



# BRINKWORTH PRIMARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Date: 3rd February 2021

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Principal: Mr Matt Stewart

Issue No. 1



## DIARY DATES FEBRUARY 2021

- 1st-4th:** Swimming with Koolunga PS
- 2nd:** Kindy Day
- 3rd:** Kindy/Oc Care
- 5th:** **PUPIL FREE DAY**
- 8th:** Mr Stewart away : training  
Emiko visit
- 9th:** Assembly
- 10th:** AGM & parent information night
- 11th:** Mr Stewart @ Partnership Mtg
- 17th:** Newsletter
- 18th:** **Swimming Carnival**

### ATTACHMENTS:

- Encounters with Emily
- SRC fundraiser

## Finance News

M&S invoices for 2021 were given to families last week. Please ensure you see Kathy or Matt if you require payment plans.

School card applications can be done online—please see Kathy if you are unable to access this.

Dear Families.

Welcome back to a new school year, and to the first newsletter of 2021. We have had an exciting start to the school year. With swimming lessons in week 1 and week 2 we have been able to welcome Koolunga Primary School students and staff onto our beautiful site. This has allowed us to share our pool and learning spaces with them.

As we begin a new school year, it has been very exciting to see the planning and programming that all staff have undertaken across the break to continue to develop and grow our learners. Two goals that I would love to see met for this year that go hand in hand with each other is attendance and learner growth. The Department for Education sets a goal of 95% attendance for schools. There is a plethora of data that shows high attendance correlates with learner growth. The second goal for the year is for our learners to demonstrate growth across their schooling. This is a process that involves collaboration from the school and home environments. The staff and myself are very excited to be working with you and the learners on these goals.

Wednesday next week is the Parent Information Evening. It begins at 5pm on Wednesday in the Upper Primary room. There will be a short presentation from myself, and then Ms Kenny and Mrs Hentschke will present. Whilst our teachers are presenting I am available to supervise students outside. We will then host a BBQ tea for all in attendance. Following the BBQ, the Governing Council AGM will be held at 6pm. Please do your best to be in attendance and think about taking on a position. The meetings can be flexible to suit members, and are held twice a term. It is a great opportunity to have an active role in the governance of our School.

The students have had a great time so far with our swimming instructors Hattie and Emma. They have spent a lot of time developing safety skills and learning survival strokes. They have really had a wonderful time sharing week 2 with our friends from Koolunga.



We are fortunate to have Tracy Pfitzner with our school for on a pre service teacher placement for the next 5 weeks. Tracy is completing her 3rd Year placement and will be working predominantly in the Upper Primary Class. She has formed wonderful relationships already with our learners and staff, and we are very much looking forward to the upcoming weeks with her.

A flyer is in the newsletter regarding the Microsoft office suite of programs. With the students' school email, you can access the full range of products on up to 5 devices for use. Read through the information and links. The Department for Education maintains this service for students. If you have any questions, let me know.

Don't forget Friday is a Pupil Free Day. Staff have the first of a phonics workshop, aimed at further developing knowledge, delivery and assessment of this important curriculum area.

Kind Regards, *Matt Stewart*



# “BoomWhacker Beats for Our Brains”

At the end of 2020 school year our site was successful in obtaining a grant through the Music Innovation Fund.

This year our site will employ Paul who has a specialist music background weekly to support the music lessons K - 6 through use of “Boomwhackers” and other musical instruments. Learners will be able to create rhythm and beat through a developmentally appropriate music program that will support their maths and literacy learning. Educators will be involved in these lessons, learning from Paul and building on their own musical knowledge and understanding.



Music education has significant cognitive and developmental benefits.



Music Education improves student’s attendance, attention, and impulse control.



Music can build community and strengthen social bonds



Over several years, music education will have significant impacts on students’ literacy and numeracy understanding and skills.

This is what the latest research is telling us, and it’s backed up by the experience of many schools around Australia. We are very fortunate to offer this program to our learners.

Our learners thoroughly enjoyed their first learning session with Paul in Week 1. Lessons will be held on Wednesdays.



## S.T.U.D.E.N.T. R.E.F.L.E.C.T.I.O.N.S.

I love singing because it makes me feel happy.

I love music because we learn how to play different instruments.

The boomwhackers make noises like high and low.

I really like that we will get music for the whole year in 2021

I like music because you can make different noises with instruments.

