



Melrose Primary School

RESPECT ~ HONESTY ~ RESPONSIBILITY ~ EXCELLENCE

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PRINCIPAL: Mr Murray Koster

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon-Fri August 14-18
Science Week

Wed 16 August
Tuck Day

Wed-Fri August 16 -18
SAPSASA SOCCER

Mon-Fri August 21-25
Book Week

Tues 22 August
Book Week Parade

Wed 23 August
SAPSASA Athletics Trials
Jamestown

Wed August 30
Assembly 9.00am

Student Free Day
Friday September 1

School Closure Day
Monday September 4

Wed 13 September
Choir Pt Pirie Concert
&
Appila Environment Day

FOR ALL SCHOOL **INVOICES**

BSB: 065-509
ACC: 10039517

Dear Parents and Friends of Melrose Primary

Welcome to our first newsletter for Term 3.

I hope you had a restful break and we now seem to be in full swing with lots happening.

Parent Survey

The parent survey is an annual, voluntary survey that gathers feedback from parents and carers of school-aged children and young people. The survey occurs annually in term 3 of the school year. The 2023 survey was opened on Tuesday 1 August (week 2 term 3) and closes midnight Sunday 27 August (end of week 5 term 3).

The purpose of the survey is to find out

- what we're doing well
- where we can improve
- what's important to parents and carers.

I encourage you to complete the survey as information provided by you only relates to our school.

Student Mobile devices

The Student Use of Mobile Phones and Personal Devices Policy is now in place in all public government schools – Phones off while school's on! All personal communication devices including mobile phones and smart watches are to be given to the Principal (our school's practice) if brought to school.

As a reminder, students may only use their personal device if they have received approval from the school to use it for an exempted purpose.

If you need to get in touch with your child during school hours, please ensure you use the school's formal communication channels so staff can assist with passing on a message or connecting you with your child. Likewise, we will always contact you directly where there is a need to do so.

Please encourage your child to always speak to a staff member in the first instance if they are feeling unwell or experiencing an issue at school so we can offer appropriate support and follow up. To ensure our duty of care obligations, all instances where a student requires early collection this needs to be arranged via the school office and using formal sign-out processes.

While mobile phones have an important place in our lives and offer many benefits, they can also put students' safety and wellbeing at risk when they are used inappropriately. Keeping them off and away during school hours helps us to limit the negative impact from unsafe or inappropriate use.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Having some time away from personal devices each day is also helping to reduce distractions and improve focus in learning time and encourages students to use breaks to engage with other important activities for health, wellbeing, and development including face-to-face connections and physical activity.

More information about the statewide ban, and why it has been put in place, can be found on the Department for Education's website at: <http://phonesoff.sa.gov.au/>.

Student absences

In light of the information above, please ensure you are contacting the front office land line or mobile phone for all student absences. Seesaw in particular is a great communication tool however, once lessons start it is not monitored closely. Information regarding absences needs to go through the front office so it can be directly updated on our school administration management system.

Other communication between school and home

Term 3 is always a task orientated term and is a great time to make contact with us to discuss any needs regarding your child. Melrose PS is dedicated to serving your child, our school families and the community. The areas where additional communication may be required includes academic, social, wellbeing and or emotional needs.

Communication should always be with your child's classroom teacher in the first instance and or with the Principal. If there is anything you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to make an appointment through the front office.

NAPLAN - New proficiency standards for NAPLAN reporting

From 2023, new proficiency standards apply to NAPLAN reporting.

This new proficiency reporting replaces the 10 numerical NAPLAN reporting bands and the national minimum standard. Education Ministers agreed 2023 was the right time to introduce this change alongside moving NAPLAN to March.

The new reporting has 4 proficiency levels:

Proficiency level	What it means
Exceeding	The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
Strong	The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing
Developing	The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
Needs additional support	The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The proficiency level descriptions provide information about what students at each level can typically demonstrate in each NAPLAN test and have been written using the Australian Curriculum as a reference.

The new proficiency standards were developed with input from all education authorities. Input on student reports was provided though parent focus groups and in consultation with national parent organisations.

