

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

Student Free Day

I would like to thank you all for your support with the Student Free Day last Friday. The staff spent the day with the staff from Memorial Oval Primary School doing a workshop 'Seven Steps to Writing Success'. The day was facilitated by Pina Sernio who also works as a teacher in a school in Melbourne. She has had a wealth of experiences over her many years of teaching and was able to provide us with authentic examples of what she has done with many different year levels using this approach.

The Seven Steps approach involves teaching students writing skills that will improve the quality of their work. It is about focusing on one step at a time and allowing our students the opportunity to understand, practise and master each individual skill before trying to write a whole text. Most of the activities we engaged in were not time consuming and could easily be built into our practice.

The five secrets to making Seven Steps successful in classrooms are:

- Chunk large tasks – break large tasks in to small doable parts.
- Repetition makes muscle memory – repetition is important to cement concepts.
- Brainstorm first - write second – you need to HAVE an idea before you can WRITE a story.
- Verbal is vital – develop confident learners by encouraging students to share and talk about their ideas.
- Consistency creates change – practise every day until students are confident with their skills.

We hope you will soon be hearing your children talking about 'Sizzling Starts', 'Tightening Tension', 'Dynamic Dialogue' and 'Exciting Endings,' amongst other things when they talk about their writing with you, as these are some of the things they will be working on in class.

Three Way Conversations

This week you will have received some information about Three Way Conversations. The aim of these conversations is to celebrate student successes, discuss areas for improvement and set goals that we can all work towards achieving together. The conversations will involve highlighting student strengths, current achievement and discussing next steps for learning. These will be held during Week 4 and Week 5 and I would encourage you all to make an appointment with your child's teacher to not only demonstrate to your child that you care about their education but also so that you can have some input into the goals your child might like to achieve.

School Uniform

Wearing of the school uniform reinforces school pride, respect and positive relationships. Students at Nicolson Avenue Primary School are required to wear our school uniform or school colours when attending school and undertaking school activities. The wearing of uniform provides an additional standard of safety to students in the school yard as any intruders are easily identified. We ask that parents support the school by ensuring that your children are wearing complying uniform which is maroon tops and black bottoms. This includes jumpers. They are also to be school uniform or plain maroon. If girls wear leggings unless they must wear shorts or a skirt over the top and shorts should not be too short if worn alone. We thank you for your support with this.

Governing Council AGM

Our Governing Council AGM is coming up next week. It will be held on Tuesday February 18th at 6:30pm in the Staffroom. The AGM is an opportunity for the Governing Council to report achievements from the past year to the school community. I encourage family members to consider becoming involved in the operations of the school. You can do this by attending the scheduled AGM and nominating for Governing Council if you wish. The role of the Governing Council is to work with the site leader to set and monitor the direction of the school. Further information is provided as an attachment to this newsletter or can be obtained from Administration. Meetings are held twice per term at a time that is convenient to the members of the Governing Council for the current year.

Pam Peters

RESPECT

TEAMWORK

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY

Telephone 08 8645 8685

Office Hours 8.00am to 4.00pm

Principal: Pam Peters

Deputy Principal: Ben Harris-Jones

Senior Leader: Sally Rowe

Finance: Phillip Datson

Secretary: Catherine Worby

Admin Assistant: Margaret Dawson

Student Wellbeing Leader: Cynthia Spangenberg

Diary Dates

Term 1 2020 28 Jan – 9 April

School Photo Days 4 & 5 Mar

Adelaide Cup Day Public Holiday 9 Mar

JP Swimming for Rec – Year 2 16 Mar – 27 Mar

End of Term 1 (Thursday) 9 April



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development

School Fees

Charges for 2020 school fees are \$244.00 per child.

We accept cash, cheque and credit/debit cards for payments. We also offer Direct Deposit into our bank account as a way to pay your fees.

Please see information below for Direct Debit payments:

Name of Account: **Nicolson Avenue Primary School Council Inc.**

BSB: **065 – 519**

Account: **1001 5501**

Quote: **Invoice number**

Remittance email:

phillip.datson172@schools.sa.edu.au

Instalment plans through Direct Debit are also available, if you wish to use this service please make an appointment with Phillip Datson to set this up.

Assembly Roster Term 1

Week 4	Room 16 & Room 3
Week 6	Room 21 & Room 4
Week 8	Room 22 & Unit 1
Week 10	Room 20 & Room 15
Week 11	ANZAC Assembly

WESTLAND SC SUPPORTS

**NO
SCHOOL
NO
SERVICE**

UNACCOMPANIED SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN WILL NOT BE SERVED DURING SCHOOL HOURS UNLESS IN POSSESSION OF A VALID SCHOOL PASS

South Whyalla Demons Football

Junior sign up day

February 16th 12pm – 2pm SWFL Clubrooms (Beach Road)

For more information contact Matt Dickenson
0477 222 028

Come & Try Hockey

Looking for kids aged 5 – 13 years

Whyalla Hockey Association

Searle Street

Tuesday night's 4pm – Start date to be confirmed.

Call 0455 832 415 or 0437 205 205 for further information

SAPSASA Tennis Trials

Whyalla Tennis Association
Nicolson Avenue

Wed 12th Feb & 19th Feb

4.15 – 5.15pm

Bring drink bottle, hat & racquet if you have one.

Contact Matthew Wauchope 0427 765 024

Whyallajuniortennis@gmail.com

Hummock Hill Hockey Club

Sign up day / first training U8, U11, U13, U16 B and A Grade.

All welcome including beginners

Thursday 5th March 5 – 7pm

Whyalla Hockey Association – corner of Nicolson Ave & Searle Street

Call Danny on 0418 842 025 for more information