

# Lenswood Primary

## School Newsletter



**Principal: Leah Kennewell**  
[leah.kennewell769@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:leah.kennewell769@schools.sa.edu.au)

**Wednesday, 4 May 2016**

### Diary Dates

Tues 10 – Thurs 12 May Naplan for years 3, 5 & 7  
Thurs, 12 May P&F Meeting, 7:30pm at school  
Tues, 17 May Gov Council Meeting, 7:30pm at school

### From the Principal



Welcome back to term 2! After beautiful weather in the holidays we are finally getting some rain and the days are cooling. I must say 'congratulations' to all of those who were involved in the Pink Lady days in the holiday break. I visited the properties and was really pleased by how many people had come up from the plains to visit growers and help their children understand where food comes from. We'll get the scarecrows back and then we'll put them on the front fence so that you can all see the work that the students did on them. See <http://apal.org.au/sa-celebrates-pick-pink-lady-day/>



In the last week of term the staff attended a pupil free day with 12 other schools from the Mount Lofty Partnership. We gathered to hear from James Anderson (<https://mindfulbydesign.com/>) He began the day with the question, "What are you going to do this year to make your students more intelligent?" He went on to tell a story about 2 students in kindergarten. One student is sitting, banging a guitar enthusiastically into the floor. The other child is also sitting, holding a triangle properly and tapping it with the stick. He asked us how adults would generally respond to that. He said that many adults would tell the student to stop wrecking the guitar, and perhaps would tell the parents of the other student that their child was musically gifted and needed to learn to play an instrument. Indeed, both children were using rhythm to make noise, but one student knew more about what was an acceptable way to show that. It might be that the 'guitar' student would have been a wonderful drummer, but would never get the chance because she isn't trusted with instruments!

James believes that intelligence can be developed in all students in all ways. He isn't saying that every child can be an Einstein, but he is saying that we encourage students to practise more at what they are already good at. James understood that research showed that our innate intelligence (what we're born with), contributes to about 10% of our success. Our personal attributes such as how we see ourselves as a learner, how prepared we are to take risks, persist, ask for help and make mistakes make up a lot of the rest. He also said this, "I've got talent. I practise a lot!" Kids who can kick a ball usually end up on the team where they kick the ball a lot, and have ongoing expert tuition (coaching) on how to kick a ball, so of course they get better. Kids who can't kick the ball aren't ever invited on the team, never get the coaching, and never get better. Of course they think they can't do it! James said that practise is the one thing that makes a difference.

**Quote of the week: Intelligence isn't who we are, it's what WE DO! Robert Sternberg**

I'd also like to say a big "welcome back" to Helen Read after her successful surgery. Alison Mason was fabulous in Helen's class and has now returned to her NIT role. Renee Goodman has settled very quickly into Carmen Brincat-Cotton's room while she is enjoying long service leave.

## We're Taking it in Our Stride

On Friday, 20 May we will be holding our Walk Safely to School Day. Now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, it is a campaign and annual event when all primary school children, their parents and carers are encouraged to walk and commute regularly and safely to school. Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine. This is an initiative supported by the Australian and all Local Governments. Did you know that children up to the age of 10 years need to hold an adult's hand when crossing the road?



For more information visit [www.walk.com.au](http://www.walk.com.au).

We will be asking all parents to drop their child/children off at the Lenswood Memorial Park (Lenswood Oval) from 8:15 where we will be holding a pancake breakfast for all students followed by some activities. We will then walk carefully to school together to commence our day. Parents, you are more than welcome to join us for breakfast and to walk with the students up the hill to school.

## SAPSASA Cross Country

This event is open to students born in 2003 to 2006. Eligible students need to be in training now. Students born in 2003 to 2005 will need to run 3000m and students born in 2005, 2000m. Often students do not make the distance or need to walk because they have not done enough training. This event will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at the Woodside Recreation Grounds. Parents, if you can help with driving for this event please let Carmen know soon.

## SRC

This term our new executives include chairpersons - Dylan P and Owen C, secretaries – Michael and Riley and Observers – Dylan B and Morgan. Our meetings are held on Fridays before recess, starting at 10am in the gym or the library. Please come along and join our meetings at any time.

