**IN THIS GRAPEVINE**

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**INFORMATION SENT HOME LAST 2 WEEKS**

- Easter Raffle
- Adelaide Zoo Excursion
- F5 and F7
- Term 1 Disco

**PAYMENT DUE DATES**

**Thursday 24th March**

- Term 1 Disco

**Monday 28th March**

- F 5 & F 7 Zoo Excursion

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**MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED IN THE CHANGING WORLD THAT WE LIVE IN.**

“I cannot teach anybody anything. I can only make them think.”

Socrates  400BC

This quote opened the Future School Conference in Sydney that three of us attended last week (Steve Freeman, Rick Gillies and Rob Mallee) . Technology is encapsulated in our curriculum under two strands: Design and Technology and Digital Technologies. The conference explored the use of a wide range of technologies that may assist us in meeting the outcomes of these two strands.

One of these is the area of Coding where students use specific directional commands to make a device complete a task. This has been identified as being directly related to Design Technology and covers a number of the expectations within our Australian Curriculum. Digital innovation is seen as a key to Australia’s future and the conference acknowledged that there is an economic imperative to prepare our next generation of creators and leaders to compete globally. Most of our early years classes have begun using programmable Bee Bots in our school. These are little machines that look a lot like bees in design, and which can be programmed by students using code to make them move through a specific sequence. This is also being taken up in a number of our older year levels as well.

“Maker’s Spaces” were promoted as opportunities for students R-7 to explore through hands on activities: problems that are directly relevant to the learner (eg Construction of playground spaces); that involve real world problem solving (eg how to share access to the canteen at recess times); be meaningful and useful (eg To solve the problem of overcrowding at the canteen and put it into action). These Makers Spaces could be physical, such as a classroom space or digital, such as using programs like Minecraft. This allows students to have learning differentiated for them in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Following our attendance at the conference, decisions will be made as to which aspects of our learning to introduce initially to staff, as well as strategies to share our learning via modelling, and the use of Technology in teaching and learning plans. Some of this will be presented to staff on March 11th at our Pupil Free Day and some in staff meetings. The main thrust is the use of technology as a tool for learning, enabling increased creativity and exploration of the world by students.

One of the guest speakers was Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, Australia’s most popular science communicator and a regular presenter on the ABC. He spoke about the amazing uses of technology today and how 3D printers are used to provide human parts as well as being used to create fuel cells in jet fighters. Several examples of the speed that technology is changing at for our younger generation were given, including the story of the “RoadRunner Super Computer” that was built in June of 2008 as the fastest and largest computer in the world. This was surpassed in November 2009 by “Jaguar” which was surpassed in November 2009 by “Jaguar” which was...
2012 by Titan. This rapid change creates a dilemma for us in primary school. Where do we start and how far do we wish to go?

Coming back to the first quote from Socrates, if we attempt to keep up with the pace of change we will always lose out. If we can however teach our students to think and not just learn content, then by working with each other, sharing knowledge and building a sense of community, we will equip students for the future.

As teachers we have to get alongside the students in a way that has never happened before, which is the intention of our work on “Student Voice”. Our vision is to have students leave Reynella Primary School knowing both the need to learn and also the ability to be adaptive experts in a changing world.

Steve Freeman      Rick Gillies             Rob Mallee
Principal        5/6 class teacher  4/5 class teacher

SCHOOLS CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
On Friday 4th March, Reynella Primary students joined thousands across the country to participate in the annual Schools Clean Up Australia Day. Many classes worked with their buddies to clean up every area of the school grounds including those hard to get at places where rubbish seems to accumulate: the back of the oval and soccer pitch, garden beds and the air conditioner cages.

Some of our students also ventured into the local community to clean up the Gladys Reynell Reserve next door to school, the footpath along States Road and part of the bike track. Among the interesting items found outside the school were some irrigation pipe, a wine glass, some golf balls and old clothes! Unfortunately many of the tree stakes supporting trees we have planted were found lying around the reserve as well. Inside the school grounds, we found lots of wrappers, slushy straws, hair clips, toys and balls.

At the end of the clean-up, students deposited their rubbish bags at the archway near the staff car park. We are very pleased to share that the amount of litter collected this year is considerably less than last year.

Karen Thorburn

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
Last Friday 4th March was also National Ride2School Day across Australia. While we did not publicise the event widely this year, it was really pleasing to see the number of students who rode their bikes or scooted to school following a reminder in our Student Bulletin which is shared with all students each Monday morning. One of our objectives to improve student learning and wellbeing at Reynella Primary School is to encourage healthy lifestyles.

