Celebrate Reading Day

Walk Safely to School
Last Wednesday our Celebrate Reading Day was held at the school. This proved to be a very enjoyable and successful morning of activities and stories. It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents enjoying a range of reading and literacy activities with their children/grandchildren. A huge thank-you to all of the men from the local community who volunteered to read to small groups of children throughout the morning. In particular, thank-you to Jonn Gorden and Bob Tuberfield for reading the Simultaneous Reading Time story to all junior school students. What a fantastic job all of our volunteers did. I would also like to thank all the families who contributed to the shared morning tea.

It is so important that children see a range of people reading. Statistically we know that boys tend to read less regularly than girls, so any opportunity to see reading role modelled by men has the potential to encourage boys to read more. Reading is an important skill for all children to develop as it sets them up for success both at school and beyond. It also opens up a whole world full of adventure, fun and learning as it fuels imagination and inspires creative thought.

In recent weeks we have had several reported cases of head lice. Unfortunately contracting head lice is very easy and re-infection can occur if all affected students are not treated effectively. To help prevent infestation, parents/carers are asked to contact the school if they have a child with head lice so that notification can be given to other families to check their child/children for head lice. This notification is done without identifying the child via a generic letter. If you are currently receiving school card support, the school can provide take home treatment.

Our current school policy on head lice is out-dated and no longer complies with the guidelines and processes supported by DECD. Therefore, we are in the process of reviewing our policy. In the interim, please refer to the document accessible http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/speced2/files/links/headlicefactsheet.pdf or go to the DECD website and put in a search. Under these guidelines schools cannot send infected children home or search children’s hair.

Thank-you to all families and students who ensure that full school uniform is worn each school day. It would be appreciated if families could work towards full uniform. Black and grey pants and hoodies are not part of the uniform and it would be appreciated if navy pants were worn. Windcheaters and track pants can be purchased through the Front Office.

This Friday 5th June is a Student Free Day. Teaching staff from the SYP Partnership will be undertaking Professional Development at AAS.

Regards,

Karen Bond
Principal

Good luck to Ebony Wheare, Jack Winen, Tre Fuller, Jemma Torsney & Caleb Poulter who will be representing Southern Yorke Peninsula in the SAPSASA Cross Country Championships at Oakbank Race Course on Thursday 4th June.

Margaret Roads, Deputy Principal

On the 25th – 29th May Caleb and Nicholas attended the 2015 SAPSASA football state carnival at West Beach. We played 10 games during the week, we won 7 games and overall we came fourth. Over the whole week Nicholas kicked 4 goals 2 points and Caleb kicked 8 goals and 4 points.

by Nicholas and Caleb
Stage 1 SACE Outdoor Education

In Week 5 (25/05 – 28/05) the Year 11 Outdoor Education students travelled to Mambray creek, Mt. Remarkable National Park in the Southern Flinders Ranges for their bushwalking camp. Students from Ardrossan combined with 17 students from Maitland and Moonta Area Schools. Prior to the camp, students planned meals and walking routes and undertook risk assessment plans.

Student comments from about the camp;

Logan Ames: On the first day we drove up to Alligator Gorge and walked through the incredible red rock canyons and green surroundings. This was a clear highlight for me and a great way to start the camp.

Jack Hicks: Having the opportunity to work with students from other schools and figure out the best way to walk using maps and compasses was a great experience. We got lost a few times but usually always found our way back to the group.

Tyler Fildes: On the second day we did the 18km Hidden Gorge loop walk which took us to the top of The Battery (mountain range). The views made all the walking worthwhile. On the third day we climbed Mt. Cavern (770m) which was absolutely exhausting but fun at the same time.

Jacob Lodge: My favourite aspect of the camp was being self-sufficient cooking our own meals each night, stopping for scroggin (snack) breaks. Nothing like being in the outdoors, probably the best camp I have been on.

Hannah Goldsworthy: I was disappointed to leave the camp a day early but while I was there I loved the experience which included outdoor camp fires at night, almost perfect autumn weather and sleeping in tents.

From the Sports Desk

Year 8 and 9 Football (9-aside)

On Wednesday May 20th Year 8 & 9 students played football at Maitland. We entered Year 8 boys, 8/9 Girls & a Year 9 boys team. All teams played five 20-minute games.

Here’s what some of the students had to say about the day;

Year 9

Anthony: I don’t usually play football so I especially enjoyed the day, being able to tackle, bump and work as a team was a lot of fun.

Lloyd: I really enjoyed being able to tackle and slide in the mud to collect the ball. Maybe I will play on Saturdays from now.

Year 8

Jamie: The chance to play against kids our age and similar ability made the day a lot fairer. It was great to play with some classmates like Fergus who we don’t play with on Saturdays.

Taliah: we didn’t manage to win a game but we all had a great time. I really loved 9-aside footy and was lucky enough to kick a goal.

Ashley: really entertaining day, loved being able to tackle and get dirty. We all can’t wait to do it again next year.

8/9 Netball

On Wednesday the 27th May, the year 8/9 girls (Nikita, Jess, Bianca, Taliah, Leah, Amber, Kimberley and Ashley) were joined by two Maitland girls to participate in the 8/9 netball at Maitland. Overall we played well and had a great time!!

By Amber George

Open Netball & Football was played at Maitland on Thursday 21st May. These teams were coached by Ms Eden & Mr Byrne.
This year our school, along with thousands around Australia, will participate in National Buddy Day on Friday 12th June. Buddy Day is a national initiative developed by NAB and The Alannah and Madeline Foundation to celebrate friendship and help raise awareness of bullying in Australian schools.

Our students are organising a special Buddy Obstacle Course and hamburgers and fruit boxes for lunch (order envelopes will be sent home today and will be due back at school by Tuesday 9th June). We will also unveil our Better Buddy Friendship seat. If children have no-one to play with during breaks, they can sit on this seat and someone will come over and invite them to join in their games. The idea of the seat is to support children in our school who experience feelings of isolation, or who are feeling lonely or sad. It is hoped that the seat will become a key factor in promoting friendship and kindness in students and help to build a sense of community in the school.

The SRC recently initiated registering our school as a Better Buddies School. As part of the Better Buddies framework, older students will be trained as buddies and then paired with younger students to help them feel valued, supported and connected to the school. The experience of other Better Buddy schools has been that as Better Buddies values ‘spill’ into the school yard, more positive behaviours occur leading to changes in the culture of the school to help reduce bullying. Currently there are more than 1,700 schools participating in the Better Buddies program.