From The Principal

Numeracy and Literacy Plus
A DECD priority for our Partnership is to implement a variety of strategies to improve literacy and numeracy skills of our students. Literacy and Numeracy are two key priorities in our Site Improvement Plan. The DECD Literacy and Numeracy Plus initiative supports school principals as a collective partnership to drive literacy and numeracy though the development of consistently positive practice in:
- Tracking and monitoring every learner’s growth in literacy and numeracy
- Effective literacy and numeracy improvement cycles
- Enacting change to teaching practice when required
- Responsive and differentiated intervention processes.

Our School has prioritised the development of a comprehensive Numeracy Plan for 2015 with implementation in terms 3 and 4 this year. This plan will be monitored and assessed throughout 2016 when the same process will be replicated in literacy.

School Uniform Tops
Our new uniforms have arrived and were sent home late last week. Everyone has now had the opportunity to ensure proper sizing for their child/ren. I would like to acknowledge the contribution to the cost of the new uniform top made through Parent Committee Tuck Day fundraising that occurs at our school each week.

Student Free Day
I would remind families that the first day of term three is an Australian Curriculum Student Free Day, with all staff from the partnership travelling to Keith. School staff will be sharing assessment tasks, moderating student work and using the feedback from colleagues to improve assessment practice.

Lisa Burman Training
Last week both Ashlea and Michelle attended the Lisa Burman training on ‘Playful Literacy’. As educators and parents we know that young children learn and make sense of their world through the opportunity to play and practise the skills they are developing. This professional development day focussed on promoting and developing the literacy opportunities provided to children through play. Both teachers will transfer their newly acquired knowledge to other staff members as the year progresses.

Cybersafety
As you know, Susan McLean sessions for parents at both Naracoorte and Bordertown were conducted earlier this week. As well, Susan engaged with Year 3/4/5/6/7 students from Mundulla, Padthaway and Bordertown today. I hope that Susan’s message generates conversations at home regarding this topic.

Child Development
A child’s mind is full of questions. Perhaps the greatest of these are the questions: ‘Who am I?’, ‘What kind of person am I?’, ‘Where do I fit in?’ These are questions of self-definition upon which each of us base our lives as adults and from which we make key decisions. A child’s mind is remarkably affected by statements that begin with the words, ‘You are’. These statements from carers, parents or teachers implant themselves deeply into the child’s subconsciousness. The paragraph above is paraphrased from Steve Biddulph’s book, The Secret of Happy Children. Steve is a respected Australian psychologist and family therapist. The paragraph was shared with me this week by the principal of Sunrise Christian School, Anne Dolan. Steve’s books are full of practical applications to child rearing, accompanied by humorous cartoons that can assist parents to overcome concerns (opportunities for personal growth) with raising children.

I share the above with you in the context of my own experiences with child rearing – a complex process for all of us, at least it was for me! As I walk my grandson around Woodhouse, a Scout camp in the Adelaide Hills, I often have the
opportunity to reflect on being a father (and grandfather). We are
often our own harshest critic when we reflect on our 
parenthood skills and the labels 
we place on our own children. 
Sometimes it was difficult to ‘let go’ and follow the lead of my 
children, allowing them to label 
themselves through their own 
self-evident interests. I tended to 
want to ‘set the direction’ rather 
than ‘follow their lead’. Yet, 
irrevocably, when I did follow 
each of them, in turn, we all had 
the most marvellous time, the 
greatest amount of laughter and 
the longest and most valued 
conversations! What does all of 
this mean? Perhaps it is as 
simple as this: listen to your 
child and from time to time, 
follow their example. Children 
too, can be great teachers of 
adults when provided the 
opportunity and given a willing 
audience.

