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Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## From the Principal



### WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL – AGAIN.

It was wonderful to see so many happy students

return to school last Wednesday. No doubt, there were many parents who were happy for school to be back on, as they had been juggling the complexities of a lockdown, the challenges of Learning at home, working at home themselves and battling with some pretty ordinary weather, which made it hard to make the most of the ninety minutes of exercise limit.

Fortunately, my own daughter, who is twelve, was reasonably independent but I felt for the many families navigating home learning, with limitations with devices, internet capability and accessibility as well as varying degrees of experience with the various platforms. Thank you to our families for their work in this space. I applaud your efforts and commitment as I know how

frustrating technology can be. We understand that there are so many variables with Learning at home but we appreciated the extra effort and patience required during this time to get our students accessing learning.

We hope to add in regular online meetings with the class teacher in the future. We will be using Teams to connect and I know that a number of teachers were able to trial this during the Lockdown.

We are keen to know how Learning at home went for you and how we can improve in the future. If you would like to give feedback on what worked and what didn't and any ideas for the future please leave feedback by clicking on following link:

**Melanie Jones, Principal**

# COVID and Wellbeing

A pandemic, until very early in 2020, was something that was part of history and now unfortunately is part of our reality. A road map out provides optimism, as we look to life where COVID has less impact.

We have been saturated with constant media coverage and images, most recently with our athletes wearing masks and adhering to the Olympic protocols to compete against others from the world over. I feel for our students as until this term school has been a place to step away from the continual coverage, other than an increase in good handwashing, physical distancing, staying at home if unwell and parents often not able to be onsite. I wonder what they are thinking in their minds as they now see the adults around them wearing masks. Many of the students find it somewhat of a novelty, but I do wonder what they really think.

COVID continues to challenge us and the Lockdown presented its own set of challenges. We realise during times like this how much we all seek connection with others and how much routine is good for us. How many were pleased to be

back at school connecting with their friends, teachers and class mates and being able to freely go about our business, albeit it with some tighter restrictions?

How fortunate are we to be in this state, where it has been managed so well.

It is really important that we have current family information, including phone numbers and residential, postal and email addresses. If any of your details have recently changed, please advise the front office so that we can update as required.

A reminder to all families that face masks are required to be worn at all times whilst on school grounds. Disposable masks are available from the front office should you forget to bring one when you drop off or collect your child. Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe.

Please find some useful tips at the links on supporting with your children's social and emotional wellbeing during COVID. Maybe something to put aside in the event we have another Lockdown.

# Material and Services Charges

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who have either paid, made arrangements and / or filled in school card forms. It is appreciated.

If you are paying charges off, please continue to do so. Payment can be made via QKR app under School payments, then 2021 School Fees. Payment can also be made via direct credit to the school bank account BSB 105108 Acct 0394083140. Please use student surname as reference.

Are you eligible for school card in 2021? Please make sure

applications are submitted as a matter of urgency. **Applications can be completed online at...**

**A new application must be filled in each year.** Application forms are also available at the finance office.

Please remember that this charge is legally recoverable. If you require any information or have any questions, please contact Lisa in the finance office or email on [lisa.pinder549@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:lisa.pinder549@schools.sa.edu.au)

# Diary Dates

**10th August**  
**GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**11th August**  
**STUDENT FREE DAY**  
OSHC will be open

**18th August**  
**SPECIAL FOOD DAY**

**18th August**  
**BOOK WEEK PERFORMANCE**

**27th August**  
**BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY AND PARADE**  
Wear a costume

**27th August**  
**ASSEMBLY**



# Special Food Day

BBQ Sausage in Bread with a Fruit Box and Cinnamon Donut  
(Vegetarian and Gluten free Sausages and Bread options available –Contact Jackie or Rachel in the Canteen)

**Tuesday 17th August 2021**  
**(Week 5)**

\$6.50

Payments can be made via the QKR App or at the Canteen.

All Orders Must be placed and paid by Thursday 12th August 2021. This will be the only lunch item available on this day.

A reminder that second hand uniforms can be purchased from the canteen for \$2 per item.

# OSHC

Any families requiring OSHC services on the student free day, please be sure to book in as soon as possible so that OSHC staff can plan ahead.

## FAMILY INFORMATION

# Student Free Days – What do the staff do?



Student Free Days allow teachers to stop and really consider their teaching and the impact they are having on students. They provide valuable time for teachers to connect to current educational research. They collaborate to critically evaluate their teaching and to improve their teaching programs to better support and stretch student learning.

