School Priorities for 2016

Over past 5 weeks of this term staff have been involved in a process of determining what our school focus priorities will be for 2016. It goes without saying that we will continue to focus on improving the standards of literacy, numeracy and attendance so we are well above the expected DECD Standard of Educational Achievement in each of these areas of student learning. In addition to these we will maintain our focus on supporting our students to achieve at the highest level possible in their SACE, using a range data tools to individualise the learning for our students in their classrooms and working with our students to develop a positive disposition to life through a focus on Positive Education strategies. All of these things have been going on in the school for a while now and we have growth and improvement in all of these aspects of education.

However we also know that there are new challenges for students to face once they leave school and we want to equip our students with the knowledge and skills to enable them to successfully manage these later in their lives. The professional learning focus for Year 7 to 12 teachers next year will be to develop a richer understanding and personal competence in the projected skills required to operate successfully in the employment sector in the 21st century. I spoke about these in a previous newsletter but just to recap; Ian Jukes, an international education consultant talks about the 9 I’s, which he sees as the lifelong skills (future proofing skills) and capabilities required for our learners moving forward in this century. They include;

- Intra-personal,
- Interpersonal,
- Independent problem solving,
- Interdependent collaboration,
- Information investigation; (ask, access, analyse, apply information, access),
- Information communication,
- Imagination creativity,
- Innovation creativity and
- Internet citizenship.

These lead to developing and strengthening what are put forward as the most desirable qualities in future employees; the ability to work collaboratively as part of a team, high level problem solving skills and high level inter-personal skills. If you would like to know more about this topic, Ian Jukes has free website full of information and resources, you can visit these at;


https://www.evernote.com/pub/ijukes/infosavvy21edutech

Beginning in 2016 and into the future we will support staff to develop strategies to integrate these “21st century learning skills” into their everyday classroom practice. The professional focus for our R-6 teachers will be to fully integrate the DECD “Teaching for Effective Learning” framework into their everyday practice. Staff are already using many aspects of the framework in their planning and classroom delivery but 2016 will see a focus on strengthening and expanding the use of the various domains within the framework. There are 4 domains to the framework;

- domain one describes quality teaching and learning;
- domain two outlines creating safe conditions for rigorous learning;
- domain three discusses how to provide opportunities to develop expert learners;
- domain four deals with the specifics of personalising and connecting the learning to real life experiences.

As you can see there are very close links between the 7-12 focus and R-6 focus so there will be a lot of cross-over of ideas and sharing of best practice. I expect our 2016 newsletters will contain a number of articles about our professional learning and how this is being used in our classrooms.

Year 12 farewell

Week 2 of this term saw the Year 12 farewell assembly where I thought the event captured the very special nature of an R-12 school. It was fantastic to see our reception students, just beginning their school journey, presenting the Certificates of Participation to our Year 12 students. Something unique in an R-12 school and a very special moment to watch. Our Year 12s have all but completed their final year now and at my assembly address focussed on the capabilities that I hoped our Year 12 students had developed on their journey through secondary education. The ability to;

- Manage their own wellbeing
- Relate well to others
- Make informed decisions about their lives
• Behave with ethical integrity
• Relate to and communicate across cultures
• Work for the common good
• Act with responsibility at the local, regional and global level

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our year 12’s all the very best for their future endeavours.

End of year celebrations

The next few weeks are going to be really busy. Many think that as we approach the end of the year we are winding down but as many of you will know this is not the case. Graduation events, transition programs, orientation days, presentation evening and planning for 2016 all add to an otherwise full schedule. Holidays are not that far away and by the time we get there they will have been well earned. I look forward to seeing many of you at the coming events and wish you all a successful completion to the year.

DEBATING CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to Paralowie A team, who won the NASSSA Debating Grand Final held at TAFE SA, Elizabeth yesterday evening.

The debate between Paralowie R-12 School A and Craigmore High School B was on the topic: "That main roads aren’t meant for cyclists".

After a very close debate the three adjudicators from Debating SA awarded the debate to Paralowie R-12 School A. Congratulations to Katelynn Wiseman who was awarded Best Speaker of the Tournament.

Paralowie R-12 was also presented the Perpetual Trophy for Grand Final. Congratulations to all the students who participated, and to the teachers, Alana Atwood and Stuart Banytis, who supported and encouraged them throughout the tournament. The tournament was a very successful one, with special thanks for the significant contributions by community members; Rick Hencke, Rotary and Twelve25; Sonja Lowen, Debating SA; Shannon Burns, Adelaide Uni; NASSSA Principals.

SUCCESS TRIP

The school community at Paralowie R-12 often have many reasons to be proud of our students and their achievements and none more so than the 2015 Success trip participants from Years 7 – 9.

Congratulations to these students who will be rewarded with a 4 day camp based at Moana Beach Caravan Park in week 8 of last term.

