COMMUNITY EVENT

Our staff, students and their families would like to thank all involved in the recent fundraising event at Encounter Bay Oval.

In particular, we are grateful to the organizing committee for their tireless work in setting up, running stalls and other activities during the day as well as staying on to pack up and secure the funds raised.

The day raised approximately $15,000 and highlighted the amazing community support for our school.

Funds raised will not only be used to replace students’ and teachers’ resources but will be directed to re-position our school as a leader in student learning. This will include up to date training for teachers, new ways to store resources and exploring the effective use of mobile digital learning devices. Our new building will be designed to incorporate these state of the art teaching and learning practices and resources.

We wish all of our school community a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy holiday.

Merry Christmas

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Safety, Trust
Congratulations to all the year 7’s who graduated on Thursday night. Many went to a lot of effort to look their best & many were rewarded with awards on the night. Congratulations to Cody & Ethan for being our wonderful MC’s for the night and also winning the Principal’s awards. A special thanks to Donna, Maureen & Beth for organising the dinner & Emma Foot for her involvement in the planning. The students enjoyed the pizza, drinks & ice-cream. The finale for the evening was a disco put on by Richard Rowland who donated his time and equipment. Great lights and some amazing moves by some of the students. All the very best to the graduates in high school in 2015.

Last Thursday, December 4th, our JP Christmas assembly took place and was very well attended. What a special assembly this was, with each class bringing their own unique entertainment to the stage.

Our 8 JP classes all performed beautifully and also our younger students from the Special Education Unit.

The assembly was capably compered by Macy, Will, Hannah & Josh our year 2 SRC representatives. As I said at the end of assembly, I don’t know what makes me smile more, when the parents spot their children and their faces light up or when the children spot their parents in the crowd and their faces break out in a huge smile. A fabulous assembly thanks to all involved for their organisation.

Kind Regards

Julie Kelly
Olympic Swimmer Sally Hunter inspires young Swimmers at the Interschool Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday the 12th of November the Strathalbyn Swim Club played host to the most successful Interschool Swimming Carnival to date. With 8 schools competing and perfect weather conditions, the students arrived with enthusiasm to compete for the coveted School Cup. Olympic swimmer Sally Hunter opened the Carnival with an inspirational testimony of how as a young swimmer she struggled to compete. With perseverance in her teenage years she was able to achieve her goals and later win medals for breaststroke in the Commonwealth games, as well as represent Australia in the Olympics.

With over 80 school students competing, the races were exciting and competitive with each swimmer receiving points for their school. With heats in many events the competition was fierce with first, second and third winners receiving Gold, Silver and Bronze medals. A small intermission saw Sally Hunter have a fun 50m race against Strathalbyn Swim Club members Jade Kwong-DeBarro, Tahlia Drew, Alexina Johnson and Isabella Duvall.

Relays for all swimmers concluded the Carnival as points were tallied up. The end result being the Victor Harbor School team performing a Hat trick and taking home the cup for the third year in a row with 201 points. Murraylands Christian College performed exceptionally well in the pool and were runner ups on 165 points. Encounter Lutheran came 3rd with 108 points. Other results were Eastern Fleurieu School 4th 104 points, St Marks 5th 77 points, Port Elliot Primary 6th 64 points, Mt Barker High School 7th 40 points and Open access College 8th 24 points.

In light of the recent devastating fire at the Victor Harbor Primary school it was nice that the students could still participate despite the forced school closure during the week and take home the Cup.

It was great to see two students from Fregon School compete in the fun relays and even the local parkland ducks joined in during the backstroke event!

Sally Hunter posed for photos and signed autographs into the evening with a sausage sizzle to follow organised by the Strathalbyn Swim Club. Thank you to the organisers and volunteers who helped on the day and to the major sponsors Sharp Datacord and Lake Breeze Wines.

Rena Kwong
Teacher in charge

We have a great Instrumental Music Programme at our school. On the 5th & 6th November Amber Kwong-Debarro attended a 2 day workshop as part of the DECD Instrumental Music Programm. The workshop was held at the Wayville Showgrounds. An orchestra of 200 students learned 10 songs over 1 1/2 days then performed a concert in the evening. Amber learns drums at our school and she was part of the percussion group in the orchestra. This was a fantastic experience for the students across the state.

Thank you to Mr Rick Morriss, Mr Ian Lehmann & the Instrumental Teachers.

The Uniform Shop will be open the Wednesday before school goes back 21/1/2015 between 10.00am & 12.00pm. A new price list for 2015 is available from the front office or the Uniform Shop. We would like to wish Everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Seasons Greetings
Kirsty, Julie and Cindy
On November 20th our graduating Nunga students and their families enjoyed a dinner at the Goolwa Aquatic Club. It was an event organised by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Pathways Project.

