Welcome back to a busy and challenging Term 2. I hope that you all had a restful and relaxing break.

This term will see new students starting in reception; we welcome Blair Mullins, Jacob Chambers, Mackenzie Jones, Misty Dyke, Hayley Stoneman, Maddison Shields, Cheylen and Tyrese Wanganeen to Moonta Area School. We hope you really enjoy the next stage of your education.

We have had several new students also enrol. We welcome Sarah Virgin, Jarrad and James Coombe.

This term is looking full. Activities this term include, NAPLAN testing, MAS and interschool cross country, maths & science competitions, MAS music concert, Music is Fun Band, Year 10 and 11 students going on work experience, Year 10 & 11 Outdoor Ed Camps, Year 12 camp, SAPSASA football and netball competitions, to name just a few of the planned activities.

Staffing
We welcome back Bruce Schmidt this term, after being Acting Principal at Coober Pedy Area School for Term 1. It will be good to have Bruce back with all his experience, especially with our new building developments progressing so quickly.
ANZAC DAY Lest We Forget
There have been many times in our country’s history when, as a nation, we have sent young people to war. ANZAC Day is one occasion when we formally remember those who have volunteered or been conscripted to serve our nation.

My thoughts, in the sobering dawn of an ANZAC Day service are often drawn to those young people, given that their age would match those of our current senior students. We are fortunate to live in peaceful times. I pray for this to continue. I will be accompanying our school captains, Taylah Andrews and Michael Carson, representing Moonta Area School at the dawn service.

Congratulation Danielle
Danielle Keast has been selected to represent South Australia at the forthcoming School Sport Australian Netball Championships which will be held in Toowoomba, QLD from July 24-30. We congratulate Danielle on her selection, and wish her all the best. Please keep us informed of students/children you know who have achieved outside of the school. We would love to share their success.

Mile End Interschool Athletics Success
Congratulations go to all the staff and students involved in our school Athletics Team. This competition which was held on Thursday 25th March at Mile End Stadium is an annual state wide event. Our girls team won their division and the boys came in second. This is a tremendous effort given that we were promoted to a higher division this year. Special mention to Raelene Stutley, Kris Daddow and Casey Gallbrith for all their support of the students prior to, and on the day.

Positive Comments
It is always a great feeling when someone from outside the school has something positive to say about our school, staff and students, especially when you have not asked for any comment or feedback. Below is a selection from a letter I received recently from Aaron Ward who is a project office with DECS after he had addressed our middle school students.

...let me congratulate your kids on their listening skills and all round manners. I spoke for 5-10 minutes to both the 8’s and 9’s and the whole time they looked me in the eye, listened and didn’t talk. You guys really do seem to have a special culture going on there from the front office staff to the primary kids, really was impressed...

Bike Riding Safety
We have a number of reports of our students riding their bikes in an unsafe manner and in inappropriate places. I encourage all students to do the right thing, be safe and follow all road rules when on their bikes. Parents may wish to discuss this issue with their children. We would hate to have any accidents involving Moonta Area School students.

Uniform
With the change to cooler weather it is timely to remind students about the wearing of appropriate school uniform. Moonta Area School prides itself on how our students look and wish to keep up this standard. Please note that there is no grey allowed within the new policy.

Attendance/Lateness  It is not ok to be away
The start of a term is a great time to make a change that will make a difference. A considerable number of students across Australia and at our school are having their opportunities to perform to their potential adversely affected by parent – condoned absences. Once it was the case that students only missed school when they were genuinely ill. But now that has changed. Students are being allowed to stay away from school for an ever increasing number of excuses including: a day off for their birthday, a day because relatives are visiting, a day off to be with parents at home, a day off to look after young brothers and sisters, a day off to go shopping.

The thought of an argument with children to get them to school often is too great to bear for some parents. Every day a student is away, they are losing a learning experience. Over time, their knowledge base will be full of holes like Swiss cheese. Learning is sequential and attending three out of four lessons leaves gaping holes. A sobering fact is that in Australia today, the average student will lose one year of education (200 days) through parent condoned absences over their school career from Prep to Year 12.

After love and care the most important thing that we as parents can give our kids, is an education. Let’s do it. Should you require support in saying NO to your son/daughter on their attendance or any other issue please contact us immediately.

We can all work together to make a difference to your student’s future.

