

# Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

29<sup>th</sup> October 2012

## Assembly Roster – Term 4 2012

**Week 4** – Johannah Hobbs, Bailey O'Connor, Georgia Payne

**Week 5** – No Assembly



## Mypolonga Primary School Concert

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012  
Unity College Steeple,  
Murray Bridge

\* further details will be  
sent home soon \*



### SAPSASA Tennis

Congratulations to Year 7 student Chelsea Hagger on being selected to represent the Murraylands District in the SAPSASA tennis team. Chelsea will compete in the State Carnival in Adelaide from Monday to Thursday this week. Good luck Chelsea!

### Notes to be returned to the school

- . Upper Primary camp consent forms with payment/commitment to pay.
- . Junior Primary buffet breakfast order forms (due by 29/10/12).
- . 'It's Academic' photo release forms.
- . Bikeathon / Walkathon sponsorship forms and money (due by 30/10/12).

### Enclosed with this Newsletter

- . Materials and Services Charges (school fees) for 2013.

### World Teacher's Day

Last week, we recognised World Teachers' Day, which was celebrated in South Australia on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012. Our SSOs held a morning tea to help celebrate and we are sure the Mypolonga community will join them in thanking our dedicated and inspiring teachers Rita, Anne, Kerry, Marlene, Jane, Nicole, Amy and Weiwei for teaching, motivating and encouraging our children to be life long learners.

### Happy Birthday...

30/10 – Claire Ruckenstuhl  
11/11 – Madalyn Uren  
12/11 – Holly Wachtel



Government of South Australia  
Department of Education and  
Child Development



..../2

Woodhouse Camp: Alisha Hutchinson,  
Jake Orchard, Thomas Tidy, Henry Payne



Teamwork  
Integrity  
Generosity of Spirit  
Excellence  
Respect

"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination and instil a love of learning."  
~ Brad Henry ~

Make yourself a cup of tea and get comfortable. There's lots to read about.

### Personal Learning

One of our mantras at Mypo is that 'a child educated only at school is an uneducated child.' We believe learning happens everywhere and we need to be ready to create and seize opportunities when they occur.

The year 7s have just completed their Personal Learning Projects and Holly Wachtel learned to weld, and with her father Jason, made a heater out of old truck brake drums and spanners. However, while this was fantastic, I want to share with you (with Holly's permission) some learning about relationships.

Holly wrote: 'I want to be a carpenter or architect, but with the skills I have learned I could be anything. Welding, grinding, drilling: I have learned so many things that other people my age have no idea about. I am so privileged to have a father who loves to build things and experiment with blacksmithing. That is another reason I wanted to do this project. Fathers spending time with their daughters is not something that you see everyday, now that phones and PlayStations have been invented. But I did get to hang out with my Dad and I had a great time. I cherish all the time I get with my Dad, we joke, muck around and, well, sometimes he is more of a kid than me. (I agree!) I also wanted to do this because I have seen how my Dad makes them and he looks like he is having a great time. He would have his music pumping and he'd be singing along with it.'

Jason taught Holly how to make a heater, but I think she learned a lot more than that.

The diversity of personal learning, the level of engagement, and the quality of new learning and reflection by the year 7s was outstanding. A display of their work will be in the library for 2 weeks. A big thank you to Steven Duell who worked with the Year 6s on K'nex to enable me to give specific individual feedback for improvement to the Year 7s over the course of their learning. The Year 6s have been so inspired by the Year 7s work that they have already asked me for the assessment rubric so that they can plan for next year.

### Some More Recognition

Last week, Anne and I travelled to Renmark to participate in the Advantage SA Awards (formerly known as SA Great). We were nominated for the award by someone unknown to us, and we are very grateful for this. We won the Murraylands and Riverland Flinders University Education Award and will now be in the running for the state award, which will be announced on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. The beautiful trophy is on display in the Office.

We have also received the report from the Australian Business Excellence Awards. One of the best things about Frameworks such as this, and the DECD Improvement and Accountability Framework, is that they are tools which we can use to self review and put improvement processes in place. We used the ABEF in this way.

Of concern to me, was that the Evaluation Team did not understand the educational context, and to some extent I still feel that was the case. While my focus was on teaching and learning improvement, their focus was around organisational improvement. So I wasn't very confident. I needn't have worried! We received a bronze award (which was what Peter Chislett thought we would score) but the good news was that we were only 10 points off silver. Many of the recommendations for improvement were things we have already identified, or things which we have no control over. While I was very happy to go through this process and feel we learned a lot, it's the kind of thing I would like to do once in a life-time. We will put this report on our website in due course.

