



STURT STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Government
of South Australia

Thursday 24th June
2010 No 8

Diary Dates



June

MONDAY 28th
Interim Reports posted home

WEDNESDAY 30th
Film afternoon
3.45pm Rec-Yr3, 5.30pm Yr4-7
Jump Rope demo

July

FRIDAY 2nd JULY
EARLY DISMISSAL – 2.30pm

MONDAY 19th
START OF TERM 3
ELC Advisory mtg 5.30pm
Governing Council 6.30pm

MONDAY 2nd August
OSHC Advisory mtg 5pm

MONDAY 16th August
Jump Rope for Heart

You can contact us on

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Dear Families,

At the end of term we are saying farewell or bon voyage to several valued staff members. Natalie Shallow, our energetic Preschool teacher is traveling to South America for six months and will be replaced by Lisa Ewens who has worked at this site previously.

Debb Colagiovanni, School Services Officer, who has supported children with disabilities and worked across all sectors since 2006, has accepted another position. We wish her all the best. We would like to say thank you to Meryl Tassone, Rec/Year 1 class teacher who has been a wonderful member of the team while Kerri Southwell has been on sick leave. Kerri is making a good recovery and we look forward to her return.

We also welcome back Jo Fahey who has been appointed to the new Reception class. Jo has spent a great deal of time purchasing resources, furniture and setting up a stimulating learning environment in Room 3. Children have already had three successful transition visits and judging by their smiles they are looking forward to starting school.

SITE IMPROVEMENT PRIORITY - WELLBEING

A student's sense of wellbeing and safety is correlated to successful learning outcomes. Teachers use the Child Protection Curriculum, Friendly Schools and Families Program and Program Achieve to teach specific social skills. We have worked with Angela Davis, child psychologist to discuss behaviour expectations and how to consistently implement the Behaviour Code in the yard. Recently the Wellbeing Committee conducted surveys on students' feelings about lunch playtime, friendships and perceptions of bullying. We collated data related to gender and different age-groups. It was interesting to note children's responses to "Do you feel safe at school?" and "What would you do if you saw someone bullied?" We were pleased that many children had strategies to deal with a bully and that they felt safe in the yard. The data does however provide further information about focus areas for next term and the students have made some great suggestions for us to implement.

GROUNDS & FACILITIES

The removal of the significant trees was a sad event but an urgent one following the falling of two large limbs last week. Sections of the boughs have now been placed throughout the garden and the children have enjoyed walking along them or role playing camp fire activities.

The Grounds Committee are developing plans for some exciting discovery areas in the ELC yard with planting of more shade trees. The final plans for the Multi-Purpose Hall are now on display in Reception. Preparatory testing of the soil, energy and communications system assessments are being made. We expect the building works to begin in July.



**Valuing our children....
Building their future**

INTERIM SCHOOL REPORTS

As you are aware Sturt Street Community School reports three times a year on student learning and progress. In Term 1 we invited parents/caregivers to participate in Student Led Conferences where students outlined their learning goals and enthusiastically shared their work. At the end of Term 2 we will be posting home Interim Reports and the Final Reports will be sent out in December. Should you want to follow up any aspect of the Interim Report then please contact the front office to set up a convenient time to discuss it with the class teacher.

MEETING WITH MINISTER WEATHERILL

On 8th June Governing Council Chairperson, Bengy Paolo, ELC Advisory Committee member, Emma Hosking, Child and Youth Health Services representative, Sharyn Galwey, Anne-Marie Shin and myself met with Minister Weatherill on site to discuss a number of issues.

- The announcement that SSCS would be recognised as a Children’s Centre. What are the resourcing implications for staffing and facilities?
- The increasing pressure of sharing the outdoor learning areas when DECS owns land adjoining the school in Maxwell Street being solely used for gardening by volunteers from the Adelaide Day Centre.
- Parent concerns about pathways to Adelaide High School.

The Minister is following through on these discussions and Governing Council will keep our community posted.

PUPIL FREE DAY/SCHOOL CLOSURE

Each year schools are entitled to two Pupil Free Days for Professional Development and a School Closure for a day of local significance. Each community has differing needs so in response to the many working parents at Sturt Street Community School, OSHC has provided care on each of these days.