Be on time, be at school, that’s the rule!
Please also note we have a new absence system that will record students arriving after 9:35 a.m. as being absent for that morning. Students arriving 8:45 a.m. to 9:35 a.m. will be recorded as late.
It was with bright shining faces and glorious voices that 28 students in the Moonta Area School choir participated in the annual cluster meeting and assessment with choirs from Kadina and Port Broughton at Kadina Primary School, on Tuesday 23rd March. Deputy conductor of the Primary School’s music festival, David Jackson led the afternoon and the children thoroughly enjoyed working through many of the songs in the festival for 2010. It was a great chance for us to sing with a larger choir and hear the harmony from different sections. Mr Jackson gave us some fun warm-ups and our voices soared. There were some very tricky bits vocally. It was good to get some help with these.

A big thank you to parents and friends, Megan Prout, Sonya Rankine, Karen and Rob McCulloch, Sonia Steele, Bec Jones and Pam Parmiter, Judith Stock and Emily Robinson’s Mum and Coralie Hermann, who helped transport us to Kadina and back. Without their help we would not have been able to participate in this wonderful event.

We will all work hard this term, so that we are able to participate in the Magic Millions rehearsal and the Festival of Music in August.

Tuesday 30th March, Week 10, Moonta Area School sent two sides to participate in the lightning SAPSASA carnival held at the Copper Coast Sports & Leisure Centre.

Both teams tried very hard and came away with some good wins and close losses. Our Blue team made it into the grand final but was narrowly defeated by Kadina Primary, 14-12, in the end.

Huge thanks to Belinda Feirclough for coaching, Stephanie Drogemuller, Megan Prout for umpiring and Janette Lauritsen, Melissa Smith for scoring. Thank you also to the parents who assisted with transport of the girls.

**RED SIDE:** Danielle McGrath, Rachael Clarke, Lacey Clarke, Chloe Vonderwall, Adele Andrew, Chloe Haynes, Taylah Willshire, Gabby Morby

**BLUE SIDE:** Sasha Glasgow, Isabelle Glasgow, Chelsea Fisher, Hollie Ravenscroft, Ellie Turner, Emma Hackett, Nikkita Aldridge, Renee Smith
Our class has had a busy Term 1, from all aspects of our class and school involvement. We all have allocated responsibilities to attend to, in order to help the classroom happenings run smoothly, and most of us are taking those roles seriously. Isaac Glasgow and Teneika Nitschke were elected as our R-6 Action Representatives (the Junior Student Voice) for Semester 1 and have been good communicators in this role. Our first ‘Aussie of the Month’ nomination was Julian Tripodi, a choice our class thought worthy of putting forward as he is an ‘all-rounder’.

Some members of our class have completed their Premier’s Reading Challenge and are working ‘Beyond the Challenge’. (See the library display for those who have succeeded at this stage of the year.) During our class meetings (run by the students), we decided we would try to establish a home in our room for a class pet. The volunteer committee is following up on what will be needed in the way of licences, homes and food for the ‘pet’ chosen. (We are already saving money through collecting of cans, plastics and cartons, in case we need to purchase anything.)

Most of us took part in Sports Day and did well. (Those of us in Flinders were pleased with our hard work and positive approach paying off.) We were quite proud of the fact that most of the Junior Sports Captains and Vice Captains elected were from our class also. Congratulations to those students who accepted the roles and did their best to encourage, help and coordinate the events on the day.

We were invited by the R-6 Team to take part in a Crazy Hair Theme as part of our casual day at the end of the term. Nine of our students took up the offer and we thank them (and their parents) for the styles and colours they tried. (We have some of them in individual photos, as well as a whole group picture.)

If you visit our class reasonably regularly, you will notice that we try different seating ‘set-ups’ every five weeks or so. (Yes, another class meeting decision.) This allows us to sit (and work) with different peers during the year. (Sometimes students choose where they would like to sit and other times Mr. C. does.)

We are in training for our School Cross Country which takes place early in Term 2, and again most students have committed themselves to this aspect of their P.E. Course.

A reminder to all who join us in what we do, we have two key words – “ASK” and “TRY”, followed by the promoter of thinking, “WHY?”.

Thanks to all the parents, SSOs and teachers who help us try to achieve our best in what we do, and we look forward to Term 2 and what it has to offer.

Mr. C. on behalf of Class 5 / 6 FC / PE.

5/6 FC/PE Welcomes Amanda Batten.

During the first half of this term, Term 2, our class will have the added support of a practising teacher, Amanda Batten. Amanda comes to us from Uni SA / Mawson Lakes through which she has been doing her degree.

She approached us at the end of Term 1 with her request to join us. Of course, we all wanted to know a little of her background, and this is what we were able to glean.

Amanda is doing the third year of a four year course. Her family lives in Jamestown, and so country life is not new to her. Some of her favourite things include NETBALL as her chosen sport, the colour BLUE, music of any style and era, and CHOCOLATE as her favourite food. (We don't think she will have too many staff members disagree with her on the last item!)

