FROM THE PRINCIPAL

G’day Everyone

I hope that everyone had a great time at the Cleve Fields if you were lucky enough to attend.

Variety the children’s charity

I would like to thank the Variety Club again for their very generous donation to the Wudinna Area School. This is a tied donation to create a new playground for students.

Facebook

Please continue to check out our Facebook page and share with any parents who haven’t joined it yet.

Governing Council

Thanks to the Governing Council members for a productive meeting on Tuesday night. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 23 August at 7.00pm in the Conference Room. Currently we are looking at all the school policies and will be reviewing our budget.

Attendance

Attendance is crucial to being successful at school. We like to reward the many students that achieve 100% attendance with an award. The award demonstrates how important attendance is to learning at school. Of course there are many valid reasons for students not being able to attend school including:

- Illness
- Appointments
- Travel
- And a myriad of other reasons and needs

Currently our attendance rate is 92%, our target is to increase our attendance to 95%.

Please let us know about any absences via school diary or phone call and seek an exemption for extend periods of leave.

White Ribbon

Nat Phillips has undertaken the training for the White Ribbon program hopefully we will get our accreditation next year so that we can implement the White Ribbon Program.

Engineering Challenge

Some of our students attended the Engineering Challenge in Port Lincoln. There are some photographs and a story in the Port Lincoln Times if you are interested. Here is the link to the pictures and story; www.portlincolntimes.com.au/.../science-and-engineering-challenge-gallery/

Rowan Ramsey MP Award

Rowan Ramsey (Federal MP for Grey) has advised that he is once again inviting school communities to nominate a staff, parent or community member who has gone that extra mile dedicating their time and skills to their school.

Nominations for the Rowan Ramsey Award 2016 are to be received by Friday 16 September and forwarded to the Front Office. A nomination form is attached to this newsletter.

Thanks to all the parents who are coming into the school to see how their children’s learning is progressing. We will be having a “Blokes In School Day” on Thursday 1 September to give dads the opportunity to come in as well. We are always keen to have parents listen to students reading if you have any time available.

Yours truly

Ned Loades

Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL — SECONDARY
Senior School Subject Selection
In the coming weeks, a meeting will be organised to provide information to both students and parents about the requirements for the completion of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), entry into tertiary study options (university or vocational learning beyond school), VET (vocational learning at school) and other issues related to students moving from the Junior to the Senior Secondary component of their education. Students in Year 10 and 11 will receive a letter detailing the date and time of the meeting – a reply on your attendance would be greatly appreciated so that a suitable venue can be organised for this meeting (depending on numbers attending). Should parents of Year 9 students wish to attend you are more than welcome – let me know at school so that I can add your name(s) to the list.

High & Outstanding Achievement Awards
Students from Year 8-12 were presented with their High & Outstanding Achievement Awards at an assembly on Friday 5 August. Congratulations to the following students who were presented with their certificates:

High Academic Achievement
Riley Martin, Georgia Standley-Grace, Kiah Tomney, Angelica Calow, Thomas Dupree, Hayley Jericho, Tianah Sampson, Bonnie-Lee Barnes-Guy and Sarah Brands

Outstanding Academic Achievement
Chloe DuBois, Jessica Sampson, Aden Dowden, Aaron Magay and Chloe Thomson

Well done to you all and we look forward to seeing some additional work improvement across the Secondary school in the second semester so that we can present a greater number at the end of the year. Remember – We Reach for the Highest – our school motto!

Course Outlines
Course Outlines were distributed this week to families and I trust that you received the relevant copy of the outline for Year 8-10 subjects. If your copy has not arrived home, please ask your child; should the worst case scenario eventuate, let me know and we can access another copy for you. We do ask that you fill in the Reply Slips at the back of the booklet and return it to school so that we can be sure that all families have received this publication.

Year 9 Camp
Next Wednesday, Simon Bowley and the Year 9 students will be venturing to Iron Knob for their annual Errappa Blue Light Camp experience. During the three days they will need to find courage, work together as teams and (from past pictures) generally climb, slide and leap. Thanks must go to Eugene Wauchope for driving the bus and assisting with supervision, along with Di McKenna who is also attending to assist with student supervision. We hope that you all have a great experience whilst there and we look forward to hearing about your time there and see the numerous photos in the newsletter and school Yearbook.

