



## Littlehampton Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



Week 8 Term 2, 2011

### Diary Dates

*No Assembly  
Week 9*

*Next Governing  
Council  
Monday 8th August*



*Music is Fun Band  
Thursday 30th  
June 2011*

*Next Parents and  
Friends  
3rd August 2011*



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

## Have you visited Coppins Bush recently?

Coppins Bush is an example of Blue Gum Woodlands, a type of habitat once prevalent, but now rare in the Mount Lofty Ranges. It has been recognised and studied by Biologists and Botanists, who have visited, taken audit surveys of the flora and fauna, and provided advice on its preservation.

It is located on West Terrace, and William Street, right on the school doorstep.

Littlehampton Primary School has had a role in teaching about this important part of our natural heritage, and caring for this stand of bush almost from its beginnings as a Flora Reserve in 1981. This was begun when Robert Burford, was principal and continues to this day. Many of our students will remember Noleen Sharrad taking them to Coppins Bush for visits, picking up litter, and observing the flora and weeds. Currently Sara Weston often takes her class there to discuss this woodlands habitat, observe, or just enjoy.

Coppins Bush a very fragile ecosystem, is susceptible to weed invasion from plants which have "escaped" from Littlehampton gardens. Spraxia and Watsonia are invading some patches, and must be removed with great care, as it is easy to spread more weeds while attempting to remove them. To be successful weeding must be carried out by well trained, and well equipped personnel.

Coppins Bush is also vulnerable when visitors use it in inappropriate ways... when children build cubby houses, for example, or ride trail bikes, or build bike ramps. While these activities are great activities for children and young people to do, the message would be **PLEASE NOT IN COPPINS BUSH**, because in so doing they cause great damage, and restoration of the bushland is difficult. Community members have noted that recently bike tracks have been built in Coppins Bush, and have observed dads with children digging up the bush to make ramps and tracks. This includes areas recently replanted with native plants. No doubt the people involved were looking for fun family recreation, and were not aware of the damage they were causing. Our advice to families considering using Coppins Bush for bike riding, is **PLEASE DON'T**. You will damage this fragile ecosystem, destroy the hard work of others, and also risk being reported to police.

### Friends of Coppins Bush Reconvened

This group of interested community members has met regularly for a number of years at Littlehampton Primary School. It is an action group, which monitors the bush, provides voluntary weeding and works with funding from Mt Barker Council to plan restoration projects. Rob Burford, who put the school on the path of caring for Coppins Bush so many years ago was the convener of this group. The group has not met for almost a year, due to Rob Burford's passing.



Noleen Sharrad (retired Littlehampton Primary School teacher) has agreed to convene this group, and the first meeting will be on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> January at 1:40 p.m. If any parents are interested in joining this group, please ring Maree for more information.

## \$2 donation for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Through discussion with our Parents and Friends group, I'm aware that a number of parents have been asking about the \$2 donation requested from parents when children are having cooking classes. I know that parents are feeling the pinch, especially as this year there is no drought relief money which funded so many excursions and performances last year.

### Generous Grants

We were very fortunate as a school to get the \$60,000 grant from the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Scheme. This grant is for building and equipping the garden and the kitchen only, it cannot be used for wages or consumables. \$60,000 would not build much of a kitchen and garden, but we were doubly blessed in that we were able to use BER additional works money to construct the kitchen, so that our grant money could stretch further.

### Not Covered by Grants

Ongoing costs for running the program are NOT provided by the grant, and neither does DECS provide any money to run the program. The costs for staff wages, pantry supplies (flour sugar, spices) cleaning products and photocopying of recipes, is not covered by the grant. Schools need to come up with a way of meeting these ongoing costs.

### Solving the Problem of On-going Costs- Our SAKG Sustainability Fund

Right from the beginning of last year, we knew that we would have to solve the problem of ongoing program costs before we made a decision to go ahead with the building of the kitchen. We formed the *Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Sustainability Fund*, a separate bank account which earns interest. Our Governing Council and Finance Committee planned that in any one year if we were not able to meet our ongoing running costs we could draw on this fund. Ideally this fund will guarantee the program operates for 10 years without cutting into the school budget. If we draw the fund down more quickly, we would guarantee its operation for less.