Welcome to our class, Amanda, and we hope you enjoy your stay at Moonta Area School, both from a work perspective as well as being one of the members of staff and the local community.

Frank Camporeale.
Congratulations to the following students for completing their Premiers Reading Challenge Sheets.

Mrs. Perkins: Ruby Hopkins, Drayson Smith, Charlie Warren, Kirra Hettner
Mrs. Keheler: Tayla Allen, Tiffany Clarke, Tabitha McCulloch, Maddison Musolino
Mrs. Jarman: Kurt Daddow, Zoe Linke, Jessica McIntyre, Josh Van Gelder, Tom Talbot-McPhee, Dylan Madden
Ms. Shepard: Louanna Bagshaw
Mrs. Strauss-Scott: Ruby Markham, Claudia Hatcher, Emily Lowe
Mr. Hall: Katie Shipard, Sasha Glasgow, Tamika Sansbury, Cam Williams
Mrs. Hettner: Georgia O'Donoghue
Mrs. Hackett: Cody Ritter
Mrs. Van Galen: Brichelle Cross
Mr. Camporeale: Kate Muir, Natasha Hubbard, Julian Tripodi, Jordan Nicholas
Mr. Richardson: Patrick Ellard

The following have completed 'Beyond the Challenge'.
Mrs. Strauss-Scott: Jasmine Crocker
Mrs. Jarman: Harley Simms
Mrs. Dreschler: Lochie Daly
Mrs. Perkins: Bianca Derrington – number 4 well done!

This fortnight's voucher for Moonta Newsagency goes to Ruby Hopkins.
The last day of term we celebrated reaching 50 students completing the Challenge by wearing odd or colourful socks. We are well on the way to the next milestone of 100 when we will wear bright/colourful shirts. The incentive awards along the way have all been provided by the library. Well done to everyone for taking part. Keep reading!

Parents of teenagers – a couple of new books have arrived which may be of interest.
Active Parenting of Teens by Michael Popkin and When to Really Worry: Mental health problems in teenagers and what to do about them by Michael Carr-Gregg.
The current display in the parent section of the library has several other recommended books on parenting teenagers. Have you been in to look at the area set up especially for parents? There are a variety of newsletters and pamphlets here, especially for parents. We also display the current books mentioned in the literacy article in the newsletter. The library is open Tuesday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (6 p.m. on Thursdays) and also Sunday afternoons, 1:30 p.m. till 4 p.m. It’s free to join!

On Friday 30th April, we are holding our annual Cross Country Run. We require the assistance of at least 19 parents for check points around the course. The events commence at 1:15 p.m. and we will need to have the volunteers at school by 12:15 p.m.
If you can help, please contact the school on 88 252 088.

The Cross Country day will be a normal school day and the students are asked to bring their sports uniform and appropriate footwear to change into. Canteen lunches will be available on that day, but at an earlier time. If the weather is inclement the event will be postponed to Tuesday 4th May. A decision will be made at 12:15 p.m. on the day.
We hope to see many parents there to support the children in their events.
On Friday 26th March, 39 competitors travelled to SANTOS Stadium in Adelaide to compete in the SASSSA Athletics Championships. As a result of the team’s success last year, we were promoted to D Grade, Division 2. After an early start to the day and quite warm weather conditions, Moonta students were highly competitive and scored well in many events. This again saw us achieve great success, with the girls winning their division and the boys coming runners up. All athletes gave an excellent performance, displaying top-level sportsmanship and willingness to participate. Cooperation and support among team members was excellent.

On the day, Moonta competed against eight other schools. In the girls’ division we finished 1st on 364 points, ahead of Millicent, with 344 points. The boys’ division saw us as runner-up on 381 points, behind Millicent with 391 points. Both girls and boys teams are to be congratulated on their continued successes.

Our relay teams were once again extremely competitive, with the boys winning 3 out of 4 relays, and the girls, 2 out of 4, an outstanding result.