Open Access College/Flinders University e-Mentoring program
Over the last term, a number of students have been matched with students from Flinders University to engage with interested Year 9, 10 & 11 students via electronic conferencing. Coordinator, Vanessa Kirkham, travelled to our school to speak with students about the program and sought interest from students. Following is some information about the project directly from the information flyer provided to our school:

The DECD e-Mentoring program aims:
To raise student’s aspirations for the future by developing skills and knowledge to build their capacity to succeed in current and future education situations.
To support program participants to develop positive, respectful and sustainable relationships that enhance wellbeing, self-esteem, social and communication skills. The program harnesses the energy, expertise and commitment of mentors to allow students to benefit from their guidance, support and experience. Mentors are matched to students based on common interests like hobbies, sports or career paths. They are volunteers who undergo a rigorous training and selection process and must meet DECD standards for volunteering in schools. Mentor screening is conducted by program staff and includes National Criminal History Clearance, RAN training and relevant mentor training.

The matching process has occurred since and parents of involved students were required to sign a permission form stating that they were in agreement with their child’s involvement. Thus far the program has been going smoothly and students have commented positively on the conversations had with their mentors.

Student comments about the program include:
At the beginning of Term 2 we began our e-mentoring lessons. We were matched with a student from Flinders University who is currently studying Psychology. She was originally from Canada and moved to Australia around seven years ago. The lesson times are enjoyable and it has been good getting to know someone who could possibly help direct us with our future career pathways. These lessons are also good because we get to talk about and discuss a range of things such as personal/social life, sport, school future plans.

Hayley Jericho, Tianah Sampson & Chelsi Barnes

At the end of Term 2 we started e-mentoring lessons every Thursday afternoon for 40 minutes. E-mentoring is mentoring with electronic communications to develop and sustain relationships with your senior mentor. E-mentoring often involves linking students up with knowledgeable experts who have an interest in developing skills, knowledge and confidence. We do a group lesson together with our mentor, Kaitlin, discussing life, school and other topics. It’s good to have someone to talk to about school and subjects we are having difficulties in. We really enjoy our e-mentoring as it helps our confidence grow and is a new experience. Caitlin Thomson & Zali Sampson

E-mentoring is a great experience and I believe that I have truly benefited from it. I have been a part of this program since the start of the second term. This term, due to lessons changing, I had to change my e-mentoring time and they were very accommodating to both mine and her schedules. If find myself excited to go to the session and catch up with my mentor about the past week, talk about things pertaining to both of our lives and accept advice about things I find I don’t talk about with others including the future. She grew up in Vietnam, but despite the cultural
difficulties we both get along really well due to having a
lot in common. These sessions do not interfere with my
schoolwork as I have made sure to have them placed in
study periods. Brielle Skipworth
Glenys McGuire
Assistant Principal – Secondary

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – PRIMARY

Special Merit Cards and High/Outstanding
Achievement Awards for Semester 1

Congratulations and well done to the following students
who received awards for effort and achievement in
Semester 1:

Special Merit Cards (Reception – Year 4)
Airlie Waters, Angus Merrill, Tyler Pobke, Connor
Sampson, Lola Waters, Ava Klante, Sadie Sampson,
Emmie Sargent, Kirby Gosling, Matilda Barns, Joey
Lynn, Ashlee Sampson, Jamisen Tomney, Kayleigh
Rigden, Hugo Frinsdorf, Arianna Andrew, Jed Bigg,
Summah-Rose Camplin, Billie Scholz, Ezra Foster, Myher
Beard, Ella Scholz, Rebecca Sampson, Lacey Merrill and
Corey Smart

High achievement awards
Cody Shepherdson, Ella Loades-Stokes, Holly Bigg, Jesse
Foster, Phoenix Foster, Madison Barns, Tas Tomney, Lily
Nettle, Kye O’Brien, Charlotte Vorstenbosch and Elijah
Oswald

Outstanding achievement awards
Montana Foster and William Sampson

Blokes at School Day

The Primary students will be hosting a “Blokes at School”
day on Thursday 1 September 9.15 – 10.45am. It would be
terrific if every student could have a “bloke” come to see
their classroom at this time. More information will be
forthcoming soon.

