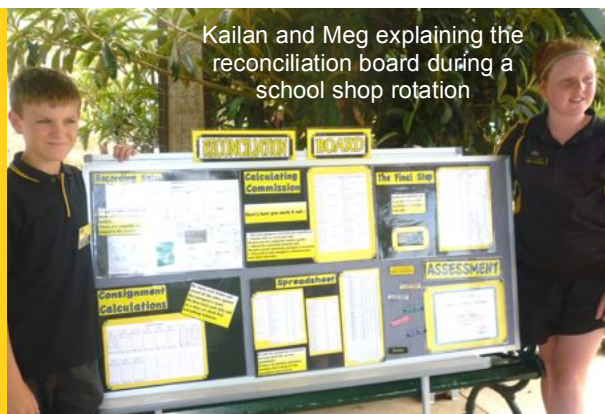


Mypolonga Primary School & Community Newsletter

4th March 2013



Kailan and Meg explaining the reconciliation board during a school shop rotation

Teamwork
Integrity
Generosity of Spirit
Excellence
Respect

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning." ~ Benjamin Franklin ~

Assembly Roster – Term 1 2013

Week 6 – Mackenzie Rathjen, Aly Bockman, Ashamah Hanlon

Week 7 – No Assembly

Inserts to this Newsletter

- . Premier's be active Challenge 'Hop Skip Jump to Smartness' flyer
- . Flinders University 'Making it Happen!' article

Dates to Remember

- . **Student Free Day** – Tuesday 12th March 2013 (following long weekend)
- . **C&S / P&F Meeting** – Friday 15th March 2013 at 3:40pm in the Library
- . **Mypolonga Primary School Sport's Day** – Thursday 28th March 2013 on the Mypolonga Primary School oval
- . **School Photos** (proposed date) – Wednesday 1st May 2013
- . **Student Free Day** (note change of date: Monday 20th May 2013)

2013 School Card and Payment of Fees

A reminder that school card applications are available from the school office for anyone who believes they may be eligible. If it would assist you to pay your child's school fees (**which are due by the end of the term, 12th April 2013**) by using an instalment plan, please see Annie or Necia in the office.

Mathletics

Our school has once again paid for registration of Mathletics. Mathletics is a web-based numeracy and literacy learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the Internet. Your child has a 24-hour access to the program by using a unique user name and password.

When you have a free minute, take a look at the program, so that you can gain the great understanding of how Mathletics will benefit your child. To view the program, visit www.mathletics.com.au.

Happy Birthday

- 3/3 – Jackson (Year 2)
- 4/3 – Jessica (Year 5)
- 5/3 – Cameron (Year 5)
- 8/3 – Kane R (Year 4)
- 10/3 – Marcus (Year 2)
- 16/3 – Isla (Year 1)



Governing Council AGM

Following our successful Family Fun Night, our Governing Council AGM was held. We had a fantastic response and have had to increase our Governing Council membership to accommodate all of our parents who wish to participate. I am excited about the commitment of our families who want to make school a connected learning environment. I commend retiring and continuing members for the work they contributed in the past.

The **Governing Council** is as follows:

Ian Payne - Chairperson
Matt Kruschel - Vice Chairperson
Kym Walton - Treasurer
Sarah Elliott - Secretary
Rita O'Brien - Principal
Nicole Christian/Anne Martin - Staff Reps
Patrick Hughes/Abbey Kruschel - SRC Student Reps Terms 1 and 2
Mary Gill - Parents and Friends' Community & Service Rep
Jodie Hagger - Playgroup Rep
Yvette Rathjen
David Peterson
Jo Hutchinson
Prue McDonald
Karen Montgomery
Jacqui Sorensen

The **Sub Committees** are:

Finance Advisory Committee

Kym Walton (Convenor), Annie Hughes (Finance Officer), Jodie Hagger, Matt Kruschel, David Peterson, Anne Martin, Rita O'Brien

Sustainability Committee

Ian Payne (Convenor), Matt Sorensen, Sharee Kelly, Marlene Newell, Amy Stone, Kym Elliott, Rita O'Brien

Improvement Committee

Yvette Rathjen (Convenor), Sarah Elliott, Mary Gill, Necia Zadow, Jane Rumbelow, Kerry Daniel, Nicole Christian, Kim Polkinghorne, Rita O'Brien

Our committees, which advise the Governing Council, are an opportunity for you to learn about what is happening and also have your voice heard. While committees currently have a set meeting time, these can be negotiated at the initial meeting, depending on the composition of the committee.

Regional Residential Conference

Last Thursday and Friday I attended our Regional Conference. Our Regional Director, David Craig, commended us on a paper delivered by the Sidney Myer Chair of Rural Education and Communities, about our school.



