



# NEWSLETTER



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

The Parkway, Victor Harbor, SA, 5211 T: 08 85521166 F: 08 85522068 E: [dl.0453.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0453.info@schools.sa.edu.au)  
[www.victorr7.sa.edu.au](http://www.victorr7.sa.edu.au) Follow us on Facebook 

Principal	Mr Brenton Robins
Deputy Principal	Ms Julie Kelly
School Counsellor	Ms Liz Edwards

## Australian Curriculum History

### Term 2 - Issue 9

DIARY DATES	
JULY	
5 <sup>th</sup>	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL NO ASSEMBLY <b>2:20PM EARLY FINISH</b>
22 <sup>th</sup>	FIRST DAY OF TERM 3

In 2013 our school has a focus on the Australian Curriculum-History. The Australian Curriculum-History moves students R-7 from learning about their personal History in Reception, to their family History, to the local History, to Australia's History to Ancient History in Year 7.

On Friday 28th June a Staff Training and Development day was held. This gave our R-7 staff the chance to work in year level teams to align our programmes to the History Curriculum and also provided us with the opportunity to work together to mark student work so we can reach a common and agreed understanding of what A, B, C, D and E look like at each year level. We also had the chance to tour local historical sites from the Bluff back into Victor Harbor which was led by Merridy Jagger who shared her extensive knowledge of the History of the local area. It was a fantastic, action packed day which added extensively to not only our knowledge and understanding of the new Curriculum but gave us all a greater insight and appreciation into our wonderful local history and reminded us all what an incredible area we live in.

In term 3 from the 16th-20th September we will have a History Week at our school. We have a hard working committee who are planning some fabulous activities across the week. These will include: a lunch time Fair, an 'eye spy' History display, a hands on History display, an old fashioned games session for each R-7 class in the gym by a visiting museum, an old fashioned dress up day and a whale day focusing on the whaling history in the local area with whale donuts on sale. If you have any items that you would be willing to have on display for the week please contact Melanie Jones or Margaret Wilkinson at the front office. Stay tuned for more details soon.



Melanie Jones  
Co-coordinator R-7  
Curriculum Development



This newsletter I am including an article about cultural diversity and inclusivity.

### Did you know that Australia is one of the world's most culturally diverse societies?

Census figures show that:

- 2.5% of the population is Indigenous Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- 24% of the Australian population were born overseas.
- 26% of Australians have at least one parent who was born overseas
- the number of languages spoken at home by Australians is more than 400

Schools in Australia therefore serve students and families from many different cultural backgrounds.

Humans are cultural beings. We learn to communicate and understand our world through sharing language, customs, behaviours, beliefs and values. Our cultural experiences and values shape the ways we see ourselves and what we think is important. Cultural perspectives influence how we parent, how we understand children and how we educate them.

Everybody needs to feel accepted, respected and included. Feeling welcome and at home in both cultures is very important for positive mental health.

Creating a positive sense of community for everyone involves learning to understand and appreciate others' values, experiences and beliefs so that together we can build a caring and accepting society that supports mental health and wellbeing.

***In a positive school community... Every face has a place***



### Things parents and carers can do

- Tell your children stories that help to share a sense of pride in your culture.
- Talk to children about the Australian cultural values you appreciate. This will help them see how they can be part of both cultures.
- Seek support and advice from people you trust. Talking with relatives and friends who understand your values can help you think through the different problems you might face as a parent.
- You can contact your child's school if you have any questions about your child or their education. Schools welcome questions from parents and carers.
- Take an active interest in activities at your child's school. Get to know your child's teacher and look for ways to get involved at school, for example, by helping in the classroom or by joining parent working groups.
- If children complain of being teased or bullied be sure to tell your child's teacher so the school can take action to stop it.

Parenting across cultures has particular challenges. Sometimes children and their parents or carers have different ideas about how to balance the values and expectations of two cultures. When children have a sense of belonging to both cultures it supports positive mental health and wellbeing.