Interagency Support

We have had visits from Kendra Kotz (Education
Psychology) and Kerri Trengove (Speech) from the Port
Lincoln Education Office over the last two weeks.

Jump Rope For Heart

We are participating in the Jump Rope For Heart this year.
We hold this event every two years. Letters and
sponsorship forms are currently being sent to
parents/caregivers. The Jump Off is on Friday
23 September. Parents/Caregivers may send the money to
the school or pay online if their child chooses to
participate.

Technology Reception & Reception/Year1

Jill Petty and Trina Grace are combining classes for a
lesson on Design and Technology on Fridays this term.
The students seem to be responding positively to these
lessons. It is nice to see the students from both classes
mixing so well and enjoying going into a different
classroom. Thank you to Jill and Trina for this initiative.

SAPSASA

Netball/Football

Next week students from our school will be going to
Adelaide to participate in the state Netball and Football
carnivals for SAPSASA. We wish Gabbie Seal, Lily
Nettle, Emmy O’Brien and Madison Barns (netball), and
Brad Lynn, Saxon O’Brien and Phoenix Foster (football)
all the best. Reserves were Caiton Standley-Grace
(football) and Safara Moyse, Montana Foster and Kaya
Beard (netball).

Athletics

SAPSASA Athletics is on Monday 26 September in
Adelaide. We are not holding a tryout day. Parents and
students will need to express an interest in participating to
me by Monday 22 August. Students will need to have
performed well at school and interschool carnivals to be
considered. In addition their results will need to be
competitive with the standard of past years in SAPSASA
Athletics. The age groups are 10 year old (born during
2006), 11 year old (born during 2005), 12 year old (born
during 2004), 13 year or older (born during 2003 or
earlier). All travel and accommodation expenses are the
responsibility of the families. Children born in 2007 are not
eligible.

Marie Elson
Primary Assistant Principal

FROM THE PASTORAL CARE WORKER

It was good to see the Community Care Program starting
this week and to be able to support the enthusiastic 6/7
students as they went out into the community to extend
their social knowledge and skills. Thank you to those
community members who have participated in this
program! This week I joined one of the student groups who
visited Jim and Shirley Pringle. On arrival we went to
Jim’s neat, well equipped shed to make a metal tool box. It
was so interesting to see how Jim followed the design he
had created back in 1950! In the shed, we could see some
of Jim’s larger tool boxes he had made over the years. As
the students were pop-riveting the tool boxes in came
Shirley with some delicious morning tea! She proceeded to
take some of us into their healthy looking garden where we
picked some salad peas, silver beet and capsicums. Many
thanks Jim and Shirley! Thank you also to Destinee
Francis for organising this year’s Community Care and to
Carla Elliot for her support! Cheers! Carol.

NAPLAN online

In South Australia, NAPLAN will be delivered online in
2017. In readiness for this, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9
will take part in a trial over the next two weeks. There will
be two tests – the first is Writing and the second is a
mixture of Literacy and Numeracy. The aim of this trial is
to enable familiarisation with the system in a classroom
setting and to ensure the readiness of our internet
bandwidth and computing systems. It will also give staff
practice and confidence in administering the test online.
For more information, please read the parent information
in a later part of the newsletter.

Glenys McGuire and Marie Elson

NAPLAN Online Coordinators
Year 5/6 Foster/Sampson

What's happening in

Working with Shape

Making Robots for science week
This year Wudinna Area School Students (Year 3 and up) are invited to participate in the Steptember Challenge which raises funds for Cerebral Palsy. A Letter with information on the challenge accompanies this Newsletter, along with team registrations forms which will need to be returned to the Front Office at school by Monday 22 August. We hope to plan some fundraising events, so please show your support.

