**Week 4, 19th February 2015**

**DIARY DATES**

**FEBRUARY**

**Mon 23rd**  **PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Tues 24th**  Governing Council  
Business 7pm

**Wed 25th**  Festival Choir to Craigburn PS  
School Tour 2pm

**Fri 27th**  Schools Clean Up  
Australia Day

**MARCH**

**Wed 4th**  Governing Council  
Finance 7pm

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**IN THIS GRAPEVINE**

- School Attendance
- Relevant History Screening
- School Card
- Fundraising Events
- One Very Powerful Word
- Out of School Hours Care
- After School Sport
- Canteen Roster
- Hot Shots
- Reynella Uniform for sale
- For sale chairs and tables
- Wanted toys for LAP
- Community Notices

**INFORMATION SENT HOME LAST 2 WEEKS**

- 2015 Year 7 Tops
- Year 7 Tops Error
- Year 6/7 Aquatics
- Footsteps Dancesport
- Acquaintance Night

**PAYMENT DUE DATES**

**Monday 2nd March**  
R - Year 5 Footsteps Dancesport

**Thursday 19th March**  
Early Bird discount for School Fees

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**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

For those who like statistics, I thought I would lead this article with some that are relevant to our own school. We have a keen interest in attendance as students who are either away from school or who continually arrive late (or are collected early) miss out on crucial preparation and learning time. Learning is about continuous exposure to information and experiences on a regular basis. This can easily be interrupted such as demonstrated by the following numbers.

At the time of writing this, we have been at school for a total of 18 school days. During that time 134.5 days have been used by students for illness, 61.5 days for family reasons and 49 days absence that were unexplained. When there is a planned absence, parents are asked to complete an exemption form and we have already had 48 days absence recorded for this reason. If we total these together, we find that there have already been 293 days of absenteeism so far this term which is significant.

Illness cannot be avoided and we understand that family holidays are usually attached to work or other commitments, but the family reasons are quite often a matter of choice. One strategy to reduce the number of days in this section is to endeavour where possible that medical or other appointments involving children are made outside of school times.

We also send home an sms when absences are unexplained. Please ensure that you advise the school of why your child is absent as we are required to follow up all unexplained absences.

Lateness is also a concern as we have a small number of students who arrive between 5 and 30 minutes late to school.

It is important that all students begin the school day on time (8:45 am start in classrooms) so that they can prepare for the day, listen to instructions from the teacher, set up resources that they require for the first lessons, chat with friends and pass on messages to the class teacher etc. When those first few minutes are missed, students are often trying to catch up and it is quite difficult for them.

We want all students to begin the day in a confident and relaxed manner, feeling comfortable with their routines and being able to ask any clarifying questions of their teachers. This does not happen if they are late to school.

We all know that there will be occasional times when the morning at home does not go as planned and a student may arrive late to school. However, this should not be a pattern of lateness as it will begin to effect their learning.

Steve Freeman  
Principal
FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR 2015

Thanks to Karen Bell and Jasmine Wilson for joining me at our first fundraising meeting for 2015. It is not too late to join this group – while we do work hard, we have some fun in the process! If you don't like meetings, but could help with an event, please let one of us know as we are always on the lookout for help on the day. While the aim of the group is to raise additional funds for the school, some events are arranged to provide a service to the community. We have planned the following events for this year:

**Term 1**  Easter Raffle

**Term 2**  Mothers’ Day Stall – Friday 8th May

Quiz Night – Friday 26th June (our first for a very long time!)

**Term 3**  Fathers’ Day Stall – Friday 4th September

**Term 4**  Walkathon – Friday 30th October

We are also investigating some kind of “green” fundraiser with bulbs, seeds or plants.
All money raised will go to the development of a Nature Play Space for all students to access in the area between the Kaurna and Billabong buildings as highlighted in our final newsletter for 2014. If you have any ideas or can help in any way please let me know.

Karen Thorburn

SCHOOL CARD

The Minister for DECD has approved the School Card Scheme for 2015. The criteria is similar to 2014 and forms are available at the front office upon request. We encourage all parents/guardians who believe they may be eligible for assistance, to complete a form for 2015 as soon as possible.