Reports
Teachers have been 
extraordinarily busy preparing 
reports for the end of term. 
Children, teachers and parents 
experience some anxiety around report time. While this is 
a natural feeling, it is important 
that we keep some perspective 
regarding the process of 
assessment. As a general rule we 
should support and celebrate our 
children’s successes, however 
large or small. Again, by 
personal example, I can describe 
my two boys as completely 
different learners, yet both 
succeeded at university. One lad 
was never challenged academically, while the other 
struggled from Reception 
through to Year 12. Each took a 
different pathway and each 
handled learning challenges 
using completely different 
strategies. Both Helen and I had 
anxious moments as each of the 
boys grew into men. However, at 
the end of the day, all we could 
ask as parents of our children 
was that each did their best and 
followed a learning pathway that 
brought with it a sense of self-confidence and self-worth. That way 
of thinking worked for Helen and me 
and perhaps it can work for you as 
well.

And Finally
As you know I soon leave for Japan 
and the World Scout Jamboree. 
Australia will be taking an A380 
Airbus full of Scouts and Leaders on 
what will prove for many a once in a 
lifetime experience. I am certainly 
looking forward to joining the 
Contingent Leadership Team where 
my responsibilities will include 
looking after the Australian members 
of the International Services Team, a 
group of Leaders who pay a 
considerable sum of money to work 
very hard on behalf of Scouting at 
such events!

In my absence, Olivia English has 
been appointed Principal while a 
teacher from Willalooka, Ms Ebony 
Mitton, will assume responsibilities 
for teaching in the Year 5/6/7 Class. 
Ebony has been teaching for the past 
two terms at Keith Area School. She 
comes with high recommendation. I 
know you will play your part in 
supporting both Olivia and Ebony 
during my absence. I look forward to 
seeing you all upon my return on 
Monday, Week Five.

Harry

Basketball Standards

The long-anticipated new 
basketball/netball standards have now 
arrived and been erected in time for 
use in term three. Thank you to 
Student Representative Council, the 
Governing Council, the Padthaway 
Netball Club, the Grape Bunch, David 
and Carolyn Brown and Atwood 
Fencing for their support of this 
project.

Work Experience
Last week the 5/6/7 Class were 
lucky to have Shannon Dolling in 
the class for Year 11 Work 
Experience. Shannon worked with 
the staff and students for a week and 
as an asset to the school. She 
engaged with the students and learnt 
about lesson planning and working 
with Upper Primary students. We 
wish Shannon all the best with her 
studies in the future.

Olivia English, Yr 5/6/7 Teacher

Student News

Young Writers’ Festival
On Wednesday 24th June the Year 7s 
and Mrs English went to the Young 
Writer’s Festival. They listened to 
Fiona Wood, Phil Cummings, 
Janeen Brian and Nick Earls. They 
talked about how to think of ideas 
and get them down on paper and 
how to capture the reader’s 
imagination and how simple the 
writing can be. Jess’s favorite part 
was listening to Phil Cummings, 
Stacey’s was listening to Nick Earls 
hilarious real life stories, Blake 
enjoyed listening to Phil Cummings 
and Lara’s favourite part 
was listening to Janeen Brian.

Lara Brown, Yr 7

SAPSASA News

Hockey

Last Week I played SAPSASA 
hockey in Adelaide for Upper South 
East.

We played Southern Heights, 
Riverland, East Adelaide, Airport 
and Western, Lower South East, 
Mid South East, North Adelaide, 
Barker and Eyre Peninsula.

On Monday we lost 1-0 and won 2- 
0, on Thursday we lost 2-1 and won 
2-1 (I got my first goal ever!), on 
Wednesday we won 1-0 and won 2- 
1 (we got a penalty flick against us, 
luckily the ball hit the post and went 
out), on Thursday we won 2-1 and 
won 4-1 and on Friday we lost 2-1.

On Monday night we went to 
Bounce for an hour. There was a 
dodge ball arena, a tight rope, foam 
pits, basketball rings, a really 
bouncy trampoline and lots of mini
trampolines surrounding a big runway.

On Wednesday we went to ice hockey and had a chat to a player. The girls decided to go for Redwings and the boys go for Blackhawks. First we flipped a coin to see who would win and it fell on the ice so we got the umpire to get it and have it as a tip.

At Hockey presentations we came equal 3rd with Lower South East and didn’t get a medallion.