Carla Elliott, Youth Health Coordinator Mid West Community Health

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**Reactive Lunch Order Bags**

** childs Name:**

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Total Amount of order $_________________________ Payment Type Cash / Cheque

Please make cheques payable to: **Wudinna Area School**

Please return order form and money by: **Friday 26 August**
COMMUNITY NOTICES
AGM of Junior basketball
The Junior Basketball AGM is being held on Monday 22 August 2016 at 5.30pm in the Conference Room at Wudinna Area School.
It would be appreciated if all parents of interested players could attend. (Players from Year 4 to Year 11 are eligible to play)
Nola Buckham
President

______________________________________________________________

Please return to the Front Office at school by Friday 16 September

Junior Basketball Form
I am interested in playing Junior Basketball:
Name ____________________________ Year Level ________ Name ____________________________ Year Level ________

I am interested in Coaching/Managing/Umpiring Junior Basketball: Y/N
Name: ................................................................. Signed: .................................................................

Rowan Ramsey Award Nomination: Please return to Front Office
Name of Nominee: __________________________________________________________
Person Nominating: __________________________________________________________
☐ Nominations are open to any staff, parent or community member who has gone ‘above and beyond’ dedicating and volunteering their time and skills for our school.

☐ Please outline below services that this person has provided to our school, include dates if possible (school not wider community). Justification can include work ethic and personality.

☐ Previous recipients include: Melissa Thomson, Shane Best, Craig Jericho, John Flint, Anthony Clark, Andrew Buckham

☐ The award is presented at our School Presentation Night at the end of the year.

☐ Nominations close Friday 25 September.
**Getting ready for 2017**

The Australian Government is committed to delivering NAPLAN online from 2017, with all schools across the nation transitioning over a 2 to 3 year period. This change will provide each child with a more personalised learning experience and a better assessment. It also means that the results will be returned to you and your child’s teachers within a few weeks, rather than several months.

Our school will be participating in a trial of the new online system in August 2016. This trial is not a ‘test’ of content; it is a test of how the new online system will work in a real-life classroom environment. You may hear this trial referred to as the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial.

As part of the trial, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will undertake 2 online readiness tests. Each test will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

It is important that we participate in this trial before the system is officially in use in 2017 to enable familiarisation with the system in a classroom setting. Participation will allow us to confirm that every school is ready and that our teachers are confident that their students will be able to participate fully.

This trial will help our site to be well prepared to complete NAPLAN online in 2017 and provide feedback into final changes at a statewide level.

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**Answering your questions**

**What is NAPLAN online?**

NAPLAN online is an initiative of the Australian Government and involves the transition of NAPLAN from pen and paper to a computer-based assessment.

**Why is NAPLAN going online?**

Moving NAPLAN online allows for better and more varied assessment tasks and a personalised test experience. It also means your child’s results will be more precise and available to you within a couple of weeks, rather than several months.

**When is it happening and who is doing it?**

The Education Council, comprising state, territory and commonwealth education ministers, has agreed that NAPLAN online will be implemented from 2017 over a 2 to 3 year period.

DECD is encouraging as many schools as possible to move to NAPLAN Online from 2017.

**Who is managing the move online?**

Education Services Australia (ESA) have been commissioned to develop and trial the platform which will deliver NAPLAN online.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will continue to be responsible for all aspects of development of the NAPLAN tests.

In South Australia, DECD is responsible for preparing schools to move online.

**What is the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial?**

The NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial is a practice run of the NAPLAN online platform. Schools will complete as many test sessions as they need to develop their understanding of the system and their readiness for the 2017 implementation. It is also an opportunity for schools to provide detailed feedback on their experiences and readiness.

Students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are asked to trial the online system and new question style. As part of this trial all students will log in with an anonymous student code so they cannot be identified.

The trial will involve students completing 2 assessments:

- a test for each year level containing sample NAPLAN online questions based on reading, numeracy and convention of languages (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- a separate writing test for each year level.

Across Australia, the test is called the Platform Test Readiness Trial (PTRT).

**Why is the NAPLAN Online Readiness Trial important?**

The trial will provide information about the school’s internet capabilities and confirm that there are sufficient devices to run the test successfully. It will also allow staff to ‘test drive’ the new processes and trial classroom logistics.

**What about schools that do not have the necessary bandwidth to undertake online assessment?**

The Australian Government is developing a ‘low bandwidth’ solution for schools that are experiencing issues with internet connectivity. This will ensure that all students are also able to experience the online test.

**Can students use their own devices?**

Yes, many schools have a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy allowing students to use their own computer at school and in most cases these devices will be able to be used. Students will also be able to use their own headphones for the spelling test.