



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

ON THE VINE

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McLaren Flat Primary School Newsletter No. 6 10/5/2018

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Resilience

Responsibility

Pride

Respect

Honesty



IMPORTANT DIARY DATES



Friday 11 th May	Mothers' Day Stall
Monday 14 th May	7pm Governing Council Mtg
Tuesday 15 th May – Thursday 17 th May	NAPLAN Testing
Friday 18 th May	Walk Safely to School Day
Wednesday 23 rd May	Rm 11 Museum & Parliament House Excursion
Thursday 24 th May	9am Assembly – Rm 13

**Early Notice
Proposed Pupil Free Day
Friday 8th June**

From the Principal

What magnificent weather the holidays provided to be active outdoors and well done to Joshua S. who ticked off a significant number of the holiday challenge activities!

I ticked off some being active too!



Where on the Murray was Mr.Hage?

Term 2 has started with a flurry (and some well overdue rain). Rooms 7 & 8 have already experienced

a great excursion with live theatre and the student leaders have raised money for the CFS with 'May the 4th be with you' dress up day. Our fundraising team are ready for Mothers' Day. Naplan is upon us in Week 3 and the term will also include Walk Safely to School Day, the Be Active Challenge, Knock-Out Soccer & Netball, Room 11 excursion to Parliament House, Reconciliation week, Queen's Birthday long weekend, our choir assessment and a school disco.

Also this term as part of our focus on continuous improvement the staff are working with Lead Learn Consulting to support one of the directives from our 2017 External review:

'Continuously improve learning outcomes for all students by supporting teachers to become more attentive and responsive to feedback from students about the individual teacher's pedagogy.'

All teaching staff are undertaking a 6-8 week 'Educator Improvement Cycle' guided by consultants from Lead Learn to individualise on-site professional development. This includes students being surveyed about their classroom climate, what they believe is helping their learning and what else the teacher could be doing to enhance the learning environment. This information is provided to each staff member for self-reflection. Staff then work with the consultants (collaborative coaching model) to respond to feedback and plan strategies to improve practice and provide a more targeted learning environment.

Please note: The Education Department has had a recent change of name. We are no longer to be referred to as Department for Education & Child Development (DECD). **Our new name is 'Department for Education'**. We will in time change all our letter heads/logos to reflect this.

Stuart Hage
Principal

Happy Mothers' Day

Happy Mothers' Day to all our fabulous mums, grandmothers and all other special people. Hope you are thoroughly spoilt on Sunday.



Hats / Clothing

Just a reminder students need hats at school for outside activities until the first day of winter. **It is only in the winter months when students have a choice whether they wear a hat or not.**

With the onset of colder weather it has been noticeable that a variety of colours are appearing in student clothing. Please remember the dress code colours are royal blue and gold/yellow. Windcheaters need to meet this code!

SAPSASA

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the SAPSASA Cross Country event at Port Noarlunga Primary School on Thursday 5th April. All the students did very well with Regan H. finishing 6th in the 12 year olds event. She will now have the opportunity to run in the state event held at Oakbank next term. Congratulations also to the 11 year old boys who as a team placed 3rd overall. Thank you to Jon Fuller who gave up his time to train the kids at school and attended the event. The students have really benefitted from his knowledge.

****Congratulations also to Regan H for her selection into the SAPSASA District Netball team this year. Well done! ****

Congratulations to the girls who played their first Knockout Netball game today; they had a convincing win over Seaford K-7 School. Well played Girls! Thanks to the parents who helped and supported them.

** OSHC – Important Information** New Child Care Package

From 2 July 2018, there will be a new Child Care Subsidy that will replace the current Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate.

It's essential that you complete an online assessment to receive the new payment. The Department of Education and Training is hosting a family information webcast to help you understand what you need to do to transition to the Child Care Subsidy. You will be able to ask questions through the live chat functionality.

The session will be held at the following time:
Tuesday 15 May 2018 - 8.00pm - 9.30pm AEST
Please [register your interest](#) if you would like to participate. Further information on the New Child Care Package is available at education.gov.au/childcare.
A fact sheet *Family Transition Fast Facts* is available from the OSHC room if you require further information.

We also require all families to complete and return a new booking roster for OSHC. Previous bookings will not be carried over to the new system.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Kay & Olivia - OSHC Staff

Mothers' Day Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee will be holding a stall on Friday 11th May. Children can choose a gift for the price of \$6. The gift will be wrapped for them to give to their mum on Mothers' Day, 13th May.



NAPLAN

Naplan testing will occur in week three this term

- **Tuesday 15th May – Language Conventions (writing, spelling, grammar)**
- **Wednesday 16th May – Reading**
- **Thursday 17th May – Numeracy**

The testing process must occur in the morning, therefore please ensure your Year 3, 5 and 7 students arrive promptly at school on these days.

