



GERANIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning For All, Learning For Life

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Newsletter No 17

23rd October 2015

Term 4 Calendar

12th October – 11th December
(9 Weeks)

26 th Oct	Governing Council
29 th Oct	Hot Lunches
2 nd Nov	Tony Pasin Visit and assembly 11 am
4 th Nov	School Photos
11 th Nov	Remembrance Day Ceremony
19 th Nov	Assembly
20 th Nov	Student Free Day
30 th Nov	Governing Council
9 th Dec	Assembly
11 th Dec	Term 4 Ends

TERM DATES 2016

Term 1	1 st Feb - 15 th Apr 2016
Term 2	2 nd May - 8 th Jul 2016
Term 3	25 th Jul - 30 th Sep 2016
Term 4	17 th Oct - 16 th Dec 2016

Greetings:

We have all settled back in for a productive final term for 2015. Plans are also underway for 2016. As part of our planning, we need to review how things have gone this year, and that is why you have been invited to complete the opinion surveys mentioned below. Another way in which we can reflect on the year will be occurring in week 6, when we will hold a workshop for all interested families and community members to come and have a look at our survey responses and other data from the year, and share ideas of how we can improve for 2016. This is the time to be creative and dream about possibilities! We

will advertise a day and time in the next newsletter.

CATASTROPHIC FIRE DAYS

With the Bushfire season upon us and the warm weather we are beginning to encounter, I would like to remind all parents and carers that **Geranium Primary School does not close on forecast catastrophic days. However, no buses are able to run on these days.** On these days parents will need to make the decision to transport your children to school or to keep them home.

The announcement of these days cannot be made until DECD is notified of the following days forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology after 4pm. The school will make every effort to contact parents once this announcement has been made. Information will also be provided on the DECD Parent Hotline (1800 000 279), ABC Radio 891 and local regional stations, ABC TV and the DECD website www.decd.sa.gov.au



SUNSMART

Please don't forget that we have a 'no hat, no play' policy. Students must wear a hat in the playground during recess and lunch, in terms 1 and 4. Please ensure your child has a **well named** hat, and sunscreen is applied each morning.



A friendly reminder from P&F! Hats are available for purchase from the front office for \$12 each.

Sizes: 53cm, 55cm & 57cm.

OPINION SURVEYS

It's that time of year again! To be continually developing and improving, we need to know how you think we're going as a school. Your thoughts and opinions are extremely important to us, so please take the time to complete the survey, and answer as honestly and accurately as possible. We value your feedback! The survey is available at the following link, or you can pick up a hard copy from the office.

<https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/GMJ8Sjvc>

survey access code: 6uK4aJua

the survey closes on Monday 2nd November.

ICAS

During last term, several students undertook voluntary ICAS tests. In spelling, Harrison and Georgie received Participation awards, and Emelia received a Credit award. In writing, Emelia received a Participation award, and in Maths, Sophie T, Jade, Georgie and Harrison received participation awards. Well Done!

Regards,
Ruth

A Point to Ponder

*"Without leaps of imagination or
dreaming, we lose the
excitement of possibilities.*

*Dreaming, after all is a form of
planning."*

Gloria Steinem

Very
relaxing!

Nice &
Cool!

*Relaxation Club
The first session was very
successful. Please join us next
Tuesday for our next session*

Great to leave
our worries
behind!

IMPORTANT SCHOOL PHOTOS WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER COMMENCES 9AM

PLEASE COME DRESSED IN SCHOOL UNIFORM
Family envelopes are available at the Front
Desk.



Middle & Upper Primary
Class Report

After the excitement of the 50th anniversary celebration at the end of last term we have now settled quickly back into our classroom routines for the final term of the year. We have welcomed Luke into our class, which has boosted our number to 16 and evened things out a bit for the boys!

Last Wednesday we were fortunate to have another Young Environment Leaders' forum session with Harry from the Natural Resource Management board at Murray Bridge. The topic for this session was 'Paddock to Plate' and we started by discussing the importance of looking after our soil to ensure we can keep producing the food we all need. The students really enjoyed the hands on activity where they tested the soil samples that had been brought from home to determine whether they were sand, loamy sand, sandy loam or clay. They then completed an activity to highlight the effect of long-distance transport and long-term storage on some of the 'fresh' produce we buy at supermarkets. It certainly generated a lively discussion about the benefits of growing your own produce at home. Lastly we found out about the

amount of 'embodied' water in different foods, i.e the amount of water used to produce them. It was quite staggering to learn that a cup of lettuce takes 11 litres of water to produce and every cup of milk takes 183 litres to produce. One 230 gram steak has used up 4663 litres of water to get to your plate! This was another fantastic session to get the students engaged and really thinking about the way we use our precious resources. Thanks to Harry for making this possible for us again and we are hoping to fit in one more YEL forum before the end of the year.

Young Environment Leaders



On Friday of last week eight of the students and I travelled to Lameroo so that they could participate in the 'Mallee Minis Cricket Carnival', organised by SACA and funded by Milo. Our mixed boys and girls team included students from Year 4 up and they came up against teams from Pinnaroo and Karoonda of mainly Year 6 and 7 students, however they were in no way disgraced. They put in some great performances both batting and fielding and although they lost all three matches they achieved good scores in all and were able to beat one team in the final scores. Well done to those students for having a go and it's been great to see them enthusiastically continuing the Milo cricket format in their lunch time games, which ensures that everybody gets a turn! Thankyou to Wendy for driving the bus to Lameroo for us.



Mallee Minis Cricket Carnival





We seem to be hurtling far too quickly towards the end of the year, but some great learning has already been happening in these first two weeks of term with much more to come. In Literacy the students are beginning to make plans for writing a picture book, in Maths we have been investigating symmetry, map reading and chance, in Science making discoveries about the structure of the Earth and the first German focus day for the term has occurred. Much excited chatter, thought and planning is going into the Passion Project plans which the students are completing for homework this term and I can't wait to see the outcome of these.

Kathryn Roberts



In Science we have been investigating forces. Over the past two weeks we have been identifying push and pull forces and experimented with various toys and objects in our room to see whether they move by a push or pull. This week we focussed on water play and spent time experimenting with forces in water and what happens when we push objects under water and release them.

On Thursday we continued our water fun with the Kindy when they visited us for Shared Learning. During this session we focussed on the ideas: Float or Sink? Students worked in teams to test 6 or more objects. They recorded their predictions on whether they believed the item would sink or float and then recorded the result. It was exciting to see all students using scientific language and recording their observations as a team.

We ended our investigation with some great discussions as students noticed how the weight of objects affected the result. They even enjoyed filling up containers that could float, with rocks, to see how many rocks it would take to sink the container.

Remember to checkout our blog for more updates at: jpgpsstars.edublogs.org.

Please enjoy some photos of our fantastic investigation!

Take care,

Miss. Lorelle Barton