Government of South Australia
Department of Education and
Child Development

This was a direct result of our winning the Advantage SA Flinders University Education Award. Professor John Halsey, has used the School Shop as an example of community connectedness in a number of international presentations. We have included this flyer as part of this newsletter.

David Craig also alerted me to an article, written by our Chief Executive, Keith Bartley, in the current 'Parents' Say' magazine. He wrote:

'It is interesting to note how in early January, the Federal Government announced a plan for students to learn the basics of economics and business before they leave primary school. In that vein, one can highlight the work of Mypolonga Primary School, which achieved a Bronze Level Award in the recent Australian Business Excellence Awards. The Mypolonga Primary School students run the 'Mypolonga Primary School Shop' selling crafts on consignment to tourists who visit from a weekly Murray River Paddle steamer. The way that this program contributes to improving students' numeracy and literacy, let alone as an example of excellence in business enterprise, is truly a credit to all staff and students involved.'

The films made for the 'Money Smart' program are not available to the public, but we have shown them at assembly and they are great.

'We Have a Plan'

Marlene's husband Dennis has been removed from the critical list. Marlene's commitment to our school, in such trying circumstances, shows such integrity, especially around Sport's Day. As a staff, we are so appreciative of Marlene's determination to keep everything running effectively. We have in place, a plan, should Marlene need to leave, to support both the Middle Primary class and PE, and will inform you all if the need arises. Marlene's professionalism has been an inspiration to us all.

Warm Regards, Rita

Class Awards

Term 1 Week 3

Junior Primary class

Ben Stewart – for doing really well in his spelling test and for having beautiful writing.

Junior Primary 1 class

Georgia Martin – for having a positive attitude towards learning.

Leila Dahlitz – for being a wonderful role model in our classroom.

Lower Middle Primary class

Harry Stone – working hard on his handwriting.

Larissa Pike – great work in Maths this week.

Middle Primary class

Charlie Sullivan Close – a very mature start to the term.

Shanae Neale – excellent work and attitude.

Upper Primary class

Scott Carter – for excellent work in the School Shop.

Keeghan Davis – for extending his learning and taking considered risks.

Counsellor Corner



This fortnight I will be continuing my article around, '7 Common Resiliency Robbers' by Michael Grose, 'Australia's No. 1 parenting educator'.

Resilience robbers #2

'Parents take responsibility for their children's problems.'

Sometimes parents can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to solve. Here's a clue if you are wondering what I am talking about: a jumper is something a mother puts on her son when she's cold!

Some well-meaning parents get children out of bed each morning, carry their bags to school and neglect to develop real independence in their children. They do this for all the right reasons. They want their children to have the best, but by doing everything for them they are stopping them from developing independence.'

When Tom started at Concordia Kindy, I, like so many other parents, would line up at the end of each session with my child's school bag in hand, ready to go and then proceed to carry it all the way out to the car. One day Lynette talked about 'not doing for your child what they can do for themselves'....bag carrying! It then clicked for me and although I wanted to beat the rush, grab the bag and go, I knew Tom needed to do those things himself and thus began his journey of independence. Thank you Lynette ☺

Cheers, Kerry

Mypolonga Primary School Cricket Team

On 20th February 2013, players of the Mypolonga Primary School cricket team were offered the unique opportunity to

grace the Adelaide Oval participating in the Lunch Break on Ground entertainment for the Redbacks

Shield Match v NSW coordinated by the South Australian Cricket Association (SACA).



Other schools selected on the day included Woodcroft and Nailsworth Primary Schools. Our players batted in pairs for a minimum 2 overs during the lunch break in 2 x 7 player games with every player getting to bat, bowl and field in all positions. All players enjoyed the experience and also saw the Redbacks take first innings points on their way to an outright victory.

Parents Peter Lewis (Coach), Kym Walton (Team Manager) and Jason Stewart supervised and transported the team to Adelaide.

Student Representative Council "SRC" News

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 Class – Ben Stewart

Junior Primary Year 1 Class – Tyler Cappelluti and Georgia Martin

Lower Middle Primary Class – Katie Hutchinson, Amber Gielen and Samuel Montgomery-Pittaway

Middle Primary Class – Holly Rathjen, Sienna Montgomery-Pittaway and Nick Lewis

Upper Primary Class

SRC Secretary – Madison Kruschel

SRC Treasurer – Madeline Sorensen

SRC Leader – Abbey Kruschel

SRC Leader – Patrick Hughes

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

Cheers, Kerry

Introducing...

Abbey Kruschel
SRC Leader

As a student leader I hope to... make good decisions and to let everyone have a say.

Something you don't know about me... I love performing on stage, dancing and acting.

I read... lots of different books.

I watch... tv shows based on true stories.

I listen to... a number of different artists' songs.

One day I hope to... be a childrens' doctor.

