



## NEWSLETTER

Week 2 Term 3, 2012

### Diary Dates

**27th July 2012**  
**Pupil Free Day**

**30th July**  
**Governing Council**  
**Meeting at 7pm**



**31st July**  
**Ms Bishop and**  
**Mrs Thomas's classes**  
**on an excursion.**

**2nd August**  
**Assembly at 2.25pm in**  
**the gym**

**Picture Products**  
**fundraiser orders due**  
**by Friday 3rd August.**



**9th August**  
**SAPSASA Basketball**

**Maths Workshop for**  
**Parents**  
**Monday 13th August**  
**5:30-7pm in the**  
**Resource Centre**

**Book Week**  
**dress up parade**  
**17th August**  
**'Champions Read'**

### We want our children to Flourish (Part 2).....

Last week I was enormously privileged to participate in 5 days of training with the University of Pennsylvania *Positive Psychology* team which teaches wellbeing with the aim of helping people be happier and more resilient in bouncing back when things go wrong.

The PENN team were invited to South Australia to work with 98 leaders from DECD, SA Health, CAMHS and the Catholic Education sector, as part of the *Thinkers in Residence* program involving Martin Seligman. We were invited to reflect on "What would it be like for our state if we could provide this program to all children and young people?" Leonie Chatfield and I were invited to participate because Mt Barker High School has been deeply involved in this project since January, and the local primary schools are included too.

#### Impressions of the Program

**I found the training enormously beneficial** on a personal level. I also see potential of this program for our school, students, staff, parents and our wider community. The premise is that there are things that research has shown will increase people's wellbeing and positive emotion (ie happiness). Parents often say to me "I want my child to be happy". This program can be taught, and research has shown that children do show positive growth in wellbeing and positive emotion through being taught the PERMA Program. (See *Newsletter Week 8 Term 1 for an outline of PERMA*).

**The PENN program involves a lot more, and goes a lot deeper than what we already provide.** The tools, concepts and skills taught are not that different from what is taught in our Wellbeing lessons for 6 sessions in our Forum groups. We do teach some of the content of the program as well as our own Superseven Values, the *It Stops Steps*, and aspects of resiliency. The PENN program involves a lot more, and goes a lot deeper. Because it is consistent with our program, it should fit with our community and school ethos. **It is do-able. It should work.**

#### An important aspect of the program is measuring students' wellbeing.

Students can participate in surveys and tests which will enable us to see if their wellbeing is increasing, and should provide us with accurate information about our teaching of the program. Across schools and across the state it will enable us to say, "We taught this program and two years later we found student's relationships and positive emotion increased (for example)." Valid and reliable testing tools are being developed and it is likely that our children will have the opportunity to participate this year.

**Where does this fit with our Site Learning Plan?** Our Site Learning Plan for 2012—2014 includes a Priority Area, High Expectations for all our students. The PERMA program would be included here, because it will enable all our students to achieve their best, both in their wellbeing and happiness and also in achievement.

**Would you like to hear more?** A parent information session is planned for later in the year. Stay tuned form more information.



**Congratulations to Helena Intervera, Who recently won the Courier, Student Speak Out Award.**

### *What Changes would I like to see in the Adelaide Hills Council in the next 20 year?*

Over the next 20 years I would love to see a senses trail for the blind and/or deaf. I think this would be a great asset for the Adelaide hills to have. These are some of the benefits the Hills will

have if this is acted upon.

It would give blind/deaf people a great chance to experience the wonders of nature. It would give them an opportunity to do something new in a safe and well managed way.

A senses trail would increase tourist attractions therefore more money is bought into the area, and would be an educational experience for schools to visit and learn more about nature and the environment.

Blind/deaf people could experience different scents, sounds, the feel of different textures and visit new places if this is acted upon. They could touch and feel the texture of things they didn't know existed and smell new fragrances, also visit new and improved places.

Increase animal and plant biodiversity (wide range of plant and animal species in the environment). More wildlife such as birds can be introduced into better environments and more plants can be planted. All this can be experienced with the blind/deaf, and put a smile on their face.

If this senses trail has a wheel chair access trail, even more people can enjoy this beautiful stroll.

In this ever changing world, of urban expansion, a senses trail will be a resource for now and for future generations, an area of local biodiversity, a refuge for native plants and animals and an asset to the council.

Thank You, Helena Intervera



## **We value your opinion School Surveys 2012**

Last year our Governing Council made a decision to post our school survey out to all school families. We also added some questions of our own. We found a tremendous response to our survey, with lots of comments, many supportive of our programs, and also many ideas for improvements. **We are listening, we do take note:** Some of the changes we have made as a result of your responses are:

1. Offering a second optional interview in July
2. Looking at minimising the number of different TRTs children have in their classes, by scheduling in members of our own staff to teach in classes when teachers are planning with colleagues.
3. We are moving towards developing e-mail contact lists as there were many comments on communication. We are seeking to communicate with parents in a variety of ways.

All comments were shared at Governing Council and with staff.

Even if your idea was not ultimately taken up, we certainly read it, noted it and reflected on it. This year, we will be participating in the DECD on line survey. This means a much smaller group of parents randomly selected by DECD have already

### **School Surveys 2012 cont**

received letters with instruction for how to complete the survey, and we have additional copies of the survey in the front office for any other parents who might like to complete it.

