

## From the Principal's Desk

### Planning for literacy improvements

Another of our school priorities is to lift our literacy outcomes across the school. We are particularly focussing on reading, and have lots of things underway including:

- Primary teachers have undertaken training and development on running records (the process of tracking reading progress) and guided reading (the explicit teaching process that supports reading instruction).
- Across the school we are pulling together the data we hold on students' literacy progress and using it to inform our literacy practices for each student.
- We have set up a schedule for collecting information about students' literacy practice so that no-one 'slips through the net'.
- Started systematic testing of important literacy and pre-literacy skills – gross motor development (muscle tone helps with many things including pencil control), phonological awareness (ability to hear the sounds), and sight words (those tricky words students should know immediately – he, she, my, they, could ... etc.).
- Putting in place support for students without these crucial skills – SSO run intervention programs and Tumbling Tuesday in the preschool.
- 19 of our staff are currently doing the MultiLit program that Jackie Williams and some SSOs are having such success with.
- Increasing opportunities for students to read to others – peers, older students, staff, Indy the reading dog and volunteers.

## Mark Oliphant Science Awards

This week some of our students participated in the Mark Oliphant Science Awards open day. Students had to complete a scientific investigation for entry into the awards. Over the weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of August these students got to view entries from all across the state and participate in other science activities at the open day. We would also like to say Congratulations to Max Sublin from Ms Harinder's R/1 Class for receiving a high commendation for his entry.

Coober Pedy Area School would like to thank IGA Coober Pedy for their donation of food, drink and other supplies, Outback Bar and Grill for fuel and RSAS for the provision of fruits and cereals for the 2017 Mark Oliphant Science Awards camp. Please support these businesses as they regularly support our school in the form of donations, time and personnel.



### Upcoming Dates to Remember...

- School closure day- Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Festival of Music- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Sept to Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Tournament of the Minds- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Sept to 12<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Teacher Parent Interview- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Sept
- YAC Operation Flinders- Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Sept to Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Sports Day- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept
- Pupil Free Day- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Last day of school- Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Sept @ 2pm

# Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

This term, there will be no written progress reports for your child. Instead, teachers will be conducting Parent/Teacher/Student interviews to discuss student progress. If possible, we would like your child to accompany you to the interview so they may share some of their learning with you.

Interviews will take place in your child's classroom between now and the end of term. If you wish to book interview times with multiple classroom teachers, the window for this is from **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September until Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of September**, with Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of September being an extended session until 7:00pm. Notes for each R-7 class will be going home this week, showing each teacher's availability; **please check carefully when making multiple bookings, as not all teachers are available every day during this time.**

**If you wish to attend on one of these days:** please circle three possible times and return to your classroom teacher. If you would like an interview with another teacher that is involved with your child's learning, please tick the box next to the learning area (eg. Art, Health/PE, Technologies).

**If you are unable to attend an interview on these dates:** please give teachers alternative times that are more suitable for you.

We look forward to meeting with you and sharing information about your child's progress. Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

**Secondary Parent teacher interviews** will be held on **Wednesday 13th of September between 3:15pm and 7:00pm**, in the gym. Previous experience indicates that it is difficult for some staff to accommodate all parents who request an interview. In an effort to manage this all secondary teacher will be available in the gym. This will facilitate parents to meet all secondary teachers at the same time. It is important to mention that the student grades so far are based on the first 7 weeks of Term 3

## What chance does your child have of being successful?

1 or 2 days each week doesn't seem like much but ...

When your child misses just ....	that equals ....	which is .....	and over 19 years of schooling that is ....	which means the best your child can perform is ....	
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	nearly 1½ years	Your child 	(equal to finishing in Year 11)
1 day each week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	over 2½ years	Your child 	(equal to finishing in Year 10)
2 days each week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	over 5 years	Your child 	(equal to finishing in Year 7)
3 days each week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	nearly 8 years	Your child 	(equal to finishing in Year 4)

**At Coober Pedy Area School Every day Counts**

**Ask us about help with getting your child to school every day.**

## Special music has returned for 2017!

Students of all musical abilities are invited to participate in the following Specialist Music Ensembles:

- Marimba Ensemble for Grade 5 upwards, rehearsing Mondays, 3:00-3:40pm
- Recorder/Dood/Toot/J Sax Ensemble for Grade 5 upwards, rehearsing Wednesdays, 3:00-3:40pm

There will also be a Junior Musicians class for Grades 1-4, rehearsing Thursdays 3:00-3:30. This group is designed to provide a practical introduction to making music on a variety of instruments, in preparation for the other ensembles.

Parents/carers are welcome to participate in this class with their child.

If your child is interested in participating in one or more of these ensembles, please ask Mr Home for an application form, and bring the completed form to rehearsal.

Coober Pedy Area School would like to thank the Desert Cave, Outback Bar and Grill, John's Pizza Bar for accommodation and meals provided to the two gymnastics coaches that came and taught our students some amazing skills on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Without your assistance programs like this cannot run as smoothly, so from CPAS, a massive THANK YOU!



## Breakfast Club



From 7:30am until 8:50am each school weekday the wonderful team from RSAS run a breakfast program sponsored by Foodbank SA.

All students are welcome to come along, have breakfast and then can participate in indoor or outdoor activities before the School Bell!

For more information please contact the RSAS team on: 0428 966 63



Playgroup is held every Friday morning in the new kindy. All parents of 0-5 are welcome with their kids, and it's a great way to network and enjoy a cuppa with other parents whilst the kids take part in some fun activities.



# Consider treating your child to a session of OSHC

## School days, 3-6pm daily - Outside School Hours Care

Includes a healthy snack, indoor and outdoor activities and loads of opportunities to socialise with other children aged 5-12 years.



**Plenty of spaces remain on Mondays and Thursdays.**

NQF rated as Exceeding National Quality Standards.

Contact the Director: Karen Jones on 0419814957.

[Karen.Jones238@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Karen.Jones238@schools.sa.edu.au)

Rate \$21.00 per child per session

(Centrelink registration, CCB & CRB apply)

**Family entitlements differ:**

**Example 1 child attends once per week @ \$21.00**

**Less CCB & CCR entitlements Family pays \$4.61 for the session**

