



From the Principal's Desk...

The end of our first term is next **Friday 15th April** and we will dismiss at 2.00 pm which is one hour earlier than normal. The buses will run at the earlier time and we ask that parents / caregivers make arrangements for children to be collected at the earlier time. The term has been a busy one with many opportunities and some very good routines set up.

What is the impact of not attending regularly?

As we get to the end of the term, we can look back and see that we continue to have a large number of students away from school on a regular basis. This does have a very large impact on student learning. We conduct a range of assessments across the term to track student progress and ensure that students are progressing at a sound rate. The relationship between attendance and achievement is significant. We can clearly show the progress made by a child in their learning is directly related to the frequency that they attend school. When they are not here much, they do not get the opportunity to learn new things and to practise using this new knowledge and so their progress is restricted.

Student Free day Monday 2nd of May

The school will not resume for students until **Tuesday 3rd May** to start next term. Staff will be back on Monday and involved in a training day. Our focus will be on Student Assessment Data and how that data can support us to develop programs to better meet our student's needs. We will also be having a look at some thinking into the future as we try to forward plan toward the next 5 years.

2015 Annual Report

The 2015 Annual Report is on our website and on our phone app. We can email you a copy or we can print you one if that is more suited to your reading style. The Annual Report is aimed to give a clear view of what the school has been working on in 2015 and some directions for us to follow up in 2016. The report does not cover every aspect of school life or achievement but it certainly gives an insight as to what we have been doing in areas that we deem to be priorities. It will also give some data sets around achievement so that you are better informed. Each public school creates an Annual Report for its school community each year. The Annual Report has some strong links to our Site Learning Improvement Plan which is the statement of what are our priorities for the year. A copy of our 2016 Site Learning Improvement Plan is on the website and phone app as well.

NAPLAN Testing

The 2016 NAPLAN testing cycle starts in the second week back next term. (May 10, 11 and 12) Teachers may have spoken with you about the testing and about how your child will cope with it as part of the Parent Teacher Interviews that have been running this week. If you have any concerns or want more information, please contact your child's class teacher. The testing runs across 3 days with different aspects of literacy and numeracy being tested on each day. The testing is done under 'exam conditions' and so minimal to no help is offered to students during the testing. The testing is often up to an hour long and so children find this very difficult to manage.

Upcoming Dates to Remember...

End of term—2pm departure Friday 15th April

First day of Term 2— Tuesday 3rd May

UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY

Respect ♦ Inclusivity ♦ Integrity ♦ Commitment & Responsibility ♦ Excellence



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Trade Training Centre operational

This week we have been hosting a TAFE lecturer who has been working on certificate courses for both our students and for the local community after school hours. This is what our Trade Training Centre was built for and so it is great to see it being used for vocational training courses. There is a terrific connection between TAFE and us now and so we are looking forward to even more co-operation in the future.

Governing Council opportunities

There is still an opportunity to join our Governing Council for 12 months and see how the Governing Council operates and assists with decision making for our school. Please send your name in to the front office and someone will get back to you to discuss the opportunities that exist this year.

A great way to become involved in your child's school!

Kindy project taking off

The new kindy building is on its way! Tenders have been called and we have had our first lot of site visits as contractors work out what is needed for their quotes. This gives us great hope that the building will be here before the end of the year. We are certainly looking forward to it. We are full at the moment in the Kindy and are investigating additional placements as there has been an increase in demand for session times.

Mark Ireland

Principal

Counsellors' Corner

Congratulations to our Year 8—10 Students who have been living the school values and have reached the attendance and behaviour targets this term. Last week they celebrated their achievements with a dinner at the Outback Bar and Grill and a movie at the Drive In.

Geri Savill, Student Counsellor.





OSHC Cake Stall

Tuesday, 12th. April, at recess time.

Cake, Biscuits, and Jelly Cups.

Prices: 50 cents, \$1, \$2



*Dress up as your favourite out of this world character or thing!
Martians and moon plain dwellers welcome!*

Friday 15 April 2016

**6pm BBQ dinner followed by fun night golf
\$10 per person,
bring a salad to share and get a discount**

For more details contact: Steve Borett, Club Captain, 0427 569 754



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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

YOUTH WEEK 8TH – 15TH APRIL 2016

Are you 16 and over?

Have you thought about being a Volunteer?

Have you thought about being a volunteer with Australian Red Cross in Coober Pedy?

Would you like to help within your school and Community?

If you have thought YES or even if you haven't - come and talk to Sandy and Tracy from Red Cross about volunteering.

Find out about what you can do within your school and community as a volunteer.

Learn about Australian Red Cross and what the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement do in Australia and Worldwide.

When: Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th April

Where: Boardroom - Library

Time: 12.00 – 2.00 pm

Who to see: Sandy Williams and Tracy Harris