



# GERANIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Learning For All, Learning For Life

Principal Ruth Clothier  
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**Newsletter No 12**

**14<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

### Term 3

#### August

**Thu 13<sup>th</sup> Athletics Carnival  
POSTPONED until Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 15**

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Student Free Day

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Toolbox Parenting Workshop 7 pm

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Assembly

Tue 25<sup>th</sup> MUP Focus Day hosted by GPS  
Book Week Parade

Thu 27<sup>th</sup> JP Focus Day hosted by LRCS

#### September

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> 50 Year Celebration

#### 2015 Term Dates

**Term 3** 20th July - 25th Sept – 10 weeks

**Term 4** 12<sup>th</sup> Oct-11<sup>th</sup> Dec – 9 weeks

independent and innovative learners. We will be learning how to identify students who may be lacking these skills and some strategies to help them develop greater Executive Functioning.

#### 50 Year Celebration

Plans are continuing for our 50 year celebration, and at the end of this newsletter you will find some ways you may be able to help. We are a small community, but together we can make this truly a celebration not only of the past, but also the present and the future for this fantastic little school.

*Regards,  
Ruth*

## Greetings

It's been great to see students coming back to school after all the illness we've had. Hopefully, that's the end of a particularly nasty flu!

#### Athletics Carnival Postponed

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone our Athletics carnival, because of the extremely wet conditions at Coonalpyn. We have rescheduled the day for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Please let us know if you are no longer able to help on that day.

#### Pupil free Day

Just a reminder that this Friday, the 14th of August, is a Pupil Free Day. All schools within our Partnership will be involved in the day, and will be traveling to Lameroo to continue their learning about Executive Functioning.

Executive functioning is the umbrella term for the regulation of thinking processes, including working memory, reasoning, problem solving as well as planning and execution. These skills are essential for our students to become

#### *A Point to Ponder*

*"The future builds on the foundation of the past."*

*Lailah Gifty Akita*

## Tea at the Bowling Club



If you would like to attend the tea at the Bowling Club on the Saturday night of the 50 Year Celebration, **PLEASE RSVP** to the school, either by phone: 85772277, or email: [dl.0145.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0145.info@schools.sa.edu.au) so that we can gather numbers for catering

## PREMIER'S READING Challenge

Early in the year we sent home a record sheet for each child to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. This challenge ends in September, so it's important that we ensure all students have had their reading recorded. If you have lost your record sheet, please put a note in your child's diary and we will send one home. If you have forgotten to record books they are reading, just begin now, or if you can remember some titles they have read, add them in. We will be asking for all forms to be returned to us by the middle of this term. Please let us know if you have any questions.



*Paper Making Fun*

## MIDDLE AND UPPER PRIMARY CLASS REPORT

It has been great to have our class almost back to full strength over the last week and a half and we have our fingers crossed that everyone is completely recovered. On Monday Mrs Smith and I spent time with the class deciding on their roles in our musical item for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations and they showed great enthusiasm as they worked in groups to plan each song. We are still hoping more ex-students of either the area school or the primary school will be kind enough to jot down some short anecdotes from their memories of their school days so that the current students can share them on the day.

In Maths this term we have been working on two different areas of the curriculum. In Number the students have been mastering fractions, decimals (Years 4 to 6) and percentages (Years 5 to 6). They enjoyed a problem-solving task which required them to undertake some online shopping (browsing) and calculating fractional or percentage discounts on the items they would like to buy. In Geometry they have moved on from identifying the features of 2 and 3D shapes to learning to identify and measure angles.

Now that most of our class are back on deck we have started our new class novel, 'Jodie's Journey' by Colin Thiele. We spent some time finding out about this well-known and loved author including his South Australian background and the huge number of novels he wrote for young people. This week we have studied in detail a short excerpt from the first chapter of the book which highlights the beautifully descriptive language the author uses. Giving the students a deeper understanding of how and why an author chooses the words he does helps them to develop their own creative writing skills as well as developing a greater appreciation of well-written texts. In addition this is a really engaging story about an ordinary young girl who does indeed embark on a difficult 'journey' in her life, which will include some worthwhile life lessons for our young people.