Student Free Day and School Closure Day

Staff will be undertaking training on the student free day (Friday 1st September). The school closure day (Monday 4th September) is our annual school closure which aligns with the Royal Adelaide Show.

Wilmington Primary School and Booleroo Centre District School also have a school closure day on this date. We hope families enjoy the extra-long weekend!

East of the Ranges Choir

This concert will be held on Wednesday 13th September commencing at 7pm at the Keith Michell Theatre in Port Pirie. Tickets will be available from Wednesday 23rd August.

Tickets can be purchased directly from the theatre via the box office at www.countryarts.org.au
Tickets cost \$50.00 per family (2 adults and 2 children), \$20.00 for adults, \$15 concession, and \$12.00 for students and children 17 and under. Groups of six or more are at a reduced concession price. Students who are performing do not need a ticket.

Please note that the box office is open from 12.30pm to 4.30pm on Wednesdays to Fridays and an hour before any shows.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Around the School

You may have noticed a traffic counter was installed during the school holidays through the Emu Crossing in front of the school.

This traffic counter captures a range of traffic related data including speed. Later this term the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) will analyse the data to determine what actions (if any) need to be put into place. If motorists are speeding, the DIT will forward this information to SAPOL. The Department can also look to have the speed feedback trailer positioned back at the school.

SAPSASA

Next week two of our students Anna and Lilly are heading to Adelaide and representing the North Eastern District in SAPSASA Soccer. We wish them every success and know they will have a great time.

Thank you

Thank you to Elin for being on hand to unlock school gates for tradesmen performing maintenance work during the holidays.

Thank you to Jodie for spending a number of days during the break sentencing archived documents ready for disposal. This was a huge job to complete and also to Jodie's husband Shane for some gardening and planting in the front garden.

Commencing this term we have a new cleaner working at the school and at rural care. I welcome Trent to our school community. I acknowledge the work of Lyn and Norm who stepped in whilst Servicing SA were trying to find a permanent cleaner. We wish Lyn and Norm all the best and thank them for their generosity to our school.

Thank you to the Remarkable Quilt Group for their very generous donations to our Operation Christmas Child project. The donations will be packed by our students into 'shoe boxes' supplied by Samaritan's Purse later this term. There is still a chance to donate if you are able to, we will be packing the boxes on August 25th.

A big thank you to Libby Arthur for giving her time to assist with school staff in setting up the reader boxes for our Reception to Year 4 students.

Regards
Murray

Maths Investigation

This year as part of Primary Math Association Investigation, students in the Upper Primary class have created surveys to collect data on a variety of topics. Students will use this data to create graphs on Microsoft Excel and analyse it to draw conclusions. Students have applied links to their surveys on the official Melrose Primary School Facebook page. If you have not already done so, could you please take the time to complete the student surveys. All data collected is anonymous. Surveys should take less than 2 minutes to complete. If parents would like a direct link to their child's survey in order to share on their own social media pages in aiding their child's data collection please send me a message.

Thank you the Upper Primary students appreciate your help.

Literacy News



You may have noticed some brand new and exciting decodable readers coming home in your child's Home Folder over the last week. We have purchased a large range of new decodable readers for students in Reception to Year 4. These readers directly relate to the phoneme or grapheme being taught to your child at school. Your child's reader will be changed when a new phoneme/grapheme is taught – approximately weekly.

Your child/ren may also be coming home with some new terminology in relation to their literacy learning.

Below I have outlined some of the new terminology being used in the classrooms:

- Phoneme – is the smallest unit of speech in a word. The word 'short' has three phonemes (sh) (or) (t).
- Grapheme – The letter/s that spell the sounds in words.
- Decoding – Saying the phonemes out loud to correctly articulate an unknown word.

Some of these decodable readers may appear 'easy' for your child, however, there are so many different activities that can build your child's knowledge of the English language. I have outlined some ideas below of activities that you could easily do with your child during your reading time:



- Read the decodable reader. This reader can be read more than once, in fact it is beneficial for your child to read the same book several times.
- Dictation – read a sentence from the book to your child and get them to write the sentence out. Look for punctuation e.g. full stops, capital letters, question marks. It is important that you go through and revise the sentence together and talk through any mistakes at the time of completion.
- Question – question your child's understanding of the text e.g. names of characters, what outfit did the character wear? What was the name of the town that the character lived in?
- Creative writing – get your child to change the ending of the story. Your child can either write the ending to the story, verbally tell you the story or record using a device on Seesaw.
- Writing words – identify words that have the highlighted phoneme e.g. sh and dictate the words found in the book e.g. ship, shop, shiver, shimmer.