Governing Council has approved a Pupil Free Day on Monday 6th September where the focus will be the Big Ideas in Number – Partitioning, facilitated by Judy Crisp, Maths Coordinator.

Governing Council seeks your response to the Closure Day being held during the Adelaide Royal Show on Friday 3rd September. Please return the slip below to the front office by Monday 19th July.

Kind regards,
Pat Cardone - Principal

SCHOOL FINANCE

This year the school has invoiced families for School and Preschool fees to a total of \$46,400. There is still a large amount of **\$25,000** outstanding.

Fees can be paid by Cash, Cheque, Credit Card or direct debit over the internet. A fortnightly direct debit can also be set up to pay fees and ease the burden. If you are experiencing difficulty, please see Pat or myself to organise an installment plan. The Finance Committee is concerned about non-payment and will refer to “debt collection” as outlined in the Fees Policy. Your help in finalizing this would be greatly appreciated.

Mike Scoles – Finance Officer.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

OSHC will be available. Please tick one of the following options.

I support the School Closure Day being held on Friday, 3rd September.

I do not support the School Closure Day being held on 3rd September and prefer another date.

Signed: _____

Date: ____/ ____/ 2010

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE and PRESCHOOL NEWS

At this stage of the term, all sections of the Early Learning Centre have been supporting children with transitions to new rooms and also welcoming some new families to our service. At any time of change and transition it is important to support children to get to know the new environment and routines, and to find out about children's interests and dispositions so that staff can provide ongoing support and continuity.

Next week we will bid farewell to Daphne Sun, who has worked during the last 2 months to cover some staff leave. It has been an absolute pleasure having Daphne working in the different child care rooms and we have learned a lot from her. We hope to have the opportunity of working with her again soon.



We also bid farewell to Natalie Shallow, our pre-school teacher, who will be leaving us for 6 months to do some travelling in South America. Natalie has contributed enormously to our programme at Pre-school and many families also have had very positive relationships with her in OSHC. Children, families and staff in Pre-school, have enjoyed getting to know her and we wish her all the best for her adventure.



The sad loss of the significant trees in our playground has been noticed by many children. We have tried to keep some memory of the trees by using logs, bark and sawdust in our environment to make some natural areas for children to explore. Children have enjoyed using these areas as meeting spaces, spots for pretend play and places of physical challenge.

In the next term we will begin redevelopment on the Early Learning Centre playground to create some more natural areas and plantings and also to divide the yard with plantings so that there is a quiet space for younger children to explore without the interference of more boisterous play. When our plans are passed – we will be calling on parent support for a Working bee to support this development – so please think about ways you could help. The proposed plans for the development of the Early Learning Centre yard as well as plans for the School Hall development will be placed in the foyer for parents to view.

Anne-Marie Shin - Early Years Director

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Our AASC activities for term 3 are to be belly dancing and lacrosse. We are hoping to start the lacrosse during the second week of term 3.

Reminder: We still have places available most days during our upcoming July Vacation Care program, but some days are filling up fast, so if you haven't yet let OSHC staff know about care that you may require for your child/ren please do so at your earliest opportunity to ensure a place. Remember that Vacation Care is a great way for your child to further enjoy quality time with their friends.

Kate Kenny - OSHC Director

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOLS – ETSA Park



Students practise netball skills at ETSA Park.

Students were excited when the Adelaide Thunderbird players joined them for a photo.



NEWS FROM ROOM 2

MEASURING A SOFT TOY

We were allowed to bring a toy to school to measure. We weighed our toys.



I put teddy bears around my bunny rabbit. - **Chloe**



Jaryn and I are measuring my pony. The blocks weigh more than my pony. **Edward**



I was measuring how tall and how long my rabbit was. I had blocks and I counted them. **Ariana**



I measured how much my dog weighed. **Tara**



I weighed my Beanie Kid. **Jemima**

I measured how long my dog was. **Tara**

I weighed my Beanie Kid. **Xanthe**

I measured my teddy bear with teddy bear counters. **Meg**

My toy was the same as Farhad's. **Harry**

I weighed my teddy. **Farhad**



I measured my horse. **Alexa**