Our paper-making production line was in full swing during last week's Design and Technology lesson and the results are very impressive. Below are some photos of the students very capably carrying out the various steps of this process.

*Kathryn Roberts.*

## JUNIOR PRIMARY CLASS UPDATE

The last two weeks have sure been busy, despite many of our class succumbing to the cold and flu. However, it is fantastic to see all students back this week feeling much better and ready to learn!

In Maths we have entered into the topic 'Measurement' and already students have been eagerly participating in all tasks and have been extremely curious about how to measure and record the length, width and height of objects – using formal or informal units of measurement. Last Tuesday students enjoyed coming up with different ways to measure a “live, dangerous” crocodile and in the past few lessons they have experimented with ways to measure the length of objects around our class and school yard.

We had a “warm fuzzy” moment in our Health lessons last week as we discussed one aspect of healthy living – positively looking after ourselves and others. After a group discussion, students were randomly assigned to a peer in their class and were asked to think about the strengths this person has, what makes them a positive member of our class and what we really admire about that person. They then enjoyed drawing portraits of this person and writing down these positive thoughts. Here are some of the positive comments below:

*Tom is good at playing football. – Hayden*

*Lucas is good at kicking a ball and doing football. – Claire*

*Charlie is good at playing fair. – Lucas*

*Claire is good at drawing horses. – Matilda*

*C.J. is good at building things with blocks. – Tom*

*Kiara is good at playing nice. – Tom*

*Shianne is good at drawing. – Libby*

*Hayden is good at sharing. – C.J.*

*Sophie T is good at running. She is good at netball. She is good at shooting goals. – Shianne*

*Libby is good at shooting goals at netball. – Shianne*

*Matilda is good at playing netball and running. – Sophie R*

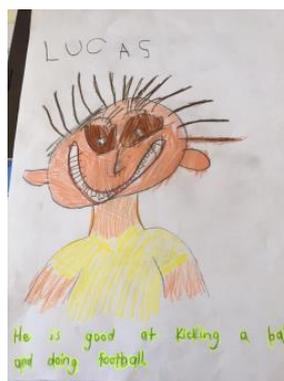
*Sophie R is good at drawing unicorns. – Charlie*

Last Friday we also enjoyed seeing parents and friends at our assembly and sharing some of our

work with you. We were also lucky enough to have School Pride and walking around, it was great to see how each group is achieving some fantastic things. The Veggie Garden group were excited to have a few decorations hung up on Friday and students have enjoyed wondering around the garden over the last couple days and admiring their achievements.

Take care,

Miss. Lorelle Barton



### Murray Mallee

#### Local Action Planning Association Inc. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 13th September

2015 Geranium Bowling Club

Annual General Meeting 11:00 am

Project site tour

Children welcome

Lunch, tea and coffee provided

Contact: MMLAP Ph: (08) 8531 2066

Email: mmlap@internode.on.net

RSVPs essential by 1st September 2015



## PCW Corner

Brrrrr! We are having some cold weather this term! "The Haven" has been a warm and cosy place for students to come to at lunch times with all sorts of clever crafty creations and colourful conversations taking place.

Thank you to those parents who have been dropping off all sorts of things into my room—mainly craft supplies, which the children are already using. 😊

I am grateful to the Lameroo Catholic Church and the Parrakie Lutheran Church for their kind donations for the Pastoral Care Programme at Geranium Primary School. The children and staff will be blessed by the kindness and generosity of these people!

Next Monday night, the **TOOLBOX, Parenting Workshop** will begin at Geranium Primary school. There are 6 sessions that will run every Monday night until the end of Term 3.