These activities are ideas and it is only suggested that these activities and/or reading only take approximately 15 minutes per morning/night. Please only focus on reading and one activity maximum per night. We don't want to place more pressure on your child's cognitive load.

Some students in Reception to Year 4 will also bring home 'free choice' books to read. Students in Years 5 and 6 will have 'free choice' books either borrowed from the library or personal books.

Please take good care of our lovely new decodable readers.

If you have any questions, please ask a member of staff.



Mrs Piggott

Nights of Reading

It has been lovely to see so many students recording their 'Nights of Reading' in their diaries. Congratulations to the following students for reaching milestones in their 2023 reading journey.

Nights of Reading:

25 Nights Maggie, Anna, Sol

50 Nights Matilda, Sonny, Colin, Harlow, Ashton, Stella, Jade, Olivia

75 Nights George

100 Nights Ruby, Shay, Sienna, Elsie, Emma

125 Nights

150 Nights Chloe, Grace

Nights of reading as of Friday week 1.

Please remember to fill in diaries with the title of the book read and the continuous number of nights read.

Mrs Piggott



Fire Wood

Last Term four of our fathers generously donated their time to cut and deliver a load of fire wood as a fundraiser for the school. Thank you to Andrew Walter, Jordan Arthur, Scott Taylor and Bradley Taylor. The school raised \$800. We greatly appreciate your contribution. Thank you to the community members who supported the school by purchasing the wood.

Book Week

This year the theme for book week is **Read, Grow and Inspire**. On Tuesday the 22nd of August students can come to school dressed as a character from a book. Following an assembly commencing at 9am, we will then walk to the institute and back. The librarians from the Flinders Mobile Library have kindly offered to judge the best costumes. The categories for best customs will be:

- Best homemade costume
- Most inspirational costume
- Best character representation
- Most humorous

After our parade along down the main street, JP students together with rural care students will watch the Upper Primary students perform three twisted fairy tales puppet plays. Mr Koster will also run a book week themed activity as part of his whole school lesson. The day is set to be a lot of fun.



Soccer Carnival

On Tuesday the Upper Primary students took part in 5 a side soccer carnival at Booleroo Centre District School. It was a great day out. George and Sol each joined the Booleroo boys teams. Sol's team won 3 games and had a draw to then get through the grand final. George's team won all minor round games which meant George and Sol had to verse each other in the grand final. It was a very competitive game which saw George's team win 1-0. The girls team won 2 out of the 4 minor round games which saw them playoff for 3rd vs 4th spots. The girls represented the school well with good sportsmanship. Olivia scored a few goals. Jade made a very close save when playing keeper and Chloe was excellent at running down field and had a several very close attempts at goal

George: A big thanks to Booleroo for hosting the soccer carnival. I played with Booleroo #1 in the soccer carnival and didn't lose a game. It was so fun playing, I scored 7 goals in 4 normal games and I scored 1 goal in the finals, very accurate kicking for me, I only missed 2 goals.

Thanks George

Sol: I liked about the carnival because I got see all my friends and playing with the Booleroo team kind of annoyed that George and I couldn't play in the same team

Chloe: At the soccer carnival I played on a team with Liv, Jade and Sofia and Booleroo girls so a big thanks to them. The competition was good and we came in 3rd place. I got a knock on the face and kept on playing.

Olivia: Today (Wednesday) we played soccer at Booleroo, and I kicked 5 goals. A big thank you to the teachers and parents for taking us to soccer and a big thank you to Booleroo for organizing this event.

Jade: I had fun playing soccer, it was great. I had a amazing save and it was just about to cross the line but I tumbled on it an caught it before it crossed the line.





Operation Christmas Child
SHOEBOX
PACKING DAY

Friday the 25th of August

Please have all donations into
the Office by this date.

Thank you SRC

*Merry
Christmas*