1st Place: U15 Girls 4 x 100m Jess Campbell, Danielle Keast, Jacinta McPeake, Lisa Wilkins
1st Place: U15 Boys 4 x 100m Sam Watson, Malcolm Karpany, Tyler Andrews, Will Northeast
1st Place: U16 Boys 4 x 100m Mitchell Morby, Cameron Stevenson, Dale Madden, Will Northeast
1st Place: Open Girls 4 x 100m Breanna Smith, Aisha Cooper, Adele Smith, Rachel Templer
1st Place: Open Boys 4 x 100m David Sime, Dylan McPeake, Daniel Lish, Mitchell Morby

2nd Place: U14 Boys 4 x 100m Rowen Nicholas, Jake Turner, Sam Yandell, Dylan Aldridge
3rd Place: U14 Girls 4 x 100m Taylah Wardle, Courtney Adams, Brittany Woods, Olivia Northeast
3rd Place: U16 Girls 4 x 100m Aisha Cooper, Rachel Templer, Lucy Ackland, Danielle Keast

Some very good individual results were achieved on the day. Congratulations go to the following students on their achievements:

1st Place:
- U15 Boys 400m Will Northeast
- U14 Boys 800m Sam Yandell
- Open Boys Triple Jump David Sime
- Open Boys Long Jump David Sime
- U15 Boys Shot Put Thomas Polgreen
- U16 Boys Javelin Dale Madden
- U15 Girls 200m Danielle Keast
- Open Girls 1500m Jess Campbell
- U15 Girls 90m Hurdles Danielle Keast
- U14 Girls Long Jump Olivia Northeast
- Open Girls High Jump Breanna Smith
- U14 Girls Shot Put Courtney Adams
- Open Girls Javelin Elle Colliver

2nd Place:
- U15 Boys 100m Tyler Andrews
- Open Boys 800m Daniel Lish
- Open Boys 110m Hurdles Dylan McPeake
- U15 Boys Triple Jump Sam Watson
- U16 Boys High Jump Michael Williams
- U14 Boys High Jump Jake Turner
- U16 Boys Shot Put Dale Madden
- U16 Boys Discus Cameron Stevenson
- U15 Girls 100m Danielle Keast
- U14 Girls 200m Olivia Northeast
- U16 Girls 400m Lucy Ackland
- U15 Girls Triple Jump Jess Campbell
- Open Girls Triple Jump Breanna Smith
- U14 Girls Discus Taylah Wardle

3rd Place:
- U16 Boys 100m Mitchell Morby
- U16 Boys 200m Mitchell Morby
- U16 Boys 400m Cameron Stevenson
- U15 Boys Long Jump Sam Watson
- U15 Boys Discus Tyler Andrews
- U14 Girls 100m Olivia Northeast
- Open Girls 100m Hurdles
- U14 Girls 800m
- U16 Girls 100m
- U16 Girls 200m

Thank you to Grant Keleher, Casey Galbraith, Chloe Adams, Hannah Wardle and Alice Raunic, for their roles as marshals and assistants at events during the day. Well done to all competitors for their efforts.
On Tuesday 30th March, the Moonta Area School year 6/7 knockout football team ventured to the Kadina football oval to compete in the Football Knockout Carnival. The Moonta Football Club A grade Coach, Mr Travis Skipworth was our coach for the day. We played and fought hard in all four matches, winning one and losing narrowly to Bute/Wallaroo Mines Primary schools by 1 point in the final game of the day. Scores for all four games include:

Game 1: Moonta Area School def by Kadina Primary
2.0- 12 9.6 – 60

Game 2: Moonta Area School def Wallaroo/Kalori Primary
5.1- 31 1.5-11

Game 3: Moonta area school def by Pt Broughton Area School
1.2-8 5.2-32

Game 4: Moonta Area School def by Bute/Wallaroo Mines Primary
5.2-32 5.3-33

All players wish to thank the parent volunteers for driving all the student players to the Kadina oval and Mr Skipworth for coaching us. We also thank them for supporting us during our matches.

By Scott Francis, Brandon Shields, Jaidyn Pack and Mr Hall.

Japanese Homestay Group 2010

Once again we have been asked to host a group of students from Meidai High School near Tokyo. We have been advised the students will be with us from 27th July to 9th August. This is early next term. During the day the Japanese students will attend school to improve their English. We are looking for families with students in years 8 to 10 who would like to host a student for the duration of the visit. Those who have done this in the past have really enjoyed the experience.

Here are some of their comments.
"For me, this is something I would do again and again as the experience was excellent."
"Not only did they learn about our culture and how we lived but I also learnt a lot about them and their life back in Japan."
"I think the home stay program gives you a friend for life and is an overall good experience."

There is an accreditation process which is not difficult. This year Janine Bennett will be carrying out the administrative side of the homestay and Tricia Stringer will be conducting the English lessons and school experience.

Please call us at school on 88 251 511 if you would like more information or fill out the reply slip and return by Friday 7th May.

Thank you, Tricia and Janine.
You could learn a lot from an International brother or sister.
And what fun teaching him or her about Australian culture!