ATSI Pathways is an initiative that focuses on bringing Aboriginal young people together with their parents and family, Aboriginal community leaders and young Aboriginal learner role models to help inspire them, reinforce their aspirations to succeed and to engage parents and families to better support them in their education and transition. The main objective of the dinner was to engage the Aboriginal community in a special and memorable way to inspire young Aboriginal people towards educational attainment and transition. ATSI Pathways 2013 “It’s up to me…” featured:

- Tjimarri Sanderson-Milera who shared his journey through school to become one of the fastest runners in Australia.
- Entertainment provided by Nancy Bates who has toured with Archie Roach.
- Young Aboriginal people sharing a meal with family, other Aboriginal students from local schools and Aboriginal leaders and Elders with an overt context of educational attainment and transition.
- Award certificates to our graduating students Emma Rankine, Jacquie Wood and Nakita Kartinyeri.

With good food and good company the evening was enjoyed by all.

Emma, Nikita & Jacquie

Thank you to everyone from Governing Council

We have had a busy year on Governing Council undertaking Governance training, reviewing school policies, OSHC and canteen operations and setting our vision for the next ten years. The fire has brought some of our planning forward and will give us an opportunity to convert parts of our vision into reality in a new purpose-built senior primary building. We are working closely with staff, the Department, City of Victor Harbor and the broader community to feed in ideas to the design of the new building. So it really is a case of watch this space!

The support of the community in fundraising has been just incredible and we have all expressed how lucky we are to live in such a caring and generous community. There are too many people to thank here but we will be sending out thank you letters and certificates of appreciation over the coming weeks to acknowledge this generosity. The insurance will cover our interim needs and the new building which leaves the donations for other expenses and opportunities that arise as we rebuild. The following list has some examples of how we have spent donations so far:

- Replacement hats for Years 5-7: being so sun-smart most of our students had left their hats at school on the night of the fire and needed new ones
- Year 7 graduation dinner: our Year 7s won’t be here to enjoy the new building so we sent them off with a special graduation and invitations to come to the opening ceremony
- Hard-drives and USB sticks: our Year 5, 6 and 7s will have the hardware and training for backing up their work safely
- Teacher training: developing ‘open-class’ teaching skills and strategies for the four teachers that will using the old gym in 2015
- Learning from others: visiting other schools with new buildings and attending relevant forums to learn what has and hasn’t worked for others

Our focus for using the incoming donations will continue to be on adding value to the insurance claims and rebuilding process to get the best for our students that we can (now and into the future) and making up for any losses that might not be covered by insurance or are needed immediately.

Finally, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Brenton, Julie, our teachers and all the staff for the calm and effective way in which they dealt with the fire and lead our students through these first stages of the recovery process. We would also like to thank the parents, carers and families of VHR7 for their on-going support, especially during the week the school was closed. We have shown ourselves, and the world, how resilient, strong and adaptable we are as a school (even the Governor noticed). Thank you everybody and best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.

Governing Council.
On Friday the 5th of December, Miss Cole and our Maths Ambassadors joined the VHHS Maths Ambassadors and went to the Australian Mathematics and Science School. Students had to work in teams to solve problems and create experiments. It was an excellent day and everyone had a great time.

Drugs & Health Forum

This term we had Richard Rowland of FYI visit our school and teach awareness about drug and health education. Richard brought along his inflatable classroom, which was based in our Wulkurmi/Library for his entire stay with us. The fire interrupted Richard’s stay but thankfully he was able to rejig things and fit us in during week 7 so none of our classes missed out! He had a fantastic array of technology that he used throughout all of his sessions, from handheld devices to a 3D television! The children right across the whole school thoroughly enjoyed these Missions Richard took them on and he had them ‘eating out of his hands’! We are fortunate to have re-booked Richard for Term 4 in 2015, something to certainly look forward to next year!

Fiona Harvey

Richard and Agent Charlie

Free dental care for all toddlers and preschoolers

The School Dental Service is available to children aged from birth up until 18 at public dental clinics throughout South Australia. Dental care is provided by teams of dentists, dental therapists and dental assistants.

For all toddlers and preschoolers dental care is free.

The School Dental Service recommends children have their first dental visit at around 12-24 months. Fees apply for primary school or high school aged children unless your child is the dependant of, or holder of, a current Centrelink Concession Card, Department of Veterans Affairs Pensioner Concession Card, School Card or Medicare Teen Dental Voucher.

It is very important children develop good dental habits early in life. Dental staff will talk to you about your child’s individual dental health needs.

Contact your local School Dental Clinic to make an appointment for your preschooler.

The contact details are:

Phone: 8551 0460
Address: SA Dental Service
C/O South Coast District Hospital
Bay Road
Victor Harbor SA 5211

Christmas Holiday Program

Wednesday 17th December
10.30 am & 1.30 pm
Santa’s Ficks
Get back and enjoy a Christmas Flick and some sweet treats! Free event.

Thursday 18th December, 10.30 am
Deck the Halls,
Christmas Craft & Santa Visit
Be creative and make some festive ornaments to decorate your house.
$2 per child
Children must be booked in to this activity as we need to have gifts prepared for each child.

Bookings can be made on Eventbrite - Check our website for details.

Victor Harbor Public Library
1 Bay Road, Victor Harbor SA 5211
Phone: 8551 0750 | Email: library@victorharbour.sa.gov.au | Web: www.victorharbour.sa.gov.au/lib