



Wed, 10 March 2021

Week 7 - Term 1

Thurs 11/3 Maria's Kitchen
Lunch
Wheels Day
- Lower

Mon 15/3 Harmony Week

Mon 15/3 P&F Lunch Day

Tues 16/3 Governing
Council Meeting
7pm

Thurs 18/3 Wheels Day
- Middle

Fri 19/3 Harmony Day
Activities

Wed 24/3-26/3
5/6/7 Aquatics
Camp



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
to

Cam O who will be
9 on the 17th, Ellie
S who turns 11 on
the 22nd and
Jemima B who
turns 11 on the
24th.

From the Principal, Jess Moroney

IT Upgrade

Andrew has been working very hard behind the scenes and has just taken delivery of 30 laptops which were provided to us via the Department for Education in support of our ongoing upgrades. Andrew will work with technicians from the Department team to get them up and running over the next few weeks. We will be working with the student voice committee to develop a new user agreement, which will have to be agreed upon and signed prior to children accessing the laptops. Our school philosophy is to use technology to enhance learning, yet avoid it being used at school as a gimmick or toy. We will continue to educate children around the many uses of technology and the dangers of technology and the internet. As part of my teaching component, we will be looking at ways to keep safe at school and we will also provide ways to keep your child safe at home as well. This is a timely reminder to monitor the use of technology at home. There are many great resources out there but if you haven't already please check out the Carly Ryan Foundation parent resources: <http://www.carlyryanfoundation.com/resources/online-safety-contract> and app fact sheets <http://www.carlyryanfoundation.com/resources/fact-sheets>. You can also find plenty of information at Think U Know <https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/for-parents-and-carers>. One of the most important things to do is to have open conversations with your children about the wonderful uses of technology, but also the dangers that can be out there.

Carpark and Road safety

To continue the theme of keeping children and families safe, we have been working with DPTI and the Adelaide Hills Council to identify ways to make entering and exiting school safer for children and families. This is a complex issue as it includes many stakeholders and we have been working through the logistics for quite some time now. As our school is growing and the demand for carparks at drop off and pick up time is increasing it is important to remind everyone to go slow and take your time during drop off and pick up time. If the main carpark is full, there is an overflow car park behind the neighbouring church where you can park your car and enter the school via the rear gate at the oval. If choosing this option, please park towards the rear of the carpark, leaving enough room for vehicles to drive through the park. If your children are older and you would like a 'kiss and drop' option, the easiest way to do this is to enter Rogers Lane, head behind the church in a clockwise direction before re-entering Rogers Lane. Part of the discussion with DPTI is to formalise some of the parking and school/road signage, but this is ongoing work and will take some time. The most important thing we can all do for now is to go slow and be courteous in the way we enter and exit school. Thank you again for all you do to keep our children safe.

Way2Go Bike Education

During term 2 all year 4-7 children will participate in 3 practical workshops regarding bike education and safety. This will complement the work our teachers are doing in their classes and is part of the health and physical education curriculum. Children will require their own bike to use for the practical sessions and all bikes will undergo a road safety inspection. If your child does not have a suitable bike we can arrange a bike to be available courtesy of the Way2Go team. We will have one session at school and then two sessions hosted from the Lobethal Recreation Grounds. This is another element of our strategy to ensure our children are equipped with the information they need to keep themselves safe at school, home and then out on the road.



Consent forms and further information will come out closer to the end of term.

Aquatics Camp

We're almost at the time that the year 5-7 children will be heading off to their aquatics camp with Ms Read. As this camp occurs every two years, Ms Read has negotiated for year 5s to be involved in 2021 to ensure they do not miss out on their aquatics camp due to being in high school a year earlier than anticipated. More details are coming home via a class letter, but this is a reminder to ensure that if your child has any medical conditions (asthma, allergies etc.) please ensure they have a valid medical plan on file. Your child will need a plan that was completed by a GP no more than 12 months prior to the camp dates otherwise the aquatics staff will not be able to have them participate in the great learning that occurs on the water. Please see Nicola if you require further details.

Weekend Use of the School

We are very fortunate that the school is generally well cared for by those people who choose to come and use the facilities over weekends and during the holidays. However, over the past few months we have noticed an increase in misuse of the facilities resulting in damage to trees and school equipment. The bulk of the damage seems to come from bikes and skateboards choosing to 'grind' the benches, tables and foursquare bars resulting in them becoming damaged and in some cases sharp and dangerous for our children to use. We think most of the damage is unintentional and have spoken to a few locals who we know ride or skate regularly in the area. If you know of anyone who rides or skates in the school, please let us know so we can follow up with their families. As we've mentioned, most of the damage seems unintentional and the conversation will be pointing out how the misuse of the facilities is causing it to be unsafe for our school children to use, not a telling off at this stage.

Courier Cup Swimmers

Congratulations to Ellie, Kye, Scott, Jemima and James who represented our school at the Courier Cup swimming championships in week 5. We heard reports of children trying their hardest and a few personal bests achieved on the day.



A special mention to Kye who has been selected for a second consecutive year to represent the Adelaide Hills District. Kye will be representing the Hills in freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke. Congratulations to the team!

Julia is on the mend

Thank you to everyone who has been checking in regularly to see how Julia is going. Unfortunately she had a setback in her recovery from surgery and has had to spend more time back in hospital. The good news is that she is back home and starting to feel better. While a return date is still unclear at this stage, she is really missing everyone and eager to get back as soon as possible. A huge thank you must go to Nicola and all of the team here at Lenswood who are all doing a few extra bits and pieces to make sure the school continues to run smoothly while Julia is away. The community support has also been amazing as usual and we have even had guest appearances from Kay Stafford and Lisa Golding at the front desk. It is an understatement to say we miss Julia and we cannot wait to have her back as soon as she is ready and able to.

Harmony Week



Next week is Harmony week and as a school we choose to celebrate the fact that 'everyone belongs' by engaging in a series of class based activities which culminates with a whole school activity on the final day of the week. Ms Read and Mrs Stanton are busy putting the final touches on the Friday activities and we will provide any details required via Skoolbag. This is just a heads up that on Friday 19 March, your child can come dressed in orange (the colour of Harmony Day), bright coloured clothes or in the cultural dress of a country or culture that is significant to them.

I hope you all have a wonderful fortnight.

Jess

Congratulations

Congratulations to Daisy, Mum Emily and Dad Chris on the arrival of their beautiful baby Charlie.



Book Club

The most recent issue of Book Club has gone home with students. Please check your child's bag if you would like to see what is on offer. Orders are due back on Tuesday 23 March.

P&F Raffle

Our Parents and Friends Committee are holding an Easter Raffle this term. This will be drawn on Thursday 1 April. Each family has received a book of raffle tickets and we ask that they are returned by 26 March (even if you haven't sold them). If you can make a donation towards the prizes please drop it into school as soon as possible.

Buddy Class

In Buddy Class we read a book together called *What Noise Comes From a Giraffe?* The R/1 s chose their favourite animals and then created a class big book with the 5/6/7s using collage. If you would like to have a look at this book it is on display in the R/1 class.



Community News

Birdwood High School



Open Day 25 March 2021

9.15am start until 11am Shanon Street Birdwood SA 5234

Bookings Essential via the website



Government of South Australia
Department of Education

T +61 (0) 8 8588 5100 E dl.0770_info@schools.sa.edu.au
F +61 (0) 8 8588 5222 W www.birdwoodhs.sa.edu.au

CRICOS Provider No. 00018A