Capture the spirit of family and friendship by hosting an international exchange student from Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.
Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2010 for 5 months from Europe and Scandinavia. They will attend a local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money.
If your family would like to have the opportunity to have a brother or sister from overseas for a semester, please call us now 1800 500 501, email: scceaust@scce.com.au, www.scce.com.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19/04 ♦ Year 11 OED – Windsurfing Camp (Tues-Fri)</td>
<td>21/04 ♦ 7:30 Governing Council</td>
<td>22/04</td>
<td>23/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>26/04 ♦ <strong>Public Holiday – ANZAC Day</strong></td>
<td>27/04 ♦ Year 11/12 Art Show ♦ 5:00 DMC</td>
<td>28/04</td>
<td>29/04 ♦ Year 12 Hospitality Trip - Adelaide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>03/05 ♦ SAPSASA Athletics ♦ International Food Hall</td>
<td>04/05</td>
<td>05/05 ♦ 9-a-side Football at Maitland ♦ 7:30 Governing Council</td>
<td>06/05 ♦ Informatics Competition ♦ 1:50 p.m. Leaping Loonies performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10/05 ♦ 5:00 DMC</td>
<td>11/05 ♦ NAPLAN – Years 3, 5, 7, 9</td>
<td>12/05 ♦ NAPLAN – Years 3, 5, 7, 9</td>
<td>13/05 ♦ NAPLAN – Years 3, 5, 7, 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>17/05 ♦ SAPSASA Football / Netball (all week)</td>
<td>18/05</td>
<td>19/05 ♦ R-12 Assembly</td>
<td>20/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>24/05 ♦ Exodus – True North (7-12) ♦ 5:00 DMC</td>
<td>25/05 ♦ Year 10 OED – Moolooloo (Tues-Fri) ♦ Computer Skills competition</td>
<td>26/05</td>
<td>27/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>31/05 ♦ Reconciliation Week</td>
<td>01/06</td>
<td>02/06 ♦ 7:30 Governing Council</td>
<td>03/06 ♦ Music is Fun Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>07/06 ♦ 5:00 DMC</td>
<td>08/06 ♦ Year 11 OED – Moolooloo (Tues-Fri)</td>
<td>09/06 ♦ Science Competition</td>
<td>10/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>14/06 ♦ <strong>Public Holiday – Queen’s Birthday</strong></td>
<td>15/06 ♦ FC/KSS Camp (Tues-Thurs) ♦ Cyber bullying Presentation Staff / Parent Sessions ♦ Kindy Transition</td>
<td>16/06</td>
<td>17/06 ♦ 4 p.m. Library Management Committee AGM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>21/06 ♦ SAPSASA Hockey (all week) ♦ 5:00 DMC</td>
<td>22/06 ♦ Spelling/Writing Competitions ♦ Subway ♦ Kindy Transition</td>
<td>23/06 ♦ R-12 Assembly</td>
<td>24/06 ♦ R-E RE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>28/06 ♦ Year 12 Camp (Mon-Thurs) ♦ Year 10/11 Work Experience (all week)</td>
<td>29/06</td>
<td>30/06</td>
<td>01/07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following proposals will be discussed at the meeting held Tuesday 27th April:

Proposal One: Combined school and community Mock Accident Proposal: To hold a mock accident on the school oval which will display the negative effects of dangerous driving. Participation from all local emergency services and community members will be invited to attend.

Benefits: Create awareness in students who have their car license or are almost at that stage. Show students why emergency services are important in the community.

Date: Monday 17th May, Week 5.
Proposer: M Carson / D Angus

Proposer: T Stringer / D Daulby

Proposal Three: Kindy Transition Proposal: Kindy children join class activities for increasing time periods over a 5 week period.

Requirements from home: Sunsmart hat, drink bottle of water, recess / lunch as required.

Dates:
- Tuesday 25th May, Week 6.
- Tuesday 1st June, Week 7.
- Tuesday 8th June, Week 8.
- Tuesday 15th June, Week 9.
- Tuesday 22nd June, Week 10.

Parent meeting – Thursday 13th May, Week 4 at 1:30 p.m.
Proposer: S Perkins / L Camporeale

Proposal Four: School to Kindy visits Proposal: Teachers and students visit the Kindy.

Requirements from home: Sunsmart hat.

Date: Tuesday 4th May, Week 3 – Sonia’s class.
- Tuesday 18th May, Week 5 – Barb’s class.
Proposer: S Perkins / L Camporeale


Proposer: J Turner / M Pope

Proposal Six: Student Voice Fundraising – Term 4 Proposal: To support the local Salvation Army Appeal. A collection of non-perishable items for Weeks 1 – 4. The goods will be presented at the Week 5 assembly to a Salvation Army representative.