## Firey Women

This is a really important series of four workshops that the school is hosting from next Monday. (You would have seen the flyer in the last newsletter.) We bought our property in Norton Summit just after Ash Wednesday had burnt it, so I've always had a high level of awareness about bushfires, and learned everything that I could. I'm really excited to be attending the free course though, because I'd always prefer to be over prepared than under prepared. Every year that we don't have a fire brings us closer to when we will have one. Even if you're planning to leave your property early, we all know that that might not be possible, and so I believe we all need to be as well informed as we can be. **The first session is next Monday, May 9, and then there are sessions on May 16, 23 and 30.** It starts at 6:00pm and finishes at 10:00pm. (I know that's late, but no-one is going to mind if you leave early – better to attend for some of the time than not at all.) Topics include:

- Understanding bushfires and warnings
- Deciding when to leave early or stay
- Identifying hazards at your home,
- Preparing yourself emotionally
- Operating fire pumps and equipment
- Preparing a bushfire survival plan.

Please phone **Michael Coulson on 0457 102 844** to register.

***C'mon firey women, let's not leave it to the blokes!***

## Heating Lunches

We heat up lunches this term!! On Tuesdays to Fridays please make sure you place your named lunch next to the pie warmer by the beginning of recess. Thank you for your help with this. Remember we do not sell ice blocks in terms two and three.



Grammar  
Gremlins

# Many

Use **many** with **plural nouns**

Chelsea doesn't have **many** friends.

# Much

Use **much** with **collective nouns** and **singular nouns**

Gerald doesn't have **much** money.

## Upcoming Cake & Lunch Roster for Term 2



Week 2, 9/5	Cakes	Diana M & Leonie S
Week 3, 16/5	Lunch Day	Tiff C & Tess S
Week 3, 16/5	Produce pick up	Tess S
Week 4, 23/5	Cakes	Toni W & Sue B-B

# Happy May Birthday to:

Beau who turns 9 today!!

Noah who will be 7 on the 5<sup>th</sup>, Oliver who turns 12 on the 6<sup>th</sup>,  
Hannah who will be 12 on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Jack Steiner who turns 11 on the 10<sup>th</sup>  
and Dylan P who becomes a teenager on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you all have a wonderful birthday.

# Coffee, Chat & Play Mornings

*In the Lenswood Primary School Gym*

*Activities suitable for  
Toddlers & Preschooler's*



*Morning tea provided*

*FRIDAY mornings 9 to 10:30*

*Term 2, Weeks 2, 4, 6 & 10*

*All Welcome!!! Gold Coin Donation*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

**Birdwood High School, Open Day** – Wed, 1 June from 9:30am – 11:30am.

**Mitcham Girls High School, Open Day** – Mon, 9 May from 9 – 11am and 5 – 8pm. Principal's address at 9:10am and in the evening at 5pm and 7:15pm.

**Birdwood Farm Day** – Sunday, 15 May at Chalks Campground (Warren Rd) Mt Crawford Forest. Join in for a day of country fun in the forest and enjoy the best of what our local community has to offer. Adults \$8, children are free, and a maximum of \$15 per car. The day will include whip cracking demonstrations, pony & camel rides, sheep shearing, animal nursery, live music, art displays, family games, school band & choir, Blue Company medieval re-enactments, sheep dog demonstrations, log chopping, local wine tastings and lots, lots more. Visit the new website [www.birdwoodfarmday.com](http://www.birdwoodfarmday.com)

4 May 2016



Dear Year 3, 5 and 7 Students

Next week you will sit the NAPLAN test. Before you take this test there is something very **important** for you to know:

This test does not assess all of what makes each of you **exceptional** and **unique**.

The people who score these tests don't know that some of you love to **sing**, are good at **drawing** or can teach others how to use a **computer program**. They have not seen the way that some of you can **dance** with grace or speak **confidently** to a large group. They do not know that your friends **count** on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you **participate** in sports, help your mum and dad or that you play with your little brother, sister or cousins. They do not know that you are **caring**, **thoughtful** and that every day you **do your best**. Because these **attributes** cannot be tested.

The test also does not account for the fact that some concepts you haven't even been exposed to yet as it is so early in the year.

The scores you get from this test will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can't tell you that you have improved on something you once found difficult. They can't tell you that you **brighten** up your teacher's day. They can't tell you how **amazingly** special you are.

So come to school **ready** to do your best for the NAPLAN test and remember there is no one way to 'test' all of the wonderful things that make you, **YOU!**

Kind Regards

Leah Kennewell  
Principal

Julie Browne  
Year 3 Teacher

Darly Jones  
Year 5 Teacher

Helen Read  
Year 7 Teacher

This letter originated in the US and was sent to students last week at St Paul's Catholic Primary in Queensland. Helen and Darly found it on the internet, and the ABC reported that it has "gone viral". We know that the NAPLAN tests are important, and we also know that they aren't the "be all and end all". There are many student attributes and qualities that they don't test. We liked it so much that we thought we would send it home with our students who will be doing the NAPLAN tests. We hope that you like it as much as we do.