If I could change something in the world I would... I wouldn't change anything, I think everything is already perfect.

The best thing about Mypolonga Primary School is... the opportunities to lead the school.

Someone I really look up to is... I am inspired by a number of people like dancers, actors, doctors, my teachers and my parents **because...** everyone is caring, helps me and shows me the right way to go.



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 - Thursdays

Junior Primary 1 class - Wednesdays

Lower Middle Primary class - Mondays

Middle Primary class - Mondays

Upper Primary class - Mondays

Cheers, Anne Martin

Staff Profile

Each fortnight in the Newsletter, we will be including a staff profile. This fortnight, we would like to introduce our new teacher Kim Polkinghorne. Kim works with us Monday to Thursdays, covering all classes during our classroom teachers' NIT (non instructional teaching) time.

Introducing...

Kim Polkinghorne
Teacher

How long have you been at Mypolonga Primary School... this is my first year (returning after 13 years!!).

Favourite quote... "Those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."



How many pets do you own and what are their names... I own a very cute Cavalier King Charles dog named Phoenix.

What is a goal you have for 2013?... to be the best teacher I can be at a school that has given me so much.

What book are you reading now?... The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins.

Snake Sightings

We have had a few brown snake sightings at school over the last few months. At no time have children been at risk and most of the sightings have not been during school hours.

We have engaged a snake removal company, which we are able to call to remove them 24 hours a day. The children have been spoken to about what to do if they see a snake and have been advised to stand still, walk away slowly and to report the sighting to the teacher straight away.

We have also recently had the school sprayed to deter snakes from entering the school grounds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office staff or Rita O'Brien.

Schoolkids Bonus \$\$

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies.

Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – *have you?*



If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive \$410 a year for each primary student and \$820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system.

You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don't have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return.

Unlike the ETR, you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children's education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting: australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Woolworths Earn and Learn program

We will soon be celebrating the arrival of an array of new learning supplies thanks to the support of our school community during the Woolworths Earn & Learn 2012 program.

By the end of March, each class should receive their resources, ready for the students to enjoy!

Headspace Workshops

(3-5 Railway Terrace, Murray Bridge)

Murraylands Headspace

5th Birthday Bash and Open Day

Wednesday 10th April 2013, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Free activities, workshops, music, entertainment and information on services for young people. Call Headspace for more information 85312122.

Safe Connections Seminar

(for parents, carers and young people)

Thursday 11th April 2013, 11:00am-12:30pm

Sonya Ryan (SA South Australian of the Year, Cyber Safety Campaigner and founder of the Carly Ryan Foundation) will present a seminar to raise awareness of online issues such as sharing private information, cyber bullying, social networking and online gaming. Bookings essential: - 85312122

Are You a Cyber Survivor?

Thursday 11th April 2013, 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Colleen Haskett, Social Worker and Drama Teacher, will be workshopping the play Cyber Survivor, a tale of rivalries, jealousy and cyber bullying. Bookings essential: - 85312122

RECYCLE YOUR

CARTRIDGES 4

PLANET ARK™

Cartridges 4 Planet Ark program

Mypolonga Primary School is a member of the 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' program. To help you make your home a little greener, you are invited to bring your used printer cartridges from home and drop them into our collection box for recycling.

This program collects and returns inkjet toner cartridges, toner bottles and other consumables from printers, fax machines and photocopiers for reprocessing and recycling.

The cartridges are dismantled and used to make new products as varied as pens, rulers, outdoor furniture and whitegoods. To find out more visit the website at <http://cartridges.planetark.org/about/> or call the Cartridges Hotline on 1800 24 24 73.

St Vincent de Paul – Charity Bins

A reminder that two St Vinnies charity clothing bins are housed in our recycling shed.

Any time you have clothing items you wish to donate, you can drop them off at the front office.

When the boxes are full, a volunteer from St Vinnies collects the items from our recycling shed.

Parents and Friends' Community & Service Committee AGM Minutes

held Friday, 22nd February 2013 in the Library

Present: Mary Gill, Amy Stone, Nicole Cain, Janet Gielen, Kathy Prosser, Adam Deane, Emma Stewart, Monique Ballantyne, Sue Sullivan, Cass Martin, Annie Hughes, Rita O'Brien

Apologies: Yvette Rathjen, Emily Lewis

2012 President's Report and Financial Report was tabled

Election of Officers for 2013

President: Mary Gill was elected

Vice President: Yvette Rathjen was elected

Secretary/Treasurer: Adam Deane was elected

Governing Council Rep: Mary Gill was elected

Catering Coordinators: Mary Gill and Yvette Rathjen expressed a desire to continue and were elected.

Annie explained the catering functions on the agenda for this year.

Mary suggested having a quiz night as a fundraiser.