Date: Term 4, Weeks 1 to 4.
Proposer: J Turner / M Pope

Proposal Seven: Year 3-7 FR, 5/6 CB, 6 RH Camp to El Shaddai Camping Centre Proposal: Students participate in a range of exciting activities.

Requirements from home: Usual packing requirements.

Cost: $154.

Date: Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th August, Term 3, Week 6.
Proposer: C Balnaves / F Ryan / R Hall / M Pope

The following proposals were approved at the meeting held Monday 29th March:

1. 9-a-side Football at Maitland. Requirements from home: Food. Wednesday 5th May, Week 3.
2. Leaping Loonies performance – Thursday 6th May, Week 3 at 1:50 p.m.
3. Casual Day and Crazy Hair – Tuesday 30th March.
6. Year 12 Art Show – Year 11/12 Art students attend the Year 12 Art Show in Adelaide. Requirements from home: Money for lunch. Cost: $15. Tuesday 27th April, Week 2.
7. Choir Dates for Magic Millions rehearsal and Festival theatre, bowling and picnic. Dates to come.
8. CSIRO Science Program – Wednesday 20th – Friday 22nd October, Term 4, Week 2.
9. Year 12 Hospitality Trip to Central Market and Tapp Inn. Requirements from home/Cost: Money for lunch ($25) plus $18 each for the bus. Thursday 29th April, Week 2.

Kodomo No Hi

Children’s Day Celebrations
If you happen to be in Adelaide on 2nd May, your child would enjoy the martial arts display, food, games, taiko drumming calligraphy and many other aspects of Japanese life.

Go to www.jafa.asn.au/ and click on the video of last year’s event.

Where: Cowandilla Primary School
When: Sunday 2nd May, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Canteen Reusable Lunch Bags

Introduction Special $7.00 each.
Sample can be viewed at the Front Office. See Tracy in the Canteen to order.

Public Notices

Disability SA – The Independent Living Centre Outreach Service. Will be at Wallaroo, Centenary Square. Thursday 6th May, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Independent Living Centre’s Mobile Unit Outreach Service is a government service for people living in rural and remote South Australia. The service provides free professional advice on techniques and equipment to assist with every day activities. Visitors to the caravan can discuss their individual needs with an experienced health professional (occupational therapist) and view/trial a wide range of equipment. Information brochures covering a large variety of topics and disabilities are also available.

Copper Coast Parenting Project
Community Investment Program, Uniting Care Wesley
Supporting Parents and Carers of young children 0-5 years.

What Copper Coast Parenting Project can offer you?
Parenting Group – Meet on Wednesday during school terms from 10 a.m. till 12 noon. Mums of 0-5 years olds, participate in parenting skills, craft activities and establish new friendships. Your children can be cared for in our crèche whilst you participate in activities.

Connection to other services – UCW can provide parenting information and link you to the right service.

A place to feed or change your baby. UCW is open all day Wednesday and Thursday and Friday mornings, you are welcome to use our change and feeding facilities. Uniting Care Wesley, 3 Gawler St, Kadina Phone 88 213 019, Andy’s Mobile: 0458 690 089

Links to Literacy #18

GUESS THE LETTER
Beginning readers

What you need: 26 (or 52) index cards
1. Write the letters on cards. Invite/help your child to write the 26 letters of the alphabet on cards. Or for an extra challenge, write a separate card for each upper- and lower-case letter.
2. Pick a card and act it out. Ask your child to pick out a card then act out something that starts with the letter on the card. You have to guess what they are doing and the letter.
3. You take a turn to pick a card and act it out. Your child has to identify what you are doing and the letter it starts with. Take another card if you or your child can’t guess the word after a period of time. (Maybe use an egg timer.)
4. And the winner is ... The first to get 10 letters correct.
5. Make it harder for older readers. Instead of letters that begin words, choose words that end in the letter, or two or more letters together (pl, st, fr, sh, wh).

GREAT READS

☑ Three Little Kangaroos Gruff by Kel Richards. A clever Aussie version of ‘The Three Billy Goats Gruff’ in which three kangaroos decide to go to greener pastures but are blocked by a mean, hungry and dim-witted bunyip. Loads of fun. Recommended for readers 4+ (and parents).
☑ The Joshua Files #2: Ice Shock by M.G. Harris. Josh is back — and the world needs him more than ever. A rousing story that blends adventure, sci-fi and Mayan prophecies about the end of the world. The iridescent slip case will grab any reader’s attention. Recommended for readers 10+.
### NAPLAN Tests 2010 Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tuesday 11 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 12 May</th>
<th>Thursday 13 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 5</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 7</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 40 minutes x 2 (80 mins total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculator-allowed test to be scheduled first, followed by Non-calculator test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 9</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 40 minutes x 2 (80 mins total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculator-allowed test to be scheduled first, followed by Non-calculator test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Language Conventions** incorporates Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation.