Over the 4 days, the students will be involved in aquatic activities at the world famous Pt. Noarlunga Aquatic reef area; surfing at Southport, snorkelling, sailing, canoeing in the Onkaparinga River, ten pin bowling, eating out at restaurants, marathon tennis matches, long night hikes along the beach, fish and chips at the beach and “sleeping in” every morning.

134 students qualified for the trip and the most outstanding 36 were invited. These students won their place on the trip through their magnificent attitudes, academic excellence and school service.

2015 was the fourteenth year Paralowie R-12 has implemented this reward trip and in 2015, the trip will be bigger and better. My advice to all students who missed out and those that wish to go again, is to set some goals and work hard at achieving them, enjoy your year and become involved in school life in general.

PETER GROVES
SUCCESS TRIP ORGANISER

INVITATION
PARALOWIE R-12 SCHOOL
2015 PRESENTATION NIGHT
A celebration of success.
Wednesday 25th November
at the
Playford Civic Centre
The evening will commence at 7pm and conclude at 9pm
This is a fantastic celebration of students’ effort, creativity, persistence and achievement.
THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS
VERY
WELCOME TO ATTEND

WAKAKIRRI

Wakakirri is pleased to announce the very first People’s Choice Awards!
Every single schools’ Story Dance from 2015 can now be found on www.wakakirri.com for your viewing pleasure. We want as many people as possible to see, share and celebrate this year’s amazing Wakakirri stories. They offer a unique insight into how students perceive the world around them. Now you can share your schools’ performance with your family and friends. You can watch other schools’ performances as well.

Share your schools’ People’s Choice Story Dance video link http://www.wakakirri.com/mainsite/sa-primary-peoples-choice-award-paralowie-r-12-school/ on your website and your social media. The Primary School and Secondary School in each state with the most likes / shares will be named the 2015 People’s Choice Award winner. Winners will be announced 30th November, 2015.

We need your support! There is just 2 weeks left to cast your vote, so do not delay! Tell your friends, tell your family and tell the world TODAY!

WHY YOU CAN’T SKIP READING TONIGHT!

Why Can’t I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student “A”</th>
<th>Student “B”</th>
<th>Student “C”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reads 20 minutes each day</td>
<td>reads 5 minutes each day</td>
<td>reads 1 minute each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3600 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>900 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>180 minutes in a school year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,800,000 words

282,000 words

8,000 words

90th percentile

50th percentile

10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student “A” will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student “B” will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life? (Nagy & Herman, 1997)

PARALOWIE SUPPORTING ANGLICARE

This term eleven students supported Anglicare’s Intergenerational IT Connect Program. Students attended the Canterbury Close venue each week over six weeks; Chloe Annetts, Nadia Anwari, Rundutta Dabadi, Kayla Huet, Flora Irambona, Naru Khatiwada, Chandra Majhi, Man Ngaih Niang, Tahira Razai, Kelsey Robertson and Chloe Schubert.
This is the second time Anglicare has asked Paralowie students to support a group of adult learners with their digital technology skills. Some activities so far have involved figuring out the complexities of a new mobile phone, building a family tree, learning how to visit websites, using Facebook and creating calendars with family photos.

Congratulations to all the girls who have been very supportive and involved.

Robyn Mortimer

KNOCKOUT VOLLEYBALL

Our Year 8/9 boys’ volleyball team participated in the finals of the Statewide Knockout competition at Heathfield High School early this term. The boys displayed ongoing improvement in skill level and tactical application as they continue to finalise preparation for the upcoming Melbourne trip. We came away with a 3rd placing in the state, only finishing behind the 2 full-time Specialist Volleyball Schools in SA. Well done boys!

Derek Slater

YR 10 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY CLASS SHARES SKILLS

During Term 4, the Year 10 class supported Greg Frost’s Year 6 class and Eliisha Scordo’s Year 5 class. The secondary students had studied the hardware components of the computer system. They stripped, photographed and rebuilt the desktop computers and then used web apps instead of PowerPoint to present their photos with labels and definitions.
Firstly, Greg’s students were shown how to take apart the computers and then create PowerPoints using photos and...
labels. The following week, Elisha’s students participated in the activity which was especially relevant as they had been researching digital systems as well.

Then on World Kindness Day, the Year 10 students had a very enjoyable double lesson with Nicole Sander’s Year 3 class. We showed the younger students how to create a digital word cloud using words associated with kindness. The older students were very impressed when Bella and Maddison thanked them for the activity. The Year 3 students have already used the web app by themselves and will be able to pass their knowledge forward to other primary students.

The students have shown that effective mentoring is an essential skill in Digital Technology.

Robyn Mortimer

NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN PLANTINGS

As part of their gardening program, six Junior Primary classes assisted this term with the planting of some native propagated shrubs, ground covers, and grasses at the entrance of our Community Garden on Waterloo Corner Road.

These plants were organised brilliantly by Sandy Stuart from the high school and supplied through a combination of her hard work, and Shannon Davis who runs the community side of the garden.