Jorja Doecke, Yr 6

For all your SAPSASA information including District and State

www.useapsasa.org.au
or www.decs.sa.gov.au/sport

Sharon Miels, USE SAPSASA Convener

SRC News

Red Nose Day

On Thursday 25th June the SRC hosted a Red Nose Day to raise money for the Sids Kids Foundation. Students and staff dressed up in red and also donated a coin. We raised $180; it was a successful day for the SRC and Sids Kids Foundation. Thank you to those who donated a coin.

Ben Frick, SRC Secretary

PSW Spot

It was encouraging to receive positive feedback on the movies that both adults and children can watch and enjoy together. The students I spoke with loved Red Dog, some said they cried at times but all loved it. A family gave us a movie they said was up there with Red Dog. How could it possibly be? The movie is called Fly Away Home and the blurb says, “The movie was inspired by real-life events with a heart-warming story, stirring performances and breathtaking scenery. Fly Away Home is a feel-good movie for the whole family to enjoy.” Having watched it I have to agree with all of this.

With holidays fast approaching a safe list of movies would be very handy; there is an internet site which can recommend suitable movies of which I am sure one of the teachers has and will track down for future reference. While on the theme of movies/TV watching it is good to see the recent advertisement by ‘Focus on Family’ encouraging families to come back to the table and eat together as families.

Friday sees the start of the winter school holidays and is also the weekend of the local Uniting Church family camp at Tarooki campsite, Robe. It’s our first camp for at least twenty years and should be lots of fun, although swimming may be the last thing on most of our minds. Enjoy the holidays wherever you choose to go, and stay warm!

Cheers, Stephen

Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts and Craft, Sport and for our Library.

If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn.

Sticker sheets are available at Woolworths or at the school. See the Front Office for more information if required.

Kirlie Turner, Finance Officer

Tuck Day

Reminder

21st July (Week 1)
Pies/Pasties/Sausage Rolls

Helpers
Kathy Hayes – jellies
[Muffins – Kirlie Turner]

28th July (Week 2)
Hot Chicken and Gravy Rolls

Helpers
Fiona Ward – muffins
Jenny Ward

Kim Doecke, Tuck Day Coordinator
Ph 0488 190 972

Community News

Kool Kangas

Next session will be Term 3.

If you have any questions please contact me on phone 8765 5120 or email schutas@bigpond.com

Joanna Schutz
Team Leader

Padthaway Playgroup

Padthaway Playgroup is for parents and children aged 0-preschool to get together, share information and have fun. Playgroup runs from 10.00am to 12.00pm at the Padthaway Primary School Preschool area.

The next Playgroup will be tomorrow, 3rd July.
Dates for Term 3 will be:

- Week 2 – 31st July
- Week 6 – 28th August
- Week 10 – 25th September (the last Friday of term).

Cost is $2 per session (first session is free) and we will supply morning tea for you and the children.

Please bring water bottles and hats as we sometimes play outside.

There are scales at Playgroup for anyone who wants to weigh their baby – available for use anytime.

We also try to organise someone from Child and Youth Health to come to at least one session per term.

For more information please contact Kylie Pethybridge on 0417 862 861.

Padthaway Medical Clinic

The Padthaway Medical Clinic is open every Tuesday from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm or until the last appointment.

Please contact Keith Surgery on 8755 1766 to make appointments.

Immunisation and all Health checks are available.

Fossil Hunters

HOLIDAY PROGRAM
AT THE NARACOORTE CAVES

Enter the world of a fossil detective and take a walk back in time with the ancient megafauna. Experience mystery, adventure and the world of palaeontology.

WHEN – Every day from Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July 10.00am – 12.00noon
Suitable for ages 7 – 12 years.
Cost $20.00 per child or accompanying adult.

Phone 87 601210

Kids at Gym invite you to an
Open Day
Saturday July 25th 2015
9:30am to 10:30am
Williamson Hall - Naracoorte High School

Join us for a morning full of fun with your children, including:

- Obstacle courses
- Face painting
- Parachute time
- Jumping castle
- Sausage sizzle
- Free entry!

Kids at Gym is aimed at children 5 years and under. Parents are to supervise their children at all times.
For more information please contact Cherle by email at: cherley1walsh@bigpond.com