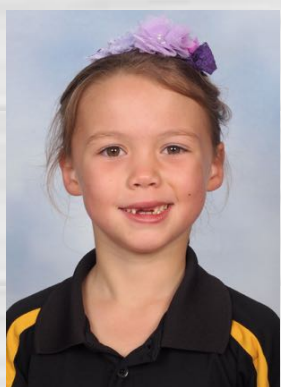
Biggest achievement: being elected SRC Leader and House Captain.

Dreams for the future: to visit New Zealand.

Something I will never forget: the flies!, even if I try!



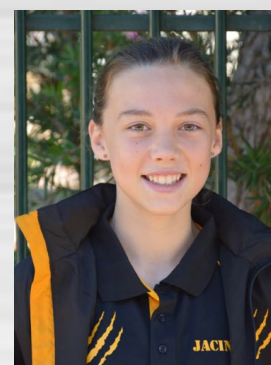
Jacinta Clark



Biggest achievement: becoming House Captain and to hopefully win the Cup!

Favourite memory: sitting in a circle in Reception while Tiger the Turtle was being passed around.

I will never forget: the memories I have made with my friends.



Hayden Dahlitz



Biggest achievement: becoming Shop Leader.

Advice I would give to our Reception students: you will miss 100% of the shots you don't take.

I will never forget: the teachers.



Farewell Thoughts... "Mypolonga Primary School has been such a blessing to our family. To know your children are being nurtured not only academically, but also having their leadership potential realised is something that does not always happen elsewhere. We are so thankful to the staff as a whole for being committed to developing our children. We will be forever grateful for this strong foundation of holistic education." *Holly & Mark Bettcher*

Farewell Thoughts... "Thank you to Mypo Primary School staff for all the support and encouragement you have given our children over the years." *Cass & Daniel Martin*

Riley Hagger



Biggest achievement: going to every SAPSASA District Day.

Career ideas or dreams for the future: to become a farmer and have a family.

Biggest lesson learnt: interacting with people from the Proud Mary and learning to count back change.



Jayden Hearne



Dreams for the future: to become an Auto Mechanic, be part of Nitro Circus and make a living in extreme sports.

Favourite memories: crossing Kalen up in a 1v1. SEPEP basketball.

I will never forget: Mrs Stone's teaching and Mr Rance's opera singing.. haha!



Zac Kennison



Dreams for the future: to be owner of a solar power and wind farm with Riley.

Favourite memory: participating in SAPSASA basketball and being undefeated champions.

Biggest achievement: becoming House Captain and pretty much winning the Championship Cup!



Farewell Thoughts...

"We have been incredibly lucky to be part of the Mypolonga Primary School and are sad to be leaving. It has been wonderful to see our children grow and learn with the help of such amazing teachers and support staff. Thank you Mypo for all the great years and memories we will all take with us into the next chapter."

Melissa & Corey Dahlitz



Jayden Ladson



Biggest achievement: winning the 12 year old boys trophy at District Day @ Unity College.

Advice I give to our Reception students: ask questions and enjoy your time at primary school.

Something I will miss: the wonderful teachers and staff.



Shaylee Martin



Biggest achievement: having many leadership roles and being selected in SAPSASA netball twice.

Career ideas: to be a hairdresser, beautician or nail technician.

Advice I give to our Reception students: enjoy your time, make lots of friends and work hard.



Heath Matheson



Biggest achievement: receiving the Most Improved for Term 3 award.

Career ideas: work in coding or something to do with technology.

Biggest lesson learnt: counting back change.



James Mueller

James began with us in Reception and transferred to Monash Primary School at the beginning of Term 4 this year.



‘Be the Change You Wish To See in the World’

~ Mohandas Gandhi ~

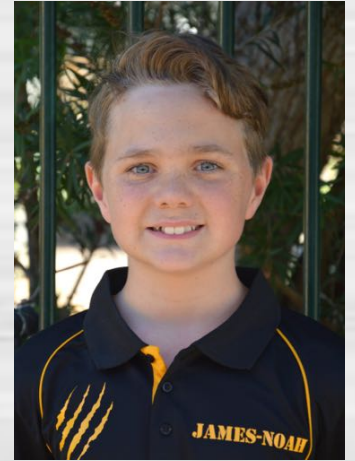
James-Noah Peterson



Biggest achievement: receiving a Terrific Kids award.

Career ideas: working with circuit boards.

Favourite memory: class camps and the giant swing at El Shaddai.



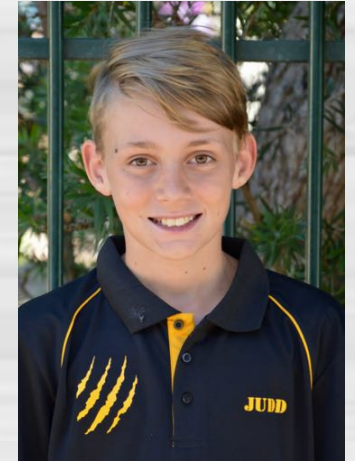
Judd Ruckenstuhl



Biggest achievement: receiving my School Shop Quality Assurance badge in Year 6.