Liz Edwards  
School Counsellor

### SCHOOL SECURITY

As school holidays are approaching we encourage our community members to help keep watch over our school. If you see or hear any suspicious activities please call

**Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 or Police emergency number 131 444**



*Nominations for early childhood educators, teachers, and leaders are invited from parents, grandparents, parent associations, school councils and management committees and community organisations.*

Nominate at [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au)

or call **1800624487**

Closing Date **31<sup>st</sup> July 2013**

# SAPSASA @ Victor Harbor R-7

It has been action packed in Term 1 and 2 with a huge number of students from Victor Harbor R-7 participating in carnivals and many students getting selected for district teams. Well done to all!

## SAPSASA Carnivals included:

**Swimming** - Strathalbyn

**Football** – Encounter Bay

**Netball** – Encounter Bay

**Cross Country** – Kent Reserve



## SAPSASA District Carnivals included:

**Swimming** – Adam Huwart, Marcus Lippett, Mitchell Brook, Alex Byrne, Zane Gerstlauer, Chloe Byrne, Toni-Ann Pearce, Ellie Huwart, Kira Lynch, Jade DeBarro, Amber DeBarro, Sarah Howe.

**Softball** – Marcus Lippett, Lachlan Williams.

**Football** – Marcus Lippett, Reuben Moore, Billy Puckridge.

**Netball** – Alison Hammond, Mikaila Lipinski, Cassey Hewett.

**Cross Country** – Brannon Jackson.

**Boys Hockey** – Chris Threadgold, Shaiden Jacobs, Jayden Dunstone, Lachlan Williams, Jake Walton.

**Girls Hockey** – Aimee Shepherd, Amy Johnson, Ebony Threadgold, Stacey Gray, Sophie Towell, Constance Gladwin.



## State Representative:



**Football** – Congratulations to Marcus Lippett who has been selected to represent South Australia in Darwin from August 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. We wish him all the best. Good luck!

**THANK YOU** to all the Teachers, Parents and Volunteers who helped with coaching, umpiring, driving, and general support throughout Term 1 and 2.

Mr. Robinson – Specialist PE Teacher

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> June we went for a walk for World Environment Day and picked up rubbish. We found heaps of rubbish. We went on the outside of the school around the oval and behind the classes but it was a bit muddy. We got about 6 buckets full of rubbish. After that we went to see Mrs Kelly but she was busy so we showed Jenny the bags of rubbish and she gave our class and Mrs Vickery-Howe's class a sticker too.

Ciara and Cheyanne. Mrs Eldridge's (Yr 2)



## CONGRATULATIONS LAUREN



On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, I competed in a gymnastics competition in Adelaide. I competed in level 4 national stream and I came fifth all round and our team came third overall. I was really nervous to start with because it was my

first competition with a new club; my new club is Koorana which is in Marion. Since being in my new club I have learnt many new tricks like round off backflips and jump-ons. I really enjoy being at my new club. I had a really good time and I look forward to my next comp which is at the end of this month.

Lauren Klaver – McClaren Class

## NUMERACY

### WHAT IS MENTAL COMPUTATION?

Mental computation is being able to select an efficient strategy that will allow students to quickly work out unknown facts/problems.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Mental computation strategies are essential to the development of a sound number sense and lay the foundation for a lot of the mathematics used in later years. Kids need to learn not only a range of strategies that they can apply to problems but also develop appropriate language/vocab.

### A STRATEGY - Subitising

Subitising is when you look at a small group of objects and you just don't know how many there (you don't need to count them all). It comes from the latin word *subito* which means sudden, as in you suddenly know how many there is. Subitising is all about relying on your intuition.

For example which of these groups would you prefer to count? Which do you subitise?



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Subitising is very important in understanding number and you can help your child by showing them regular arrangements of objects to subitise (why not try it with M&M's – They are yummy and bright). A good starting point can be the faces of the dice which are standard arrangements. Perception psychologists suggest that all people can subitise between 5 and 9 objects so only work with single digits when showing groups to your child.