I'm stoked with the numbers of parents who are coming along! It doesn't matter where we are in the "parenting journey"...it's never too late to pick up new tools or sharpen old ones. And we can learn so much from each other!

I am also very grateful to the PCW Support Group; Bonnie Pfeiffer, Pam Morgan, Gay Glynn, Deb Lock and Bronwyn Barney who will be assisting me in running a crèche for the children of parents attending "Toolbox".

As I reflect on the happenings around Geranium Primary School, I am mindful of the many good things that staff and community are doing.

*"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."* —  
Desmond Tutu

I keep all families and staff of Geranium Primary School in my prayers.

Margaret Smith  
Pastoral Care Worker



## Toolbox Parenting Workshop

At Geranium Primary School  
Week 5 to Week 10 Monday Nights  
7pm – 9pm

This six week workshop will be starting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 7 pm in the school library. It's great to see so many parents taking this GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY to gain new tools and refine old ones, in parenting. If you intend to come along and have not let me know yet, can you please do so ASAP

*Margaret Smith (Pastoral Care Worker)*



**New date: Friday 21st August**  
**Please put a note in your child's diary if they will not be on the school bus.**

**KIDS  
CAMP**

**At Berling's Carriage**  
**Sat 19th Sep to Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Sep 2015**

**Notes will be sent home to families with more details for camp soon!**  
**Any enquiries to: Margaret Smith**

*Do you have any old school uniforms  
from Geranium School that we could  
use for a display?*

*Please bring them to school or phone  
08 85772277  
(MUP Students)*



Geranium Panthers Basketball Club  
AGM

**7:30pm Wednesday 26th August in  
GPS library**

Any interested players, umpires &  
coaches are invited to attend.

Junior Team - students in years 4-7  
are eligible

If there is enough interest, a  
Secondary Team may be formed -  
students in years 8-11 are eligible.

Any queries or apologies  
to Penny Temby

85773591 0408 060 475

[allenby.downs@activ8.net.au](mailto:allenby.downs@activ8.net.au)



## Parenting Teens

A workshop for ALL  
parents/grandparents and  
caregivers

Parenting can often feel like an emotional roller coaster that we are ill equipped to ride, no more so than in the Teen years. Come along to learn strategies and approaches based on the Tuning into Teens program that might make the ride a little smoother and ultimately support your relationship with your teen

This workshop will be run by:  
Martin Gare, Social Worker from The Edge,  
Better Behaviour Centre  
Suzanne Fuzzard, Senior Clinician at headspace  
Murray Bridge

**When**  
Thursday 13th August 1-3pm or 7-9pm  
Thursday 20th August 1-3pm or 7-9pm

**Where**  
The Station 'group room' downstairs  
3-5 Railway Tce Murray Bridge

**Contact**  
Jo or Kris 8531 2122 to advise which session  
time you would like to attend



EDGE

Enhance Develop Grow Engage

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health under the Youth Mental Health Initiative

Unfortunately Tony Pasin is not able to attend our assembly on August 21<sup>st</sup>. We are currently negotiating another date for Mr Pasin to visit. Assembly will go ahead as planned on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

# 50 YEAR CELEBRATION

Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> September



**To make our celebration a fantastic success, we need your help.**

Our next planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August, at 7.30 in the library – we'd love to see you!

There is no way we can make contact with everyone who has a connection to our school. Its now **up to YOU to get the word out!** We have flyers available for you to help us advertise the event – come in and grab some from the front office, or give Sue a ring and she can send some home to you. We also have an



email version that you can pass on – just let us know your email address and we'll send it to you.



We need to get our school looking the best it can, so we have scheduled two **working bees** to tidy up the buildings and grounds. The first will be on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August**, following the morning assembly. The second will be on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**, just before the event. Your help will be greatly appreciated! On Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, we particularly need people who can help move and spread mulch – a couple of trailers and wheelbarrows would be great. If you would like to help, but can't make those

dates, just let us know because there might be something that you could do in your own time.