Please be aware that no student will be automatically approved for school card. A new application must be completed each year. If you have students at more than one school, an application must be completed for each school.

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, Credit Card EFTPOS or Bizgate or agreed payment plan.

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Karen Thorburn

ONE VERY POWERFUL WORD

At Reynella Primary School, all staff have been working hard to include a very important word in our students’ vocabulary – the three letter word “YET”. The following is an excerpt from Wilson McCaskill’s “Play is the Way” manual:

**YET**

*An implication that things will change*

Yet is a vital word and children must learn it.
When a child says, “I can’t do this”, the remark indicates a belief that the condition is permanent and unchangeable. We must point out that they can’t do this yet, but with perseverance and effort they just might be able to.

Yet encourages hope. It implies that things will change. It encourages children to enter into a process. It suggests that the situation is temporary and asks children to be more optimistic in their outlook.

Yet, is one of our least used words. It needs to be used with much greater frequency and displayed in prominent places to guide children – especially those in junior primary.

When our children start to use

“YET” with no prompting from us,

we can pat ourselves on the back for a job well done.

Karen Thorburn

RELEVANT HISTORY SCREENING FOR VOLUNTEERS (previously Criminal History Check)

Over the next term, parents/volunteers who come in to listen to reading in the morning or who assist in activities etc, will be asked to complete a Relevant History Screening Application form and supply a 100 point identification check. Forms are available from the front office and are to be returned to have a 100 point check verified in the role of volunteer. The school covers all costs and the process takes between approximately 8 weeks once submitted. The check remains current for a three year period and is transferrable between public schools. We keep a database which allows us to quickly check if a Relevant History Check is current.

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Payments can be made by cash, cheque, Credit Card EFTPOS or Bizgate or agreed payment plan.
Out of School Hours Care Booking
Pupil Free Day
Monday 23rd February 2015

Out of School Hours Care will be open on Monday 23rd February from 6.30am to 6.30pm. A selection of craft/leisure activities will be provided for children’s participation.

The cost for the day is $50 per child day. Fees are reduced for families eligible for childcare benefits. Children are required to bring their own recess and lunch.

If you wish your child/children to attend please fill in the consent form below and return it along with $5.00 per child deposit to OSHC by Wednesday 18th February 2015.

Linda

Out of School Hours Care Booking
Pupil Free Day
Monday 23rd February 2015

I require childcare for…………………………………………………….

between the hours of………………………...and…………………………..

Enclosed is $…………………………deposited.

Parent/Caregiver

Thank you to the many parents who put in the Commitment to Play forms and paid their deposits by the due date.

A BIG THANK YOU to the parents who have volunteered to Co-ordinate and Coach our teams. If you have any questions about a particular sport, please contact the co-ordinator as listed below.

2015 CO-ORDINATORS
BASKETBALL - Kiri DeBoar (0408 798 653)
SOCCER – Bianca Kolar (0422 524 612) and Vicki Fielder (0435 843 807)
FOOTBALL – Andrew Pinnegar (0401 896 449) and Michael Wood (0400 039 120)
NETBALL – Joady Cooper (0415 736 740) (Tim Cooper assisting)
KANGA CRICKET - Therese Artis (0416 373 898)
SPORTS CANTEEN – Amie Sienczewski (0410 777 435) and Vicki Fielder (0435 843 807)

Reynella Students, “Do you want to PLAY After School SPORT for Reynella PS?”

It’s not too late. We need a few more players in the following teams. If you’re interested, please get your Mum & Dad to fill out the Commitment to Play form (yellow note sent home in the Finance Packs in Week 1) & return it to the Drop ‘n Go Box with the $20 deposit, per player, per sport ASAP.

BASKETBALL
Years 2, 3, 4 & 5
(Year 1’s may be able to play in the year 2/3 team, please ring the co-ordinator Kiri DeBoar to discuss if you’re interested).

We do have coaches for 3 teams, we just need more players to fill the teams

FOOTBALL
Years 2/3 & 6/7
Year 4/5’s (at the moment we have a very low number of year 4/5’s, so this team will only go ahead if we get enough extra players to field a team. We would also need another coach.

SOCOR & NETBALL only have a few spaces, if you’re interested, please ring prior to putting a form in, to ensure there is room in a team before you pay a deposit.