### The Research

Student Free Days usually begin by exploring and delving deeply into the current educational research. We look closely at educational ‘best practice’; teaching strategies that have been shown to positively impact on student learning. Experts, who are recommended from the Department for Education, may visit the school (in person or virtually) to explain the research to us. We also use the experts within our school, who have engaged with the research in depth during extra professional learning opportunities, to lead the exploration of the new research.

### Collaboration

Teacher collaboration has been shown to be one of the best ways to improve student learning. Sometimes, it can be hard for teachers to work together during the busyness of the term and a student free day allows

teachers to take a breath and spend time collaborating. Teachers work together to evaluate their teaching programs and strategies in line with the new research. Each teacher brings their ideas and expertise to form new learning for the whole group. It is during this time that we question: Can my teaching be improved to enhance student outcomes?

### Collaborative Planning

The afternoon session of a Student Free Day is usually put aside for collaborative planning. This is when the teachers return to their classrooms with their learning team to start putting their new learning into practice. Teachers may make changes to their unit plans or lessons to better cater for their students. They will look closer at the progress of the students in their class and work out where they may need to adjust their teaching strategies to reflect the current ‘best practice’. Teachers work together to come up with goals for their own teaching practice.

And morning tea. We always have a delicious morning tea!

Teachers find that Student Free Days are refreshing and invigorating. We all return to our classrooms with new enthusiasm to try out our new learning and improve the outcomes of our students!

## Pastoral Care Worker News

Back on the 15th of June Week 8 at parent morning tea we had a Beeswax wrap making workshop. It was great fun and we were really grateful to Janet Steegh and Airlie Waller for donating their time and organising the event. We were all amazed at how simple and cheap the process of making the wraps were and were all inspired to make some at home.

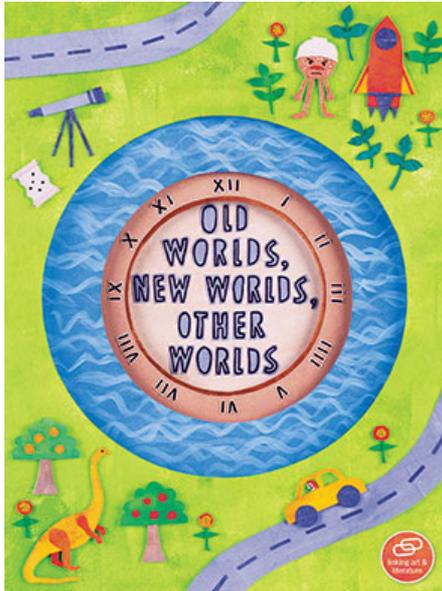
### It's time to head to the beach!

Many people say they can't wait until it's warm again to get down to the beach but winter is still great to go to the beach – just different. All you need is different clothes and seeing it with different eyes. I've often thought I'd like to set up a camera at the far end of Port Willunga beach and at the same

date each month take a photo and turn that into a calendar the next year. It looks so different as it rolls through each season. Visiting Aldinga Beach in winter has the added bonus of not having to dodge as many cars. So, rug up, and see what you find on the beach in winter. I can guarantee at the very least your house will feel really warm when you get home!

Sue Camac





## Book Week

Book Week will be here soon! This year, Book Week is from August 21-27 (Term 3, Week 6). This year's theme is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. The dress up day/parade will be on Friday the 27th of August (Week 6). We encourage students to dress up in theme and to make costumes made from things at home. We will also be having a Book Fair in the library beginning on Wednesday the 18th of August (Term 3, Week 5) and finishing on the Wednesday the 25th of August (Week 6).



## Premier's Reading Challenge Reminder

The last day is Friday 3 September. If students choose to participate, they need to read eight books from the Premier's Reading Challenge Booklist, and four of their own choice. It helps to double check that the eight books students are reading are on the Challenge Booklist. This can be done by visiting the Premier's Reading Challenge website and searching the title or author. If you have any queries or need help, please see the library. Thank you,

**Samuel Griffin, Teacher Librarian**



## Our Olympic Champion



Congratulations to ex- student Angus Dawson who competed in the Tokyo Olympic Rowing Team last Friday.