### So why the \$2 charge?

Most schools in the SAKG program charge a parent cost for consumables. The idea is that by the time the children have eaten the delicious dishes made from their home-grown produce + other pantry items, they will have well and truly consumed the \$2 paid for their consumable contribution.

### Unknown Costs, Unknown Income

Throughout this year, our first year of operation, we are monitoring how much money we are getting from other sources, and how much the program costs. We've received unexpected sponsorship which we had not factored in. We have also found many community members chipping in, one person has donated all the eggs we need, fresh from their chickens (and from geese too!) Families have brought in surplus produce from their own gardens, which is quickly chopped or blanched and frozen. As our garden area grows, and our garden becomes more productive, we anticipate more produce both fresh, and stowed in the freezer, will reduce our costs for consumables. We are also exploring other options for raising funds: Sale of produce, hiring the kitchen/dining room, and other creative ideas.

### Monitor costs and review for 2012

In discussion with the Parents and Friends Group, there was general support for monitoring the \$2 consumables charge this year, and monitoring our income as well. Parents and Friends and Governing Council are both committed to minimizing parent costs as we work to maximise income from other sources.

### A wonderful program- the envy of other schools

What we know is that we have a wonderful program which has captured the interest and involvement of our students, their families and the community. I am amazed at how quickly our program has become established, and at how good the program is. (Please call in when your children are gardening or cooking to find out just how good it is!) Already we have had visitors, Blakiston Rotary, and staff from other schools seeing the program in operation while visiting for Michael Ymer training. It is evident that we are the envy of other schools. It might take a little while to tweak some aspects of the program. In the meantime, our parents can be confident that our school committees – *Finance Committee, Parents and Friends, SA Kitchen Garden Committee and Governing Council* -are working together to find creative ways to minimize costs for our parents.



## SAKG Garden News



Our kitchen garden is looking great!!! The children have been noticing the changes made during our fabulous working bee. Before the day, Lindsay Philips from Aldgate Excavations graciously came and donated \$360 of time to level the poly tunnel site with his excavator,

Thank you Lindsay this was greatly appreciated. A Very big thank you to the families and community members who came to lend a hand and achieved so much in a few small hours. Our poly tunnel was put up by Bert, Kevin, Craig and Otto and is in full swing of growing seeds in trays with the help of a very enthusiastic group of year 3's who moved all the trays and table during there class. The compost bays were shifted, have since been lined and compost lasagne started. Weeding, pruning and paths were re-levelled and mulched with thanks to Jenny, Todd, the McClelland family, Sarre family, Gill family and the Parker-Boers Family. A new bed running along the fence behind classrooms 15 & 16 was rotary hoed by Gillian and is currently under construction. Bruce installed a new drain adjacent the concrete path and classroom. Bert constructed and installed a garden new shed, Craig and Otto moved the existing garden shed behind the 6/7 classroom for additional potting storage. All in all the garden continues to be enhanced grow and change with the help of many enthusiastic people, including our fabulous volunteers who regularly come and help the children grow and learn in the garden!

Over the next few gardening classes the children will be designing and making tiles, a mosaic table top and stepping stones for the garden with the delightful assistance of Tania Kunze, local artist who is donating 20 hours of her time to help the children design and create a stunning masterpiece for their garden. Before we start making we need your help!! We would gratefully appreciate any donations of the following products:

2 Sheets of Blue board 1500x900mm,

- Liquid nails
- Any coloured tiles or plates, small glass mosaic tiles or pebbles
- Any pebbles
- Rubberised tile adhesive
- Rubberised grout
- 1/4 round timber edging 2x900mm and 2x1500mm long
- Small quantities of cement, gravel or sand.
- Our garden classes are also in need of:  
Bags of Manure
- Clear plastic containers