If for religious beliefs, philosophical objections to testing or personal reasons you wish your child to be withdrawn from the testing process please approach the school **by Friday 11th May** to complete the necessary Student Withdrawal forms.

Anzac Day



Lest We Forget.

We once again acknowledge and thank Phoebe A. who represented our school by laying a wreath at the recent Anzac Day dawn service, demonstrating our school values in such a positive way. I also noted

Jamie L and Annie S ex-students laying a wreath on behalf of the local sporting community.

It was pleasing to see so many of our families at the dawn service, helping our students gain a greater understanding of our country's history.

Entertainment Books



The Entertainment Books have arrived! What a great idea for Mother's Day. For \$70 you can get a range of 2 for 1 offers or up to 50% off a large range of restaurants, cafes and attractions. If you are planning a holiday the savings on accommodation and car hire is huge! Take a look through a sample book in the front office, or go online to view or order:

<https://www.entbook.com.au/1610m14>

A digital version is also available which can be downloaded on to multiple devices and it even shows you how much you have saved!

\$13 from every sale (either book or digital) goes back to our school.

Walk Safely to School



WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 18th MAY 2018

Well it's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 18th May 2018 !

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

Disabilities Data Collection

Our school is taking part in the nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability ('the Collection'). The Collection is aimed at providing all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they require to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students. The implementation began in 2013 and is now an annual process for schools.

The Collection is explained in greater detail on a flyer which will be forwarded home soon. For more information, please contact either Stuart Hage or Jo Bell on 8383 0143.

Pastoral Care Worker

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you all had an enjoyable break, particularly given that the weather was so nice! Last term I mentioned some points from the Resilient Kids Conference I attended highlighting the importance of outside play. This week I'm going to touch on the rising concerns around mental health for our young people today.

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg - one of Australia's highest profile psychologists who specialises in children, parenting and mental health – spoke of the rise in childhood anxiety and depression, referring to this generation of kids as 'the most vulnerable generation of young people in Australia'. The recent 2017 Youth Survey Report (run by Mission Australia in which 24,000 young people participated), indicated that the top 4 concerns of young people were mental health and stress, school, study and body image. This was the first time, since the inaugural report in 2001, that mental health topped the list. And, although this survey was geared mainly at adolescents, statistics are indicating that as many as 1 in 7 primary aged boys, and twice as many girls, are likely to develop mild to moderate anxiety and depression. There is no doubt that many families and schools are witnessing and experiencing this increase first hand: anxiety in particular. Anxiety and depression can be crippling and have significant impact on one's wellbeing and quality of life.

Understanding, spotting and talking about mental health concerns are important steps towards managing it. The Raising Children Network is starting a free 4 week webinar course this week around anxiety - [Anxiety in your family: webinar course | Raising Children Network](#).

Although this starts on Tuesday 8th May, you may be able to watch a repeat of the first session or follow on for the remaining 3 sessions. I'll be signing up and taking notes!

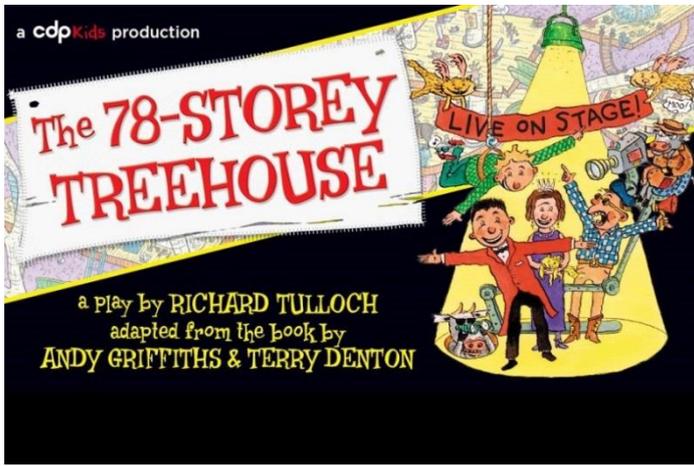
In the next newsletter I'll give you Dr Carr-Gregg's 'Building Blocks of Wellbeing' – things we as parents can do to enhance our kids' wellbeing and mental health.

Please, if you feel concerned about your child's mental health or wellbeing, see your GP or other health professional.

Warmly,

Karen Prenzler
Pastoral Care Worker





On 2nd May, Rooms 7 and 8 went on an excursion to Adelaide to see a performance of the 78 Storey Treehouse.

The show was great! It was funny. It was interesting to see how they made the book into a wonderful play. A couple of our favourite parts were when Mr Big Shot couldn't get into his seat, then when he did he couldn't get out, and when Andy drew a picture of Mr Big Shot's bottom on the background.

After the show we went to the Princess Elizabeth playground where there were a lot of fun things to do. There was a huge climbing frame, trampolines and a big slide.

Both classes enjoyed the excursion. It was a fun day ☺

Imogen and Molly, Room 7