Lauren Cole  
Numeracy Co-ordinator

## SRC DISCO

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of June, the Senior and Junior SRC organised a disco for years R-7.

The idea came about from the Senior SRC who thought it would be a good way to fundraise money for a local cause with a gold coin donation.

As part of class meetings, we asked the reps to brainstorm a list of causes we could donate the money to, which will be decided early next term.

The R-2 disco was held at lunchtime and the old gym was packed! Everyone seemed to have a great time dancing and singing and even took part in a dance off (which was an idea some of our Junior SRC reps came up with). The chicken dance was a hit as was the limbo which had a huge line and even needed two limbo sticks to get through everyone!

The years 3-5 and 6-7 had their discos after school, and it was great to see so many smiling, happy faces singing and dancing the night away. The stage was a definite hit, as was the music with Miss Cole as the DJ!

Thank you to everyone who supported the SRC fundraiser with their donations and we hope you had fun!

Miss Cole, Mrs Simon and the SRC



Australian Government

If school expenses are weighing you down, there is a way to lighten the load. The Schoolkids Bonus starts in 2013 and replaces the old Education Tax Refund (ETRF).

**\$410 a year for each primary student**  
(paid in two instalments of \$205)

**\$820 a year for each secondary student**  
(paid in two instalments of \$410)

**Are you eligible?**  
You could receive the Schoolkids Bonus if you have a child in primary or secondary school and receive a family or income support payment (including Family Tax Benefit Part A) or you are a primary or secondary student receiving an income support payment.

See if you're eligible at: [australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus](http://australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus)

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We are proud to introduce...

### THE PARENTING PLAYGROUND INC.

The Parenting Playground Inc. is a not-for-profit Association supporting parents/carers in their most important role! As parents, we know how hard it is to find information. Our aim is to support parents/carers by linking them to the information they need. Our focus is on children from birth to 17 years.

The Association website includes:

- a **'Supportive Services'** directory - highlighting not-for-profit and government services that provide support to parents/carers.
- a **'See, Play, Do'** directory - helping families find child-based activities in their local area, that are supported by specialist workers and/or agencies.
- ...plus so much more!

We can be contacted at:

The Parenting Playground Inc.

PO Box 100

Port Noarlunga SA 5167

[www.parentingplayground.org.au](http://www.parentingplayground.org.au) ('contact us' page)

[www.facebook.com/theparentingplaygroundinc](https://www.facebook.com/theparentingplaygroundinc)





Hon Jay Weatherill MP  
Premier of South Australia

## OPEN LETTER TO PARENTS AND STAFF

In December 2010, a child was abused in a western suburbs school. This was reported to the police, the perpetrator was removed from contact with children and he was charged, convicted and put in jail.

Other parents should be informed when incidents like this occur in their school, but that did not happen.

The Government accepts responsibility for parents not being told earlier and we are sorry for the distress this caused.

On 1 November 2012, we appointed retired Supreme Court Justice, the Honourable Bruce Debelle AO QC, to investigate what happened and to provide recommendations about how to ensure this does not happen again.

Keeping our children safe is something this Government takes extremely seriously.

The Government has now received the Debelle Report and supports all of the recommendations in principle and we will begin work immediately on their implementation.

During Mr Debelle's Inquiry, the Government took a number of steps to strengthen protections and keep children safe within schools. These included announcing tougher screening procedures for teachers and others working with children, appointing a Deputy Chief Executive for Child Safety within the Department for Education and Child Development, more staff in the Government's background screening unit and more staff in the Special Investigations Unit.

Further information about all of these matters, including a copy of the Royal Commission Report, can be found at: [www.decd.sa.gov.au/educationinquiry](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/educationinquiry).

As we continue to examine and respond to the report, be assured the welfare of children is our first priority.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Jay Weatherill in black ink.

Jay Weatherill  
PREMIER

Handwritten signature of Jennifer Rankine in blue ink.

Jennifer Rankine  
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

17/2013