



Littlehampton Primary School and Preschool

NEWSLETTER

Week 10 Term 2, 2011

Diary Dates



Mad Hatters disco
Thursday 4th August
2011
R-4 5:30pm –7pm
Year 4-7 7:30pm—9pm

Student Free day
Friday 5th August.

Next Parents and Friends
3rd August 2011

Next Governing Council
Monday 8th August



Last Day of Term,
8th July
Early Dismissal
2.15pm

Excellent Learning in our Preschool

We know our new Preschool is a state of the art facility. We are proud of our learning program there to. The following is a report by Jill and Lisa, our Preschool teachers. We began our project this term when several children brought in stones they had found. We made a place for them on the touch table and before long we had quite a collection. We added some quartz and volcanic rock as well as a few fossils. Matthew came back from holidays with some great stories and pictures of his visit to the caves in Naracoorte and we added these to our display. We found out about stalactites and stalagmites. To further our learning, we found books on rocks, fossils and dinosaurs. As our interest grew our buddies made up our models from the Advertiser to place on exhibit in our own mini museum. More children became keen to find out how the dinosaurs became extinct and the work of the palaeontologists. Our excursion to the museum with our buddies was a highlight. We loved seeing all the rocks and fossils on display.



We had fun in the 'Dig Pit' searching for dinosaur bones and saw huge dinosaur skeletons. Before long we had our own fossil finding pit at preschool, as Jaxon's mum cleverly made stone replicas of fossils and bones for us. Wally helped by gluing them to a board for us to use over and over again.

Our inquiry project has enabled children to be creative, drawing and modelling dinosaurs. We thought we could make our own 'impressions' in clay. We found some beautiful seed pods and smooth pebbles to press into the clay.

"It's a dinosaur fossil" Austin

"Look at the visible marks I'm making" Emily

"I made toes" Isaac



Our learning also took us by surprise as we watched three dinosaurs hatch from eggs. The children filled a glass jar with water and carefully pushed the eggs to the bottom. In a matter of days we saw the incredible changes. The T-Rex was enormous!

We have been on a wonderful learning journey together in this project with children, staff and parents and who ever comes into the preschool can't help but be swept along by our museum in action!

Jill and Lisa.



Government of South Australia
Department of Education and
Children's Services

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Lots of fun at Music Is Fun



Did You Know... ? Changes in our Preschool

Change 1: Single Intake 2013

In the Year 2013, we will be changing to a single entry date in the Preschool. All new children commencing Preschool will do so on the first day of Term 1.

Children who turn four before 1 May – who would have started preschool in term two of 2013 under the current policy – will be able to start one term earlier, at the beginning of first term 2013.

Children who turn four after 1 May – who would have started preschool in term three or four of 2013 under the current policy – will now start preschool at the beginning of 2014.

In 2014 this will flow through to the school. This change brings SA into line with other states and territories.

Change 2: New Curriculum Framework

For a few years now, our staff have been programming using the Being, Belonging, Becoming National Curriculum Framework.

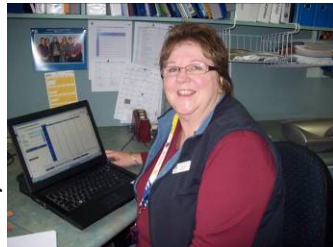
We have started two new Preschool staff groups to ensure the curriculum is implemented to A1 standard. These are the Preschool Learning Team Group (formerly Preschool staff joined the Early Years Team) and the Preschool Progress Group, a curriculum renewal group that meets twice a term.

Change 3: New Accreditation Process– National Quality Standard

From 2013 our Preschool will undergo the same strict accreditation process that our OSHC recently underwent. We are confident that our Preschool will be just as successful in achieving High Quality ratings in :

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's health and safety
3. Physical Environment
4. Staff Arrangements (including the number of staff looking after children).
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management

There are things that need to be changed in order to bring us in line with the new standards, and our staff are proactive in making the necessary change.



From under 30 to over 60 Did You Know... Our Preschool is Growing!

Our preschool has grown from around 15 students per session in 2008 (total 30) to 30 per session (total over 60). This has meant that we have taken on additional staff, with 3 staff members on most days.

Since our new Preschool was built, we have been inundated with inquiries from parents both inside and outside our zone. If you have a child who turns three this year, and you would like to enrol him or her in our preschool, please enrol them now! This enables us to do some forward planning, and make adequate provision for staff continuity.

Parents of three year olds, Please enrol your children in the Preschool NOW!

Enrolment forms from our school families will be automatically accepted. Enrolment forms from new families who live in Littlehampton will be accepted after an enrolment tour. Enrolments from children from outside the zone will be accepted only if places are available.



Fundraising Forum Spider Day \$253.75 raised

A big thankyou to our parents and students for supporting Spider Day. \$253.75 was raised. This goes part of the way towards funding our \$500 + contribution for our World Vision Sponsor Child, Meekara.

We usually like to use those sweet treats once in a year as a special. However, we do have a considerable supply of soft drinks and ice-cream that was not used at the last spider day. For this reason we will have another Mini Spider Day on Friday 12 August. This time, any money taken will be pure profit, as all expenses have been paid from the takings of the last spider day. A flier will go home to remind students closer to the day.