Sue generously offered to coordinate a casino – style night. We will investigate and consider this.

Next Meeting: 15th March, 2013 at 3:40pm

Junior Primary 1 3D Family Portraits

In History, the Junior Primary 1 students have been learning about families. Last week the children made 3D family portraits. Here are a couple of examples.



by Isla Gielen, Year 1



by William Schofield, Year 2

Attendance

This year, we are focusing on recording **0** unexplained absences. To help us with this goal, we need parents/caregivers (not their siblings or friends) to inform the school on the day, or the following day of their child's absence by either;

- **a phone call** - please remember that we also have a voice mail system so messages may be left prior to 8:30am and after 4:30pm

- **a note in their child's diary**

- **emailing** the office staff via the school's 'general' email address (info@mypolongaps.sa.edu.au).

If by Friday, we have unexplained absences for your child, you will receive a phone call from our school counsellor, Kerry Daniel, checking up on the reason for absenteeism.

Please help us out and reduce an extra workload by informing your child's teacher of any absence as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Community News

Mypolonga Football Club

Training commences:- U13, U11 & U9 – Wednesday 6th March 2013 from 4:45pm-5:45pm. Training for **all teams** will revert back to Thursdays on 21st March 2013.

Communities for Children and reLink Australia present: *Beyond Kayaking*

Thursdays weekly from 5:00pm-6:30pm at locations around Murray Bridge. A free activity for dads and dad role models with children aged 4-12. All equipment supplied. Sit on Top kayaks are wide and stable for beginners and provide great fun for children. Call Lyall @ Centacare 85318888 for bookings.

Legal Services Commission "Keeping Young People Safe seminar"

Thursday 28th March 2013 from 2:00pm-4:00pm at Murraylands Headspace. A seminar for parents, teachers, counsellors and youth workers. Discussions will include the possible legal implications of cyber bullying and inappropriate use of social media and mobile phones. Bookings essential: 85312122.

Drama in the Bridge

Free Drama in the Bridge workshops are available to attend every Thursday (during school term) between 4:00pm and 5:30pm for anyone aged between 12 and 25 and who may be interested in acting. Contact Headspace on 85312122.

International Women's Day Morning Tea

Thursday 7th March 2012 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Murray Bridge Regional Gallery, Sixth Street, Murray Bridge. Artist India Flint and Willunga Playback Theatre will be present. RSVP: Community Health on 85356800.

Murray Bridge Catholic Parish – Catholic Sacraments

A Parent Meeting for the parents of Catholic Families will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2013 at 7:00pm in the parish hall, in preparation for the Sacramental Program (Confirmation and First Eucharist). For more information, please call 85311699.



Middle Primary Art

Tree Art by Kyly Reen
(Year 4) using oil
pastels and textas

Swimming Art by Paris
Montgomery-Pittaway
(Year 4) and Nick Lewis
(Year 5)



Planning Calendar - Term 1 2013

MCSC – Mypolonga Combined Sports Club

MFC – Mypolonga Football Club

MCC – Mypolonga Cricket Club

MNLC – Mypolonga Netball League Club

MBHS – Murray Bridge High School

6	4/3 Newsletter	5/3	6/3 Upper Primary excursion to SA Museum and Art Gallery MFC U13, U11 & U9 training starts 4:45pm- 5:45pm	7/3	8/3 3:00pm Assembly	9/3 & 10/3
7	11/3 Public Holiday	12/3 Student Free Day	13/3 7:00pm Sustainability Committee Meeting	14/3	15/3 NO ASSEMBLY 3:40pm – C&S Meeting Mypo RSL Bingo BBQ Tea	16/3 & 17/3
8	18/3 Newsletter 3:40pm Improvement Committee meeting 7:00pm Finance / 7:30pm Governing Council meeting	19/3	20/3	21/3 MFC training back to Thursdays!	22/3 3:00pm Assembly	23/3 & 24/3
9	25/3	26/3	27/3	28/3 Sport's Day	29/3 Good Friday	30/3 & 31/3 Easter Saturday/ Sunday
10	1/4 Easter Monday	2/4 Newsletter	3/4	4/4	5/4 3:00pm Assembly MCC Friday Night tea	6/4 & 7/4 6/4 – RMFL/RMNA season begins Mypo -v- Ramblers @ Ramblers
11	8/4	9/4	10/4 SAPSASA District Day	11/4 SRC Casual Day	12/4 Last day of Term 1 Newsletter 2:00pm Assembly 2:30pm Dismissal	13/4 & 14/4 13/4 – Mypo -v- Imps @ Mypo

Mypolonga Primary School

Principal: Rita O'Brien

www.mypolongaps.sa.edu.au



17-27 Williams Street
Mypolonga SA 5254
p 85354191
f 85354160
info@mypolongaps.sa.edu.au