Career ideas: to be a Farmer and have a beautiful family.

Biggest lesson learnt: learning how to run a business because of the School Shop.



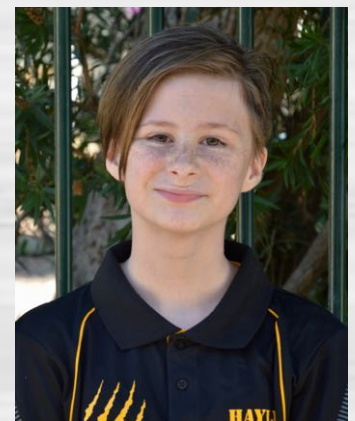
Haylee Sinclair



Biggest achievement: learning all my times tables and making new friends.

Career ideas: to be an Artist/Animator.

Advice to our Reception students: Never give up.. there are people who are there for you :)



Farewell Thoughts... "It's been a privilege to have sent both Claire & Judd through the Mypolonga Primary School. Teachers and staff have been excellent. The students are friendly and polite and it is a great little community. Thank you very much." *Justin Ruckenstuhl*

Farewell Thoughts... "Thanks to Rita and all the teaching and support staff (past and present) for their care for, and patience with, James-Noah and Benjamin over the last 9 years.

We're grateful that we had the opportunity to bring our kids from Murray Bridge to Mypolonga PS, and for the quality of the education received. It was a pleasure to be part of the Mypo family as parents, Governing Council (David) and Relief Teacher (Adrienne) over these years. Being part of this school made it possible for us to be received into the wider Mypo community in cricket and football." *David & Adrienne Peterson*

Autumn Stapleton



I will miss: my teachers, for always being there for me.

Career ideas: to be a zoo vet and an Olympic show jumper (equestrian events).

Advice I give to our Reception students: believe in yourself and never give up!



Koby Stimpson



Biggest achievement: being on SRC, YEL, World Being and becoming a leader for my house team.

Career ideas: to own my own business such as a cafe.

Favourite memory: all the friends I have made and to watch Tiger the Turtle grow up as the years went by.



Joe Tidy



Career ideas: I am interested in mental health and I would love to have a dog.
Biggest achievement: the friendships I have made and knowing my times tables. Also, the days I got to school on time (I rode my bike)... they may be few but they're important.

Favourite memory: this year's camp. It was fun and I really liked skiing.



Farewell Thoughts... "Our children grow up in the blink of an eye! One minute you are holding their hand and walking them into school for the first time and then suddenly they're off to high school! We are so grateful to the Mypolonga school and staff for giving them a solid foundation that they can take with them through their lives. As my children have said 'at Mypo school, you don't just learn education, you learn life skills and values! (Tiger values). Thank you Mypo for all your love and support!' Monique and Sime"

Farewell Thoughts... "First of all, I just want to say thank you very much for everything you've done for all my boys! You all were a huge part of them blossoming into the fine young men they are becoming/have become. You created a beautiful school environment for learning and developing strong relationships. The smallness of the school had both its challenges and advantages which helped them to 'build a bridge' in those tricky times, developing their resilience and confidence to speak up. It's wonderful that students are still able to enjoy the privilege of school camps, they're a rare thing in many other schools these days. I can still remember my school camps and I'm sure it is the same for my boys. I wish I could articulate better my appreciation for all you've done, thank you just doesn't seem like enough, but I truly am grateful to you all!" Theresa Tidy

Planner - Term 1 2021

MCSC - Mypolonga Combined Sports Club / MFC - Mypolonga Football Club / MBHS - Murray Bridge High School / MNLC - Mypolonga Netball League Club / MCC - Mypolonga Cricket Club / SVA - Social Ventures Australia / YEL - Young Environmental Leaders

Week 1	25/1 Student Free Day	26/1 Australia Day Public Holiday	27/1 . Welcome back! (Term 1 commences)	28/1	29/1	30/1 & 31/1
Week 2	1/2 . Newsletter . Swimming Lessons (Reception to Year 5 students only)	2/2 . Swimming Lessons (Reception to Year 5 students only)	3/2 . Swimming Lessons (Reception to Year 5 students only)	4/2 . Swimming Lessons (Reception to Year 5 students only)	5/2 . Swimming Lessons (Reception to Year 5 students only)	6/2 & 7/2

End of Year Artwork

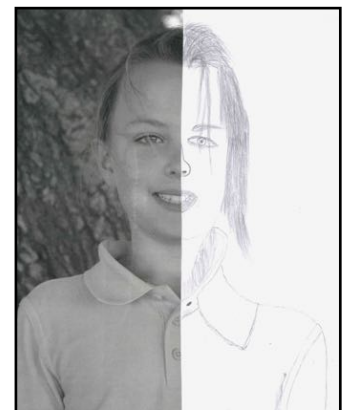
Clockwise from right;

Junior Primary Gold Christmas Trees Isabel & Cayce

Upper Primary Gold Christmas Tree Art Brady, Levi and Linton

Middle Primary Black Self Portraits Ryley & Lilly

Middle Primary Gold Christmas Elves Mila & Azalea



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White Ribbon SCHOOL