**Numeracy** incorporates Number; Space; Algebra, function and pattern; Measurement, chance and data.

**Calculators**

In Years 3 and 5, the Numeracy test does not permit calculator use. In Years 7 and 9, there is one Numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy 2010

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools in 2008. All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are assessed annually using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

Who will sit the tests?
All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the assessment program. If your child has special needs, you should discuss these with the class teacher or school principal.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student who has a severe intellectual disability or who has recently arrived in Australia and is from a non-English-speaking background.

Your state testing authority and your school principal will provide you with more information on the process required to gain a formal exemption.

Who will administer the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or the principal.

What will be assessed?
The content of each test is informed by the National Statements of Learning in English and Mathematics which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Test questions cover aspects of literacy (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and numeracy.

Questions are either multiple-choice or require a short written response. The Writing task requires students to write a narrative (story).

All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Who will mark the tests?
The multiple-choice questions will be machine marked. All other responses and the Writing task will be marked by trained, independent markers.

Can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assessments are undertaken by students as a normal part of their learning program. Teachers will ensure students are prepared for the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. The use of services by coaching providers has not been endorsed and is not recommended.

Test materials from past years, sample questions and a sample Writing task can be accessed on the NAPLAN website: www.naplan.edu.au.

When will the tests be held?
The tests are scheduled for the mornings of Tuesday 11 May, Wednesday 12 May and Thursday 13 May. All schools across Australia complete the tests on the same days.

The times shown on the timetable are student working times.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 14 May.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
Students with special needs/disabilities may qualify for special provisions which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom.

If you have concerns please discuss these with your child's teacher or your school principal.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school.

Individual student results are strictly confidential.

The report is one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process, and does not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
Students with special needs/disabilities may qualify for special provisions which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom.

If you have concerns please discuss these with your child's teacher or your school principal.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school.

Individual student results are strictly confidential.

The report is one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process, and does not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.
More than 1/3 of that living time will be slept away and the rest with family, friends, playing sports and attending various clubs and associations.

I have already moved through 4 careers. I began my working life as an apprentice plasterer, worked in the family business for eleven years, and then went to university as a mature-age student. I graduated with a Masters Degree in Mathematics and Science Education and became a teacher.

From teaching, I moved into lecturing at universities and now I run my own business again, this time as an education consultant. For me, study enabled every change of career. There is every reason to believe it will be the same for my, and your, children.

If you want to be able to have good memories in the future, you’d better do something memorable now.’ This quote, cited in Fuller (2002) is a great way to inspire your kids to study. Our futures are dependent on what we do in the present.

What can parents do?

1. Offer your assistance during certain hours only, such as between 7pm and 8pm. Stick to your guns here. Your offer of help lowers anxiety but also places responsibility on your child to get organised.
2. Organise a personal study space for your child that is away from television and the telephone. Help to keep the space organised because some kids have poor organisational skills. Take phone messages rather than pass the phone to your child during homework time. If your child has a mobile phone, ‘look after it’ during study time.
3. Encourage music at low volume at least some of the time. Research studies suggest that listening to music while studying creates a mild enhancement of blood flow to areas involved in cognition (Read Jensen, Music with the Brain in Mind). Don’t expect miracles!
4. Provide good quality lighting, especially natural light whenever possible. Avoid fluorescent lights because research studies suggest they raise cortisol levels (a stress hormone) and may suppress language functions (Read Jensen, Music with the Brain in Mind). Don’t expect miracles!
5. Make certain there is plenty of plain, good quality water to sip on during long periods of study. The brain suffers quickly from dehydration and subsequently, under-performs.
6. Celebrate successes with your child and encourage those elements that need improvement.
7. Record your child’s important television programs so that he or she can watch them when homework is finished.
8. Don’t fight over uncompleted work. It’s your child’s responsibility, not yours. The school will outline consequences. Be supportive but not demanding.
9. Encourage nights off from homework. No child should study every night. Schooling is but one aspect of a total education package.

I define study as the application of the brain to learning.

It’s easier to study something one wants to learn as opposed to something one has to learn. Never-the-less, healthy concepts about learning and the future generate the motivation to satisfy the appetite for learning. So above all, work on building healthy concepts about learning. In the absence of healthy concepts, study won’t happen!

Between the ages of 5 and 17, most children will spend about 13,200 hours at school out of a total of 105,120 hours of living. That’s less than 15%.
What can kids do?

10. Get up and move around actively about every 20 minutes. This gets lots of richly oxygenated blood into the brain making the cognitive functions perform better.