Months ago students from Years 8-12 helped to propagate plants to enhance the entrance to our garden. Shannon was extremely generous with her time, assisting the Junior Primary classes to plant them this week for what will no doubt be an exceptional entranceway in the near future.

All the classes enjoyed themselves and were extremely helpful.

Of course many, many thanks to all these students and a big thank you to Greg Frost, Sandy Stuart and Shannon Davis for all the time and effort they put into these plantings.

ADULT LEARNING PROGRAMS FOR 2016

BOOK IN TODAY!

Would you like to update your skills in computing, and join the 28 adults who have gained extensive skills and confidence using Microsoft Publisher, Word, Powerpoint and Excel through our Community Centre adult learning program. Beginners most welcome!

Or perhaps you would like to explore some new employment options in the health/community industry? This year, 5 adults will be completing a Certificate 3 in Health Services Assistance at Paralowie R-12 School, which will open many doors to a fulfilling career in Aged Care, Disability Services, or Community Services, or it could be a pathway to further study in many areas.

Why not come along to our information session and explore your new pathway!

Dates: Tuesday 24th November at 9.15 am, or Tuesday 8th December at 9.15 am in the Community Centre. Please RSVP to Mary Jo Bellew, on 8182 7222.

COMMONWEALTH BANK SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE PLEASE READ

Following the decision last term to recall the Cosmic Light Beam Torch due to a potential safety issue, a decision has been made to also withdraw the upcoming Lunar Light Band reward from the School Banking Rewards Program. To avoid disappointment there is a new reward item available for redemption in Term 4 while stocks last. Students can now test their skills with a game of frisbee with the new Galaxy Glider!

Once students have collected 10 tokens, they can simply include a note, along with their 10 tokens in their deposit wallet on banking day to advise that they would like to redeem their tokens for the Galaxy Glider reward item.
Don’t forget the Outer Space Savers Money Box is also available in Term 4.

Heather Long
Finance Manager

PARENTING SA VIDEOS FOR PARENTS OF TEENS AND PRE-TEENS

Video topics include:

- Helping teenagers stay safe online
- Teenagers and feelings
- Managing conflict with teenagers
- Living with teenagers

Each video is complemented by a link to a relevant Parent Easy Guide.

*Parenting SA has recently developed four short videos to give parents and carers tips and strategies for living with teens and pre-teens. Topics include: helping teenagers stay safe online; teenagers and feelings; managing conflict with teenagers; and living with teenagers. To watch the videos, go to the Parenting SA website


Contact: Manager, Parenting SA, Diana Skott, telephone 8161 7150

SCHOOL HATS

As part of our Sun Safe Policy, school hats are compulsory from Reception to Year 6.

School hats can be purchased from the front office.

Cost: $10.00

SCHOOL TIMES

School commences: 8.40am
Recess: 11.05 – 11.25am
Lunch: 12.55 - 1.35pm
School dismissed: 3.00pm

Please ring the direct Absentee Number when telephoning the school to notify absences:
8182 7281

AUSIE RULES FOR WOMEN

Brahma Lodge Football Club seeking females aged 12 and over to play in their Football Teams in the Under 15, under 18 and Open Women’s divisions – contact Luke on 0433 970 782 or go to brahmalodge@footymail.com.au

KEEP YOUR KIDS SMILING

Dental care is FREE for most school-aged children and ALL preschool children at the School Dental Service. All babies, children and young people 0-17 years are welcome to attend.

School Dental Service clinics are open during the Christmas school holiday break.

Phone your local School Dental Service clinic now for an appointment. For clinic details visit

http://www.sadental.sa.gov.au

TARNANTHI ART EXHIBITION

Tarnanthi is the festival of contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, with exhibitions continuing at the Art Gallery of South Australia through to January 2016.

Tarnanthi is a valuable learning opportunity for all ages and provides insights into contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture across curriculum areas.

Contact: DECD Education Manager at the Art Gallery, Mark Fischer, telephone 0407341901

YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY SUMMER CAMPS

Why not join the YMCA Camping team on a fun filled school holiday camp these summer holidays!

This summer YMCA Camping has plenty of camps on offer with a huge variety of awesome activities to keep your children busy throughout the summer holidays.

A teen surf camp, a Kangaroo Island Adventure, caving at Naracoorte and a New Year’s Party are just some of the amazing camps we have planned for this summer!

YMCA Holiday Camps are very popular and places are limited. Book now to secure your place in the sun, and join us for Fun, Friendship and Adventure!

All the details and booking form can be found on the YMCA website –


Contact YMCA Camping on 8406 2900 or campingsa@ymca.org.au for more details
Click on the following link for more information about the Kids Pool Party at the Salisbury Swimming Centre

Click on the following link for the poster promoting the FREE International Games Day at the Salisbury Library on Saturday November 21, 10am-2pm, celebrating *International Games Day*