### Revegetation Project

Paul Jones, a local dairy farmer, has given us the land across the road from the school to revegetate and use as a learning experience outside of the school boundaries. Jenni Llewellyn, also a dairy farmer, through the Mypolonga Landcare Group, is helping the Sustainability Committee manage this project. This land has been difficult to access until recently. A big thank you to Ashley Martin, Georgia's dad, and Corey Jones, Paul's son who filled in the channel to create easy access for all students. Members of the Junior Youth Forum will lead this project but we are inviting any interested people to come on board. Just as building a heater was not just about that, the revegetation of this land is making our students more environmentally aware, and transferring classroom learning into real life, making-a-difference situations.

### Opinion Surveys

Thank you so much to people who completed opinion surveys. Parental and Caregiver feedback was fantastic and when we feel appreciated it just inspires us all to try even harder. Particularly heartening were the student responses, which were amazing. All Middle and Upper Primary students responded. 75% of students strongly agreed and 25% of students agreed (100%) that 'My school encourages students to have a sense of pride in their school.'

The results of the opinion surveys are displayed in the front office and will go up on our website shortly.

### Choir

Last Monday night, I was privileged to watch our students perform in the Town Hall in the Murraylands Music Festival. I must particularly congratulate Chelsea Hagger, who did a fine job as compere, and soloists Sahara Sullivan Close, Aimee Kelly, Abbey Kruschel, Mackenzie Rathjen and Darcy Elliott. I know I am biased, but I think these students stood out.

### Football Dinner

My admiration goes out to Holly W, Damon, Lexie, Chloe and Patrick, who along with Annie, Yvette, Mary and her daughter Shannon, Jacqui and Sarah worked like trojans at the Football Dinner. The Football Dinner is our equivalent of 'Operation Flinders', because the work is so hard, but there is such a sense of accomplishment when it is finished. At the dinner, Graeme Stegmeyer, President of the Football Club, congratulated the school on its successes and we received a standing ovation.

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, a Council Meeting will be held here at the school, for which we will cater. There will be an information session from 5:20pm-6:00pm for any interested community members, followed by supper. The Council meeting will follow that.

CONGRATULATIONS CRICKETERS!! on winning your first game and taking your first wicket (pictured right).

Warm Regards,  
Rita



### Counsellor's Corner

#### Why is sleep so important?

I recently attended a training and development day, which included a session on how important sleep is for growing bodies. I was astounded to find out that some children set their own bedtime!

There is a saying that I love and it goes like this; 'children don't know what they don't know'. This is so true.

It is our job as parents to impart our knowledge. We do know best and we do what we do because it is in the best interest of our children. Children need a routine that includes an actual bedtime!

The following information has come from a Sleep Seminar Program (Australian Centre for Education in Sleep). I will be putting this information in over the next few newsletters. I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

*'As a parent, there are many things that we have to teach our kids. Be polite, eat your veggies, do your homework, be a good sport etc. etc. They are very busy with school and homework, movies to watch, games to play, sports and clubs, friends and family. Lots to do on the weekends. So where does sleep come into all this?'*

- *Infants can't stop it*
- *Toddlers and pre-schoolers don't want it*
- *School aged children think it's cool not to get it*
- *Adolescents don't care if they get it*
- *We want more of it but can't get it*
- *Our parents have time for it but often can't do it*

*At your child's age, sleep is as important for development as eating and breathing. As a growing person, your child needs a lot of sleep (9 – 12 hours per night) because they are growing at a very fast rate. They may not be getting that much sleep and if they are not, they may be 'deprived' of sleep. What happens then?*

*The program has come out of many years of study which suggests that poor sleep can SERIOUSLY affect the mental, emotional and physical development of your child.'*

Stay tuned for the 'how', 'what' and 'what if' of sleep so you can help your child BE THE BEST THEY CAN!

Cheers, Kerry



**Class Awards  
Term 4 Week 2**

**Junior Primary class**

**Logan Rankin** – for working so well for the past six weeks with a broken arm!!

**Junior Primary 1 class**

**Jade Prosser** – for having a positive attitude towards learning and always trying her very best.

**Lower Middle Primary class**

**Orlando Reddin** – excellent behaviour for Miss Paech on Thursday.

**Chloe Pahl** – organised first time camper.

**Middle Primary class**

**Keeghan Davis** – a responsible camper.

**Madison Kruschel** – a helpful and active camper.

**Upper Primary class**

**Angus Shanahan** – for excellent leadership and problem solving.

**Brodie Hocking** – for a fantastic personal project and presentation.

**Lower Middle Primary / Middle Primary  
Woodhouse Camp**



Breakfast time!