SAKG

If your child's class is cooking in the kitchen please remember to send along \$2 to help with the expenses in the kitchen. You may wish to pay in advance. Hand this money to your child's teacher.

SAPSASA News



On Thursday 30th June, 50 enthusiastic and committed students walked to Anembo Park to participate in the Hills District cross country day.

Littlehampton had a very successful day finishing 3rd overall out of 19 schools which was a fantastic effort.

Riley Stone came first in the 12 year old boys, Jack Wilson finished 5th in the 11 year old boys and Cooper Hough finished 3rd in 10 year old boys. In the team event the 11 year old boys finished 1st, the 10 year and 12 year boys gained a 2nd place and the 13 year girls finished in 3rd place.

Congratulations to all the students who participated, they all performed really well. This day was a culmination of 9 weeks training where the students were running 12-14 laps of the oval each session. This was a big commitment and they should be proud of putting in the time and effort which resulted in them being well prepared for the day.

Congratulations to Liam Doecke, Matthew Camp, David Cecil and Josh Norris on being selected in the Hills District hockey team which competed in Adelaide in week 8. They performed well and finished with a silver medal in their division. As a result of this carnival Liam Doecke was selected in the state hockey team which is competing in the school sport Australia Hockey Championships in Melbourne for August 7th—12th.

Congratulations Liam on a fantastic effort.

Commonwealth Bank Volunteer

Our school needs a parent volunteer to collect bank books from the front office and take them to the Commonwealth Bank at Mt. Barker every week normally a Tuesday. If you are able to help please contact Mel Friend on 0457 513 192 or email her at mellissa.friend@cba.com.au or call into the front office.

Maths & Quick Smart News

Maths learning with Michael Ymer 20/6/11

If you were among the 16 parents who joined the parent workshop with Michael Ymer, you'll know what a worthwhile evening it was. Despite the wet and wild weather, you ventured away from the warmth of your home to find out what is new about the way we teach Maths at Littlehampton PS. We thank you for your involvement. Michael spoke to us about the everyday links to Maths we can make for our children. He emphasised the importance of not rushing to teach our children 'their tables' but instead finding moments for children to use Maths they know. Ideas he discussed included saving and budgeting using pocket money and estimating as they count and measure. He emphasised that as more than 80% of Maths we do as adults is done mentally, we need to value what our children can work out in their head and encourage them to find efficient ways of solving problems that don't involve writing sums. Michael also promoted the use of simple games and board games to help develop skills in logic and problem solving. We enjoyed playing some games using playing cards, dice and 1-100 grids which would suit all ages. If you would like to know more about the games we played, I've left copies of the game boards and notes on how to play at the Front Office. So next cold and wintery night, why not try a 'No TV night' and enjoy a games night with your family.

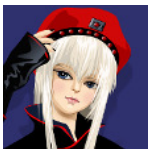
Toni Burford

Coordinator, Teaching & Learning Maths

Mad Hatters Theme Disco

Thursday 4th August 2011

R-4 5:30pm -7pm



Year 4-7 7:30pm 9pm

Admission \$5(Payable on the night) includes entry, chips, drink and fruit.



We are asking parents to sign their child/ren in at the Gym and provide an emergency phone number. If you are car pooling the parent responsible for dropping the children at the disco will need to sign all the children in and provide an emergency phone number. This can start happening from 5:15pm for R-4 children.

Parents will need to sign their child/ren out at the end of the session. Please be prompt in collecting your child/ren at the end of each session.

We ask that children **DO NOT** bring mobile phones or anything of value to the disco.

No high heels are permitted in the gym, flat shoes only.

We have lots of prizes to give away on the night.

We have a group of approximately 14 mums from our P&F team and some dads who will be supervising on the night. Several staff members will also be attending to groove with the children.

Your child/ren will be able to enjoy a great night out in a very safe environment without mum and dad, and they will be able to tell you all about the disco when you pick them up.

We think you will have some very excited children by the end of the evening, and luckily we have a student free day on Friday to recover.

QUICKSMART news

We announce with great excitement and pride that recently we have had our first students complete the Quicksmart Maths programme. Congratulations to **Zak Barnes, Riley Wilson, Cai Rees** and **Tyson Daniel**. You have all worked very hard over 4 terms to reach this goal. Our recognition and thanks go to Pauline Bolto, who has worked with these students with great success.

Quicksmart is a Maths support programme designed for students from Years 5-10. We began the programme in 2010 with 16 students and currently have 20 students participating in 3 sessions weekly. Quicksmart helps students to build on their speed and accuracy when solving problems and to develop more efficient methods to use addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Students involved at LPS are from Years 5, 6 and 7. Our region is one of only two regions in South Australia who have been running the programme but the good news is spreading fast! We're proud to offer such a highly successful programme to help our students experience greater success in Maths. Bored kids in the holidays?? Just a quick reminder that

Mathletics is available all year round for your child to access free at home. Children can play Live Mathletics or try skill-building tasks. The more they do, the more points and certificates they earn. Go to www.mathletics.com.au to play.