We need more COACHES in the following teams:

SOCOR (Under 7’s, Under 8’s, Under 9’s, U11’s)
NETBALL (Yrs 4 and 6/7)
FOOTBALL (Yr 2/3 & 4/5 if we get enough players for a team)

Karen Thorburn

USE OF PLAYGROUNDS, OVAL AND SOCCER PITCH BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

No student is permitted to enter the school grounds until the siren goes at 8:30 when yard supervision commences. Before school, we have 3 staff on duty from 8:30 until 8:45 - one at the school crossing, 1 in the area around Carew and Reynell and 1 in the area around Morphett, Kauuna and Billabong. For safety reasons, student are not permitted to use the playgrounds, oval or soccer pitch at this time because there is not enough supervision.

After school, we have 2 staff on duty from 3:05 until 3:20 - 1 at the school crossing and 1 at the Pick Up area on Verdileh Circuit near the oval. Again for safety reasons, students may only use the playgrounds, oval and soccer pitch at this time if their parent or caregiver is providing direct supervision, they are attending OSHC or sports training.

For your information, all teachers and leadership members have at least 1 yard duty each day. We also operate a series of recess and lunch time activities.

Karen Thorburn

Reynella After School Sport
REYNELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR SALE WORN ONCE
2 RPS maroon monogrammed size 8 polo shirts
1 maroon size 8 polo shirt with iron on logo.
1 size 8 maroon fleecy windcheater
1 RPS maroon school bag.
If interested phone Sharlene Brown on 0413 521 757

FOR SALE (Cheap)
Reception table and chairs
Phone Leon on 0401 121 648 or phone the school on 8381 1493

WANTED
If you have any of the following items (in good condition) for use in our LAP Room please bring them into the front office.
We need:
Books
Games
Toys

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Please check our community noticeboard on the library wall for more information about the following

FOSTER CARE
Have you ever thought of being a Foster Carer?
Foster Carers are needed to provide overnight emergency, long-term, short-term and respite care. You can be either single, couples, working full-time, part-time or studying. Free training and ongoing professional support is provided.
For more information call Linda on 8131 3456.

KEEPING TEENS AND PRE-TEENS SAFE ON LINE
When: Tuesday 17th March
Time: 7:00 - 9:00pm
How: Register to attend: 8303 1660

RESIDENTS WIN GRANT PROGRAM
Now open for applications. The grant is aimed at supporting local projects that improve the safety of our roads and help create people friendly roads. Applications can be submitted any time. If you are interested in this Grant please contact Corey Wingard’s Office on 8377 3500

DON’T KNOCK NOAH!
When: 7:00pm 28th February,
Where: Revival Hall, 255 Pimpala Rd, Woodcroft.
Children are invited before the play to go behind the scenes. Details on our Community Notice Board.

CANTREEN ROSTER

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We are in desperate need of volunteers for Fridays. If you have some free time please come and see us in the canteen. Free coffee and laughter provided.

PLEASE NOTE: due to the supplier of small cups increasing their cost small slushies will no longer be available. New “Finger’s” ice blocks are replacing them and are very popular for $1.00

HOT SHOTS TENNIS
At the end of 2012, Reynella Primary School joined the MLC Tennis Hot Shots National School Partnerships Program. We were given $1500 worth of tennis equipment. Every student who registered received a free t-shirt and gift and for each student who registered, the school received a $2 rebate to spend on tennis equipment.

We have a partnership with the Reynella Tennis Club and this year Ray Moyle will again provide tennis lessons for our students from R-5/6 in terms 2 and 3.

In 2014 Reynella Primary School was given life membership to the now ANZ Tennis Hot Shots National School Partnerships Program. Students are encouraged to once again register for a FREE t-shirt.

To register or re-register and claim your free t-shirt please go to www.hotshots.tennis.com.au/claim. This needs to be done at home with parental permission. If you have any problems please see me. Today the youngest child in each family has been given a card showing the T-shirts and web address.

The tennis equipment that we have already been given is being used in P.E. lessons and in the yard at lunch time on Wednesdays and recess time on Fridays. Please register and help the school get more equipment, as well as a T-shirt for your child.

Kathy Rowland