**Animals  
Anonymous  
Visit:**

Brayden  
Vandenberg  
with a squirrel  
glider



**Creek Crossing:**  
Kylly Reen



**Bettong Marsupial:**  
Orlando Reddin



**Team Bonding Activities:**  
Kyal McDonald, Mostyn Payne,  
Jessica Donald, Shanae Neale  
and Shaeden Lukey on Geeta  
Boards

**Community News**



**Mypolonga Football Club**

**AGM:** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012 – to be held at the Mypolonga Combined Sports Club.

**Mypolonga Netball Club**

**AGM:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012 @ 7:00pm – to be held at the Mypolonga Combined Sports Club.

**Mypolonga Combined SC - Friday Night Teas**

The next tea is... **homemade pizza night!**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 at the Mypolonga Combined Sports Club, including member's draw. All welcome! Bring the family along for a relaxed, enjoyable night and choose from a variety of 4 pizza toppings. Bar opens from 5:30pm, teas 6:30pm.

**Mypolonga Progress Association**

Meeting to be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2012 at the Mypolonga RSL. All welcome!

**Rural City of Murray Bridge**

Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the Mypolonga Primary School at 7:00pm. Community tea from 5:20pm-6:00pm followed by interaction prior to Council meeting at 7:00pm.

**Trees for Life**

Volunteers are urgently sought to grow native seedlings this summer. Trees for Life provides all the propagation materials – seed varieties, tubes, boxes, soil and mulch. Once sown and raised, seedlings are handed over for planting in the winter months. For more information, phone Tania Kearney on 84060500.

**Vacswim January 2013**

The annual SA Water VACSWIM program will be held between 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013 @ Murray Bridge Olympic Pool. Enrolment forms are available from the office or by visiting [www.vacswimsa.com.au](http://www.vacswimsa.com.au).

**International Day of People with Disability**

To be held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge between 10:00am and 2:30pm. Activities include adaptive rowing, soccer, Milo into Cricket, croquet and sailability. Free BBQ lunch. All welcome! RSVP 23/11/12 Ph: Faith Box 85391126.

**Murray Bridge Golf Club – coaching clinics/lessons**

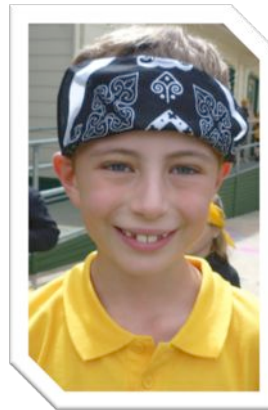
Commencing Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012 between 4:30pm and 5:30pm. The cost of the program is free and will be run by club professionals. Golfing equipment will be supplied. Ph: the Golf Club on 85311388 or Michael Cox on 85326535.

**Aboriginal Health Fair Day**

To be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 between 10:00am and 3:00pm at the Murray Bridge Race Course. Free community BBQ, stalls, games and fun! For more information, contact Kalarie on 85311303.

**CANTEEN – BANDANNA DAY**

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED LAST FRIDAY'S BANDANNA DAY. WE RAISED A TOTAL OF \$440.00, WHICH WILL BE DONATED TO CANTEEN TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING WITH CANCER.



PICTURED FROM RIGHT: THE MIDDLE PRIMARY CLASS, TYLER MARTIN AND MEMBERS OF THE UPPER PRIMARY CLASS.

**Planning Calendar - Term 4 2012**

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

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

4	29/10 <b>Newsletter</b> 3:40pm – Improvement Committee meeting	30/10 Bikeathon / Walkathon sponsorship forms and money to be returned	31/10 7:00pm Sustainability Committee Meeting	1/11 <b>Bikeathon</b>  <b>Junior Primary Breakfast starts 8:00am</b>	2/11 3:00pm Assembly  <b>MCSC Friday Night Tea</b>	3/11 & 4/11
5	5/11	6/11	7/11 Upper Primary Aquatics Camp	8/11	9/11 <b>NO ASSEMBLY</b>	10/11 & 11/11
6	12/11 <b>Newsletter</b>	13/11	14/11	15/11	16/11 <b>3:00pm Assembly</b> 7:00pm Mypolonga Netball Club AGM	17/11 & 18/11 17/11 – Murray Bridge Christmas Pageant
7	19/11 Small Schools Basketball Carnival	20/11	21/11 7:00pm Sustainability Committee Meeting	22/11	23/11 <b>3:00pm Assembly</b> 3:40pm C&S Meeting	24/11 & 25/11
8	26/11 <b>Newsletter</b> 3:40pm Improvement Committee Meeting <b>7:00pm Finance / 7:30pm Governing Council meeting</b>	27/11	28/11	29/11	30/11 <b>3:00pm Assembly</b>  7:00pm Mypolonga Football Club AGM	1/12 & 2/12 1/12 – Mannum Christmas Pageant

**Mypolonga Primary School**

**Principal: Rita O'Brien**

www.mypolongaps.sa.edu.au

Williams Street  
 Mypolonga SA 5254  
 p 85354191  
 f 85354160  
 info@mypolongaps.sa.edu.au