Happy growing,  
Thanks, Lucy

## Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to these student who have recently completed the Premier's Reading Challenge.-

Chloe Allen	Carla Gore
Codie Cnaham	Chermia Elston
Amber Bakhuis-Smith	Sophie Medlin
Brooke Badenoch	Alex Vignera
Jesse Maczkowiack	Tyson Geppert
Renee Ward	Jade Marshall
Karli Roberts	Cameron Moults-Smith
Alex Houlahan	Alanah Stack
Dylan Kohlhagen	Joshua Miels
Noah Mialaret	Tyler Baugh
Mitchell Streng	Riley Parr
Sophie Leach	Claire Fries
Emmy Roach	Ethan Neale
Daniel Collins	Eric Mussett
Keira Gerrard	Jorja Heinicke
Olivia Cecil	Jack Geary
Jarrah Taylor	Madison Cribb
Cameron Fuss	Jackson Wood
Chelsea Witt	Georgie Wotton
Annelise Griggs	Thea Canham
Saxon Eades	Jack Badenoch
Tane Gordon	Luke Bradey
Tyson Shephard	Rhys Westcott
Zabien Parker-Boers	Cameo Selby
Baily Camp	Ava Roach
Rachel Provis	Carmello Pollifrone
Riley Lucas	Charlotte Botten
Megan Galettis	Jed Geary
Carmen Bubner	Amy Swann
Jesse Amos	Mitchell Kohlhagen
James Melville	Tahnee Adams
Madeline Scudds	Maria Henke

## PRINCIPALS AWARDS

**Fairness**—Kayla Riddle, Amy Swann, Jack Bedenoch, Julian Jones, Cameron Selby, Cameron Moults-Smith and Taylah Collingwood

**Being Trustworthy**—Natalia Prokopowicz and Caleb Griggs

**Achievement**—Allanah Chandler

**A Positive Attitude**—Kade Harvey, James Melville, Hannah Mussett, Lucy Hong, Mika Kemppainen, Simone Harnett, Rachel Provis, and Alicia Ward

**Kindness**—Abbey Hutchinson

## Cyber Safety

The Cybersafety Help Button is available to all Australians to download from the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy website at [www.dbcde.gov.au/helpbutton](http://www.dbcde.gov.au/helpbutton).

It will work with all the major Windows and MAC OS operating systems. Please send any technical questions on the Cybersafety Help Button to [helpbutton@dbcde.gov.au](mailto:helpbutton@dbcde.gov.au)



## Staff Learning on our Pupil Free Day with Michael Ymer

It was back to school for our teachers, who worked hard all day on updating their maths teaching skills with Michael Ymer. A total of 15 teachers, including our staff participated in the workshops,

The learning continued in the evening with a parent workshop, and three lucky classes also worked with

Michael Ymer.... With more than 10 teachers looking on, on Tuesday 21 June.

Photos of parent workshops and classes in the next newsletter.



## Kiss and Drop Off Procedures at Littlehampton Primary School.

1. Broken yellow line means 2 minute standing maximum during the times indicated on the signs.
2. Drivers:  
Wait until 3.20 pm (or 3.05 on Wed) before getting to the kiss and drop so your children have time to get there.  
Need to pull to the front of the line.  
If your child is not there within 2 minutes you need to drive around the block and come back on the end of the line.  
Keep moving forward as a space is created.
3. Students:  
Need to move to the waiting area quickly after leaving their class  
(William St or Baker Street)  
Keep watching for your adult who is collecting you.  
Wait with the supervising teacher until told to move out to the footpath, when your car is ready.
4. Supervising Teachers:  
Need to get to the waiting area promptly.  
Keep student's attention on looking for their car and collecting adult.  
When a student's collecting adult has moved to the kerb in the car line, allow the student to go and wait on the footpath.

## Margie Sarre on Leave

Just a quick note to say that Margie Sarre, our Deputy Principal has taken some leave. Her twin sister Janet passed away on Wednesday 23rd June in the hospice in Mt Barker Hospital.

We wish Margie our condolences at this sad time.