For students and parents new to the school, you may not know that we have 3 scooter racks (one inside the Morphett building at the flagpole end and 2 inside the Billabong building near the toilets) courtesy of a successful Active Travel Grant through OPAL and the Onkaparinga Council in 2012. We are currently working on a grant for a new bike storage area through our Way2Go program. Next term our Year 6 and 7 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Way2Go Bike Program. In the meantime, it is great to see the existing storage areas used.

Karen Thorburn

RESOURCE CENTRE
The Library has many new books and teaching resources that need covering before they can be available to students and staff. If you are able to help with covering either at school or by taking a bundle home to cover please see Sharon or Wolf in the library.

Many thanks
Sharon and Wolf - Resource Centre
Here we are with a brand new school year full of opportunities to succeed, be challenged and to grow at Reynella Primary. School life can be exciting, challenging and exhausting especially for our brand new Reception students. For parents it can be: “Oh thank goodness they are back at school!”; or “The holidays were too short - I’m not ready!”; or “My baby started school!”; or “My baby is in Year 7!”; or “Who is this child and what have you done to them? They scream all the way home!”; and so many others I have heard over the years. Relax - it’s term one and all going well, things should improve. Remember that as parents you are their safe people and they will at times need to cry just because crying will make it better.

My role as Pastoral Care Worker here at Reynella Primary School is to support Staff, Students and Families. I am not a counsellor, psychologist, or a psychiatrist although I am currently completing a diploma in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care. I listen, I respond, I empower where possible and when needed, I refer on. My conversations with students are confidential except in circumstances where safety is an issue. I am a mandated notifier and therefore I am legally bound to report to Families SA when needed. With permission I will alert staff, leadership and parents to areas of concern.

Sending your children to school with a bunch of people you don’t really know can be scary. Trusting a complete stranger with your most precious child can be hard. Listening to your child tell you about their day can be confusing or you might not get any information. A child has so much happening in their day that they forget parts of it. They might tell you they had a disagreement with a friend at recess but forget to tell you that it was resolved by lunchtime. For the little ones, their timeline gets confused so you might ask about what happened today but they have today’s story and something that happened last week intertwined leaving you confused.

When listening to your child relay their day try not to over react when they tell you about something that upset them. Comfort, console and ask them what they could have done to make the situation better? Here at school we use Play is the Way as our foundation language, actions and agreements. The children are empowered to make strong choices and to know the difference between emotional reactions over a thoughtful response. If you would like to use the language at home please feel free to borrow “Children aren’t made of China” by Wilson McCaskill from the school library. When a child has consistency at home and school, there is an opportunity for the child to grow and mature well.

Teachers are trained professionals who have worked with students for many years. They might not know your particular child very well yet but they will. The teachers at Reynella Primary School start every year with high expectations. They will want to draw out of each student all that is good in them. The teachers will encourage your child to go further than they may find comfortable, challenge them to get out of the pit and find new ways of doing things. This might make your child uncomfortable. It is meant to. In order to grow and change, we all need to be a little uncomfortable at times. When your child comes home and says statements like “I hate this subject! I can’t do this.” The best response to that statement is to add the word ‘yet’ - they can’t do this yet but with practice and effort they will be able to one day! Having a growth mindset helps young (and old) people to grow.

Julie Mullins
Pastoral Care Worker

INTRODUCTION

Hello, my name is Belinda Feely and I am teaching in B6 with Year 1/2 students. I have been teaching for almost 14 years. Once I graduated from Flinders University, I moved to Mount Gambier to commence my teaching career. I taught year 6/7 students for a short time, then year 3/4/5 students in small schools for a few years. I have focused on teaching year 1/2 students for the last 5 years. I have a 6 year old son called Angus and a cat called Trixie. I have only recently moved back to Adelaide from Mount Gambier to join the team at Reynella Primary School. In my spare time I like to garden, cook and spend time with family and friends.

Thank you for welcoming me to the Reynella Primary School community.
### COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

#### CANTEEN ROSTER

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#### VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Deb and Amanda are always looking for new volunteers for the canteen. Come and meet other parents and learn about our canteen. Any offers of time will be appreciated (eg a few hours, weekly, fortnightly, once a term). Please come and see us in the canteen and chat about it.

To be a volunteer at Reynella Primary School you will need a Child Related Employment Screening. School pays for this clearance. For further information please see Bev in the front office.

*Free coffee and laughter provided.*

#### OPEN TIMES FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

**Urrbrae Agricultural School**

**Tuesday 22nd March 2016**

Two hour visit to the school will include:
- Information about the Application Process, Farm Tour and School Tour.
- Times are 9:30am - 11:30am and 1:00pm - 3:00pm
- And again at 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Aberfoyle Park High School**

**Tuesday 22nd March 2016**

- Tours will leave from the marquee every 10 minutes between 6:00pm and 7:30pm

**Wirreanda High School**

**Wednesday 6th April 2016**

- Principal address at 6:00pm, then tour of the school.