I like the bright colours of the Boomwhackers.

The different lengths of the boomwhackers makes the sounds higher or lower.

I like music a lot because of the music and instruments that we play.

# WE'RE WORKING TOWARDS SOME BIG LEARNING GOALS!

## KINDY

## DISCOVERING

Last Wednesday Emily bought in some milkweed with a caterpillar attached. The kindy and occasional care children were very keen to observe the caterpillar.



Then on Tuesday when Conor and Luke arrived at kindy we couldn't find the caterpillar in the cage. We carefully took out each piece of milkweed and checked it over but still the caterpillar was nowhere to be found!

Later we spotted a green cocoon attached to the table leg. Together we wondered aloud how it had escaped the cage. Emily helped moved the caterpillar and hook it onto the milkweed in the cage. Now we are wondering how long before a butterfly will emerge from the cocoon?

We have also been exploring insects in following ways:

**insect puzzles; insect rhymes including 'The fuzzy wuzzy caterpillar'; insect finger-plays; reading books including 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'How many bugs?'; pictures of the caterpillar Lifecycle; insect toys to explore; exploring the yard looking for insects; nets to catch insects, folded over butterfly painting, and making playdough caterpillars.**

- Kirsty



## R-3 A NEW BEGINNING

Hello! I am very excited to be starting a new school year in a new space with a new group of learners - and some old friends! The start of the school year means exciting new challenges, and our learners are showing their persistence and resilience as they learn new routines and try their hand at challenging activities.

In Numeracy, we have been looking at different attributes of objects, and have begun to use the attribute to create patterns. In Literacy, we have begun Handwriting and building our reading stamina.

I am looking forward to training this Friday on Jolly Phonics and we will begin to implement this next week. Jolly Phonics is a systematic approach to teaching the letters and sounds of the Alphabet. Our alphabet has 26 letters, all of which are represented in 2 ways (UPPER CASE and lower case) which work alone or together to create 44 sounds, so lots to learn as we continue our reading and writing learning journey!

Mrs Hentschke



## 3-6 READING

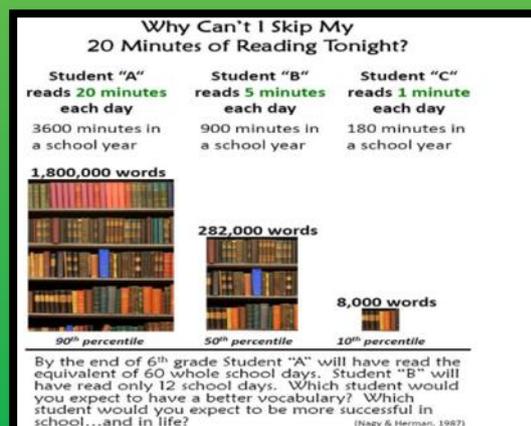
Explore Books! Give your child an opportunity to explore books. Visiting a library or bookshop gives your child a chance to find books that interest them.

**Read, Read, Read!**

Make sure to read for at least 20 minutes per day! Students can read independently, aloud to an adult, or back and forth with a partner.

**Ask Questions! • Predictions • Characters • Main Idea • Problem/Solution • Moral • Retell Story • Genre**

Ms Kenny



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES



What a fun way to start back at school!!! Swimming lessons with our friends from Koolunga PS joining us.

## Term 1 Calendar 2021

Subject to change each fortnight

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	25th Pupil Free Day	26th Public Holiday	27th School returns today	28th	29th Swimming Week
WEEK 2	Swimming Week	Swimming Week	Swimming Week Newsletter	Swimming Week	Pupil Free Day Jolly Phonics Training
WEEK 3	Mr Stewart— training in Adelaide	Assembly	AGM and Parent Information Night from 5pm	Partnership Meeting	
WEEK 4			Newsletter	Swimming Carnival from 1:30 – 3pm	
WEEK 5		Assembly		Leaders Day	Leaders Day

For frequently asked questions for COVID-19 for parents and carers please go to the Education Departments website or use this link.

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/covid-19-coronavirus/frequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19-parents-and-carers>

### Kids Helpline

If your child is facing any concerns or worries, particularly with this current unrest, please do not hesitate to call Kids Helpline for advice.

Phone: 1800 551 800

Online - [kidshelp.com.au](http://kidshelp.com.au)