11. Eat brain-compatible food, including snacks. Keep away from high fat, high sugar and high salt foods. Better ‘snack’ foods include fresh fruits, nuts with seeds and raisins (check allergies first).

12. Never take alcohol or other ‘downer’ drugs while studying. These substances affect cognition, sometimes dramatically.

13. Caffeine, in the form of a cup of tea or coffee may help concentration. Avoid overdoing it or drinking such stimulants close to bed-time.

14. Work in line with the natural learning cycle of the brain. Most people learn best that which comes first in a learning episode, then that which comes last. The ‘tough’ bit is in the middle. When working on new or important information, focus at the beginning of the study session and be clear about what has to be learnt.

Practise for a while then close the session with clear statements, written down about what was learnt.

15. Try out strategies that lead to best retention of information. These include developing graphic organisers such as Venn Diagrams, Mind Webs (example included) Flow Charts, Time-lines, Graphs and the like.

16. Teach someone else what you learnt. Research studies suggest that up to 90% of information is retained when taught to others (read Jensen, Brain-Based learning).

17. Create a test for your own learning and ask someone to administer it.

18. Tape record class lessons (with teacher’s permission). Listen to the tapes and even make some of your own.

19. Seek feedback from teachers and use the feedback to improve grades.

20. Go for great grades and be proud of your achievements.

21. When what you have to learn is not enjoyable, go for the feeling of fulfillment (finishing something that was not enjoyable) and satisfaction (the feeling that comes from achievement).

22. Play sports, play musical instruments, and relax with friends and family. School is but one aspect of a person’s education.

23. Get adequate sleep (more on this in a later article). Research suggests that REM sleep helps eliminate weak memories and consolidates other memory. There are no standards on ‘how much’ sleep a person needs.

24. Know your brain’s down time. As a rough rule of thumb, write down the time that you typically go to sleep, then write down the time that you typically wake up. Now, calculate the mid point of your sleep, and then add twelve hours to that time to calculate your ‘down time.’ Here is an example: If you go to sleep at 10pm and wake up at 7am the midpoint is 2:30am. Add 12 hours to that time and the ‘down time’ is about 2:30pm. Study may be tough during ‘down time’.

25. Avoid playing too many video games. They are almost addictive and consume many hours. There are no standards as to how much is ‘too much’ so a commonsense approach applies.

26. Join or create a study club with kids of similar interest.

27. Keep your brain active. Read lots, play challenging games such as chess, Uno, Pictionary, Scrabble, Cards and the like. If you hold a part-time job, remember your study is more important than the few dollars you earn today.

### Examples of Mind Webs

#### How the brain learns - the adolescent years – Studying for Success

- [Mind Web: Carpaying for the brain](#)
- [Mind Web: Types of memory](#)

### Summary

#### The least I need to know

Adolescents are typically bored with study and prefer to spend their time just hanging out with friends, listening to music, watching TV or playing computer games. Common adjuncts to these activities include eating junk food, getting little physical exercise, and at the high end, smoking, drinking and doing drugs. Typically, parents don’t want their kids doing drugs but also don’t want to see their kids spend countless hours in mind numbing study exercises. The difficulty is in striking a balance. Offer support, not threats. Leave the consequences of unfinished work to the school but don’t blame the school when your child fails to meet the requirements to pass onto the next level. Good study habits support learning.

### References

- Brain-based Learning, Eric Jensen*.
- Music with the Brain in Mind, Eric Jensen*.
- Environments for Learning, Eric Jensen*.
- Brainy Parents, Brainy Kids, John Joseph*.
- Raising Real People, Andrew Fuller*


Welcome to our New Reception Students

Hayley, Maddison, Blair, Jacob, Mackenzie and Misty.
Absent: Tyrese and Cheylen.

Progress with the New Buildings

Calendar

Week 2
Monday 26th April
   Public Holiday – ANZAC Day
Tuesday 27th April
   Year 12 Art Show
   5 p.m. DMC
Thursday 29th April
   Year 12 Hospitality Trip
Friday 30th April
   R-7 Cross Country

Week 3
Monday 3rd May
   SAPSASA Athletics
Wednesday 5th May
   9-a-side Football at Maitland

Wednesday 5th May
   7:30 p.m. Governing Council
Thursday 6th May
   R-12 The Leaping Loonies performance
   Informatics Competition
Friday 7th May
   YP Cross Country at Maitland

Week 4
Monday 10th May
   5 p.m. DMC
Tuesday 11th – Thursday 13th May
   NAPLAN – Years 3, 5, 7, 9
Tuesday 11th May
   Volunteers Expo – Year 10 PLP classes