



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Week 10

Thursday 2/7

Mid year Reports sent  
home

Friday 3/7

Casual Day (no gold coin)

Early Dismissal 2.10pm

### TERM 3

#### Week 1

Monday 20/7

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 21/7

Students return

#### Week 10

Thursday 24/9

Casual Day

Friday 25/9

Pupil Free Day

### TERM 4

#### Week 1

Monday 12/10

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 13/10

Students return

# Newsletter

*A Community of Successful Learners*

Term 2— Week 10

## RECONCILIATION WEEK 2020

During a series of lunch times for Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week, many children joined Social Work students Ivy and Jo to make paper native hibiscus flowers. The native hibiscus flower is a national symbol of Sorry Day, to recognise the inspiring strength and resilience of people from the Stolen Generations. The flower is scattered across Australia, known for being a survivor, and the colour symbolises compassion and spiritual healing.

Children who made them on Sorry Day wore them as a sign of recognition for the Stolen Generations. We had lots of kids joining in, and it was great to see older kids helping the younger ones with cutting out flowers and threading the pipe-cleaners.

The 2020 theme for Reconciliation Week was *"In this together"*. The flowers that were made during the rest of the week are to give to a local Peramangk elder, Mandy, who will be visiting the school in the last week of term. The making and sharing of these flowers is a chance for connection and understanding between Mt Barker Primary children and the Peramangk community, to show that we all stand together in solidarity, recognising the pain of the past and continuing efforts towards healing.

Mandy shared her own poem with the school about the Stolen Generations, which we have included below.

*Nunga baby taken away*

*"Where's my mummy?" hear him say*

*"You taking me to Gonnyaland?"*

*Carried and fed by white man's hand*

*Growing up different never knowing Aunts and Uncles cousins growing*

*But they'll return when they grow old*

*And tell their children of lies been told*

*So it won't happen again you see*

*The cradles outback that were left empty*

*By Mandy Brown*

Thanks to all the kids who got involved!



Principal: Jo Simpson

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## ***Pupil Free Days***

Please note the following days were approved by Governing Council as Pupil Free Days for staff to engage in professional development:

20th July 2020—Focus on collaborative planning and ICT

25th September 2020—Focus on moderation

12th October 2020—Focus on collaborative planning and dialogic classrooms

OSHC will be available for these dates.

## **Wear your PJs to School Fun!**





# Redevelopment News



If you missed the article in The Courier last week we are pleased to share that the initial concept plans for the capital works at Mount Barker Primary School for our upgrade have been released. The tender process to appoint a builder is underway and works will begin on site in term 4. Once the tender process has been completed we will be able to share further images with our school community and provide more information regarding timelines and implications for teaching and learning arrangements.

Plans have been reviewed in line with the transition of year 7 into high school by 2022.

Among the upgrades being considered for Mount Barker Primary School are:

- A new two storey building comprising 10 general learning areas and 3 serviced learning areas.
- A 3 general learning areas designed for inclusive learning for students with complex needs and 1 flexible learning area on the ground floor to be utilised as a sensory gym space
- New administration facilities on the first floor, including offices, staff facilities and amenities.
- General building amenities including toilet facilities and lift access on all floors.
- A new landscaped courtyard for open play and circulation.
- Demolition of ageing infrastructure.

We will keep you updated.

# Library News

It is great to see so many students making use of our school library. Keep up the enthusiasm next term when our library is closed and you all go over the road to the town library. I will be sending out information about the changes later this term or early next term.

Just a friendly reminder that the PRC (Premier's Reading Challenge) closes next term so the students only have a couple of months to finish their forms and hand them in to me. I was hoping for 300 students to finish this year but, with all the interruptions, this may not be possible as we only have around 30 students who have handed their completed forms ready for data collection.

There is a colouring in competition running in the library and the winners will receive their prizes towards the end of the term. I will see if I can continue these competitions while our library is closed. Good luck to everyone who has entered so far.

Scholastic Book Club is a great way to buy books for your children at great prices. The more you spend the more rewards the school library receives to buy books for everyone to enjoy. There are two Book Clubs each term and this will be continuing even when our library is closed. So please spend a little time looking through the brochures when your child brings them home.

If you have any questions please give me a call or email.  
Happy reading  
Suzanne Library Manager



## CoVid Restrictions for Term 3

Dear Families

One of the reasons for the delay in sending out the second newsletter for the term was due to the changing in restrictions and wanting to provide the correct information to our school community. We have received several communications from a state level and we have spent time translating them to fit our individual context.

Key information:

- Drop offs and pick ups remain the same - parents are to drop off at the gate where possible and not enter school buildings. We have noticed a number of parents, particularly in the early years, that have started entering the building and congregating in small groups before and after school. Our requests for minimal contact between families on our school site is made with a view to keeping everyone safe.

# CoVid Restrictions for Term 3—cont'd

- The guidelines for sick children are very clear. Children that are displaying the following symptoms are not to be on school grounds and will be sent home: Fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, headache, runny nose and diarrhoea. It is very difficult to distinguish between the symptoms of COVID-19, influenza and a cold. If your child has any infectious or respiratory symptoms please do not send them to school. They need to self-isolate and to be assessed by a medical professional. They may need testing for COVID-19. Children should not return to school until all of their symptoms have subsided or a CoVid screening/medical clearance can be provided.
- Assemblies will re-commence but will be students/teachers only. The classes that are presenting will record their items and share them via SeeSaw.
- Non Government Service Providers are allowed to recommence their visits to school. We have communicated directly with them and asked them to confirm dates and times of proposed term 3 visits and ensure their clearances are up to date. The completion of a CoVid Safe form is required for every visit.
- Volunteers in classes can commence and our usual screening processes are to be completed as well as a CoVid Safe form for each visit. All volunteers are required to sign in and out in the office. We would ask that you contact your class teacher and arrange a date and time for you to volunteer. We are allowing no more than 1 volunteer in class at a time.
- It is a year that normally our years 3-6 would be going on camp in term 3. Whilst camps are allowed to go ahead this is dependent on the facilities available being able to meet CoVid restrictions. We have made the decision that we will postpone the term 3 overnight camps and plan for our children to go in 2021. Our booking with Arbory Park will remain and the students will go for fully catered day visits instead. Further information will be sent home in term 3. The year 7 students go on an annual Leadership camp in term 4. We are currently exploring what options we have for this camp and will communicate with parents towards the end of term 3.
- Planning for Term 4:  
We are currently planning on Sports Day taking place in term 4. Sports Day is a complex and busy day and staff will not be in a position to enforce the currently 1.5m social distancing rules. As a result of this it is likely that Sports Day will be for students only unless CoVid restrictions are no longer in place.  
Year 7 graduation ceremonies and celebration will go ahead and we will ensure any CoVid restrictions in place are adhered to. Dates will be communicated shortly.

We would like to thank our school community for their support during the last few months. Although we have been relatively lucky in South Australia, a global pandemic is not something that we thought would ever impact us in our lifetime. I would like to acknowledge all those who have experienced trauma and loss. This situation has brought up all sorts of issues but has also given us the opportunity to try new things, develop our resilience and focus on what is important to us as individuals, as family members and as part of a school community.

Enjoy your holidays with loved ones and I look forward to seeing you in term 3,

Kind Regards, Jo Simpson Principal