Angus, is now 20 years old and the youngest member of the Australian Olympic Rowing team. He grew up at Dingabledinga on a farm. He caught the school bus to Willunga Primary School and played lots of sport – footy for the Willunga Demons, tennis for Willunga Tennis Club, and he swam at Noarlunga with the swimming club. He loved to ride pushbikes and motorbikes. He went to secondary school in Adelaide at St Peter's College where he learned to row, and found that he really liked rowing. The rest is history...

Angus has an older brother Hugh (23 years old), and his Mum and Dad are Sarah and Peter. His family are very proud of Angus

and his achievements, as are we at Willunga Primary School. He is a renowned for being a good sportsman in all of his activities, as well as being a kind and considerate young man. We hope that Angus's achievements at the Olympics inspire the Willunga community and we hope that when he comes home, he will one day be able to share his experiences of

being an Olympic athlete with us here at Willunga Primary School. Congratulations Angus and family. No doubt this is the result of many years of hard work and we are proud of your achievement, as are you family. For further information about Angus please go to:

<https://rowingaustralia.com.au/athleteprofile/angus-dawson/>



# El Shaddai School Camp

*"I enjoyed getting a good night sleep on the second night."* – Ben

*"I had the fastest time running the Flying Fox back up the hill, it took me 2 minutes and 19 seconds!"*  
– Jaxon

*"I thought going upside down on the Flying Fox was incredible!"*  
– Bella

*"I loved the dorms because we had eight bunk beds."* – Adi

*"I liked the Giant Swing, Swimming Games and Crate Stacking the most."* – Lucy

*"I loved how Mrs Brown screamed on the Giant Swing!"* – Emily

*"My favourite part about camp was the Flying Fox."* – Elliot

*"I enjoyed spending time with my friends."* – Henry

*"The Giant Swing was the best!"*  
– Indy

*"I loved the Flying Fox because it was so high."* – Ronan

*"I loved zipping down the Flying Fox!"* – Lily

*"The Giant Swing was terrifying, but I still went to the top."* – Neve

*"My favourite part of camp was being in a dorm with my friends."*  
– Scarlett

*"My favourite thing about camp was the Giant Swing because it was really fun when you dropped!"*  
– Ivy

*"My favourite activity was the Flying Fox, I got to go first!"* – Eli

*"My favourite thing about camp was the food, it was delicious!"*  
– Zoe

*"I really liked the Giant Swing, it was really exhilarating."* – Roisin

*"The Giant Swing was amazing because we got to go really high."*  
– Matilda

*"I liked the Flying Fox the best because it was really long, and we had to run it back to the instructor."*  
– Alex

*"I really enjoyed doing activities with my friends."* – Blake

*"I liked when my tummy dropped on the Giant Swing!"* – Allegra

*"My favourite thing about camp was the Giant Swing."* – Ashley

*"I thought it was really funny how everyone kept slipping down the hill!"* – Mala



# Mylor 3/4/5 School Camp

In week 10 of Term 2 the year 3, 4 and 5 students attended the Mylor Adventure Camp. The students were challenged to step out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves. These are the some of the students favourite thig about camp...

**Aleki, Caleb, William, Monique, Declan, Sage, Kirralyn, Gemma and Mia:** *"The Giant Swing"*

**Logan:** *"I liked the Flying Fox and the food"*

**Tahlia:** *My favourite part of the camp was the Flying Fox and the giant swing"*

**Nate:** *"I liked the Flying Fox"*

**Peter:** *"I Liked the giant swing and staying up late"*

**Ben:** *"I liked the archery"*

**Mr Gilbert:** *"I really enjoyed seeing the students work together in teams to overcome their fears and challenge themselves. It was really great to see how excited and proud the students were when they challenged themselves and did an activity they were nervous about."*

**Huxley Growden:** *"Once we were all in one group's cabin and then Mr. Gilbert came down from the top of the camp and someone shouted 'Mr. Gilbert's coming' and we all ran back to our own cabins and it was so funny."*

**Tyler Brown:** *"We had archery first and it was super fun because I got*

*2 bullseyes and a 9 which is 2nd to bullseye and I was super happy with what I did in the first activity. We had the giant swing next and it was super tall, I was 4th to go on the giant swing and it was the most enjoyable thing of camp by far."*

**Cleo Devenport:** *"Overall this camp was good with lots of fun activities to do and lots of fun dorm groups I would go back there if I could and wanted to stay longer."*

**Evie Kelly:** *"We arrived at camp, then we had lunch outside. We sorted out our dorms and I got put in with some of my friends. Then we did our first activity, group five started with the giant swing it was a bit scary but it was so fun."*