Participating in the DECD on-line survey means that we are unable to add our own questions. **We will be sending out our own short survey with questions specific to our school soon.** These surveys will be returned to us and collated by us. Please take the opportunity to respond as we value your opinion, and we aim to be responsive.

### **Welcome to New Staff for Term 3**

Have you noticed some new staff around our school? Deb Combridge is teaching in Lesley Hutten's class for the first six weeks of term while Lesley Hutten is on leave.

Margie Sarre is on leave with her family in Canada for all of Term 3 and Gillian Bevan is teaching in Room 14 while Julie Burchell takes up the position of Deputy Principal for Term 3.

Jenny Lewis will be going on leave for 6 weeks from Week 5 this term. A temporary principal will be appointed for this time.

We wish all our staff lots of adventures during their leave, and are sure they will return refreshed for the remainder of the year.

Julie Burchell will be the deputy in term 3.

## Parents & Friends

By now, you should have received your order forms for Pictureproducts and tea towel fundraisers, on behalf of the Parents & Friends team. Any of these products would be great Christmas gifts for loved ones, and a unique way to preserve your child's artwork! Orders must be placed by Friday 3rd August.

## Active After School



Active After School Fencing on Tuesdays afternoon has spaces available for students in years 4-7 even if you have done it before. Please let the office know if you would like to participate.  
Thanks, Kylie Moults-Smith

## Welcome

Welcome to our new reception students who started school this term in Ms Huffman/Ms Smythe's class and Ms Cambridge/ Ms Hutten's class.



## Garden Donation Request

If anyone has some 4mm galvanised wire that is spare, our garden specialist would love to use it in our vegetable garden. Your donation would be greatly appreciated.

## Lost Stock Pot



If you bought soup to the SAKG launch with Maggie Beer last term can you please check you have collected the correct stockpot.

We have one stock pot **missing** with the name Elston written on it. Please bring into Maree at the front office if you have accidentally taken the wrong one home. Thankyou.

## SAPSASA News



Congratulations to Liam Doecke, Harry Ronan, Josh Norris and Sophie Norris for making the Hills District Team who competed in Adelaide

in week 8 last term. They all played well and represented the school in a positive way.

On Thursday 28th June, 58 long distance runners walked to Anembo Park to compete in the Hills & Barker District cross country competition. We had a very successful day finishing third overall and collecting a number of both individual and team ribbons.

The individual team winners were-

**Under 13 girls 1st** Riley Wilson

**2nd** Katie McSporran

**3rd** Niamh Montague

**Under 13boys 2nd** Riley Stone

**Under 12 boys 1st** Bailey Hough

The teams who were successful in gaining ribbons were-

**13 year old girls 2nd** Riley, Katie, Niamh and Jessica G.

**12 year old girls 2nd** Georgina, Zoe, Ella and Chelsea.

**13 year old boys 2nd** Riley, Cai, Seth and Lachy B.

**12 year old boys 1st** Bailey, Liam L, Dylan H and Jack W.

**11 year old boys 3rd** Cooper H Sebastian, Joel and Daniel K.

**10 year old boys 3rd** Zabien, Christian, Thomas R and Julian.

Congratulations to all 58 competitors who committed to 6 weeks of training and all competed to the very best of their ability, all competing the gruelling run. They represented Littlehampton Primary School well.

*Liz Murphy*



## Community Notices

We have been asked to advertise the following. If you would like more information it is available at the front office.

\*\*Littlehampton Tennis Club Junior come and try day. Friday 10th August at Anembo Park 4pm -5pm.

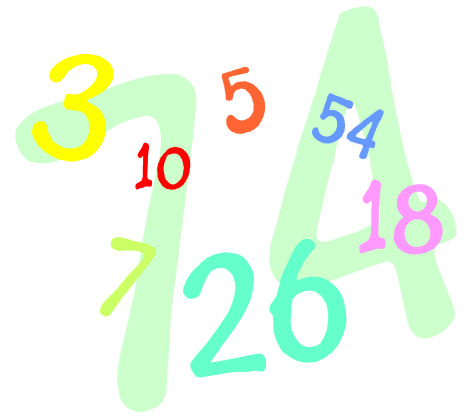
Contact Sue 0421 705 302 or Kate 0400 780 739

\*\*Preseason coaching Friday 17th August at Anembo Park. \$25 for 4 weeks. Registration essential by contacting Sue on 0421 705 302.

\*\*Hahndorf Softball Club- Registration Day Sunday August 19th. 11am-2pm at Anembo Park. More information contact Geoff on 0458 109 880 or visit their web site on [www.hahndorfsoftball.com](http://www.hahndorfsoftball.com)

\*\* Junior golf clinics at Mt Barker ph Daniel on 8391 0088. 4 weeks \$20.

**Maths workshop for parents  
with Ann Baker  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August  
5.30-7pm  
Resource Centre at the school**



Ann Baker has been working with all teachers at Littlehampton PS in Terms 2 & 3 2012. We invite all parents interested in finding more ways to support their child's mathematical learning at home to join this workshop with Ann. It will be fun, hands-on and helpful.

Please register your interest by leaving your name at the Front Office or returning the reply slip attached.

Toni Burford  
Maths Coordinator

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*Reply slip*

**Maths workshop for parents  
with Ann Baker**

*Names:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Your child's name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Class teacher:* \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Toni Burford C/ Front Office LPS