



**BLANCHETOWN  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# Blanchetown Primary School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 9

## Important Dates

Thursday 29/9

Mid Murray Sports Day- arrive at 9am at the Waikerie Rec Centre Oval

Friday 30/9

Wellfest Day

Jolie's Farewell  
2:20

Last Day Term 3-  
early dismissal  
2:20pm

Monday 17/10

First Day Term 4

Yr 3-6 Excursion



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\*Be respectful

\* Be kind

\* Be honest

\* Be the best you can be

Dear Families,

## Principal's Report

I'd like to start my newsletter article with some more FABULOUS news. We have not only reached our Site Improvement Plan target for phonics (reading) but also for our Year 3 PAT Maths results. Fantastic efforts by staff teams to ensure these targets were met. I am proud of the work everyone puts in each and every day. Sometimes our Year 3-6 class have Miss Bolt, Mrs Bolt, Mrs Payne, Mrs Hahn and Mrs Giles working with them at the same time! We are grateful to have a number of staff who are always willing to help and encourage our students to be the best they can be. Thank You to everyone who has helped us reach our Site Improvement Targets. Our PAT data is looking really great and we look forward to taking the next steps in learning.

We hope you had a lovely 4 day weekend with your family and friends. An early start on Tuesday morning saw our students head off on a big bus; for some it was their first time on a bus that big so it was an exciting adventure. The rain and wild weather didn't stop our students from having the best day. Some favourites were jumping into the foam pit, the trampoline, playing at the playground and enjoying spending time with friends. The gymnastics session was a massive hit and lots of great skills were learnt! If you are interested in doing gymnastics please contact the Berry Gymnastics Academy- some great opportunities there. When students arrived back they were surprised with a new learning space as we have created a Library/Staff Room area with couches for students and staff to enjoy. Whilst exploring the rejuvenated area, students gave their teachers and support staff four cheers to say Thanks!

Today I am sending home an, 'Identity Web' for you to work with your child/ren on. This will help our staff to connect even further with your child/ren and help us to build upon relationships, support social/emotional wellbeing and plan forward for individual learning targets. Please hand these in by the end of this term if possible and feel free to provide more information than what is on the sheet if you feel that it is helpful for staff to understand.

Thank You for coming in to meet with teachers during interview week. This is always the best opportunity to ask any questions or go over anything you needed, as staff have designated time to meet with you. If you ever need to meet with any member of staff at a time convenient for you, all you have to do is email, ring or chat to us at any time and we will work out a best fit solution.

Please remember that we are heading into hat season and students are required to have one for outdoor times. They will definitely need a hat for Mid Murray Sports Day.

### **Our Vision**

*At Blanchetown Primary School, we want all learners to be part of a caring, inclusive, success-orientated, quality-learning environment, which empowers everyone to continue lifelong learning with confidence.*

Powerful Learner

Curious

Motivated

Risk-Taking

Crunch 'n' Sip at school is a 5-10 minute quick snack break. We encourage this break to be a healthy snack such as fruit and/or vegetables e.g. an apple or carrot. The recess break is only an hour after this quick snack and that is when other snacks can be eaten such as a muesli bar. We have recently sent home an updated Deli menu. Remember that these items can be ordered on Mondays. Ros in the front office can heat children's lunches up on Fridays if you would like to send something in.

We are well underway with our plans for Mid Murray Sports Day and we are looking forward to seeing you there. Please arrive at 9am at the Waikerie Rec Centre Oval. PLEASE if you can help on the day by being on the BBQ roster, helping serve at the bake stall, supervising students, helping staff to organise and run the events, offering sunscreen or water...whatever it is that you can help with we would greatly appreciate. We are the hosts this year for the sports day and this has taken a huge amount of our time. Thank You to Ros Hahn for all of her incredible work alongside me. Students are to wear their school uniform and use their school values to represent Team BPS on the day. We verse Morgan, Waikerie Lutheran and Ramco on the day. There will be approximately 240 students there and a huge number of community members. It is very exciting and I'm really hoping for a lovely Spring weathered day.

We have changed our Wellfest to be on the last day of term. This day is, 'Dress up as what you want to be when you are grown up' day too which should get our BPS creative juices once again flowing! We had some wonderful ideas this morning during Morning Circle time for this dress up day. We do dress up days well don't we?! These days allow us to connect and build upon the relationships we have. Students will be involved in some cubby making for Wellfest. **Please can your children bring one or two throw rugs each to school that day?** Students will be making kites in pairs, creating sandcastles, planting sunflowers and will be able to go into the petting zoo. You are invited to come and share in the experiences with your child/ren from 2:00pm onwards. Please add some tiles to our mosaic that will be set up in the middle of the yard so we can have our community help create one! Creating mosaics is a wonderful opportunity for connection and coregulation with students. They help fine motor skills and creativity as well as develop artistic abilities. All of the activities designed on this day are related to wellbeing in many different ways and are activities you can easily adopt for home. After school is finished (early dismissal of 2:20pm) please stay to farewell and thank our wonderful Pastoral Care Worker, Jolie Zadow, for her service to our schooling community. We will meet you in the Playcentre shed for this celebration.

Recently our school has adopted a new communications policy that has been ratified by Governing Council. Please find this attached. We hope this policy helps you to understand the ways we strive to communicate clearly with our community. We have also taken into consideration social media and will be deleting the closed Facebook group and instead utilising the Seesaw app as per parent feedback. The Seesaw app is a great way for us to communicate. If you need help getting on to your child's class app, please speak to your teacher or myself.

We have started to organise our end of year concert. **Does anyone have any big cardboard boxes or sheets of cardboard, or know of anyone that has some that we could please use? We would also really appreciate any recyclable items you can send in e.g. cardboard rolls and containers.** We have (TBC) scheduled our end of year concert for Wednesday 14/12 at our school, weather permitting.

We have scheduled our Reception transition visits for Term 4. For more information just ask me or see Ros. Our Year 6's are going to their transition visit on Monday morning where they are doing an, 'Amazing Race' around Waikerie High School. Mrs Bolt will be taking students on the school bus, leaving here at 8:30 am, so students need to be here at 8:20am as they start this at 9am-11:15 in Waikerie. It will be super fun and students will get to know others from surrounding schools.

Next term on the first day back our Year 3-6 students are off on an excursion to Swan Reach Area School for a play. We have booked a school camp for next year to Arbury Park Outdoor School  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 5/4. This camp was cancelled earlier on this year because of Covid.

Thank You to Tess for everything she is doing to help organise the many events we have on, including the rejuvenation of spaces such as the, 'Learner's Lounge' and our children's sports shed.

Please see the advertisement regarding a Mid Murray Our Town event that is in Blanchetown in the school holidays.

We look forward to seeing you at Mid Murray Sports Day, Wellfest, Jolie's farewell and anywhere in between.

Have a brilliant holiday after next week!

Thank You, Ashlee Salter.

## Little Learners R-2

Are you tougher than your ancestors? Well that's R-2 Little Learners have been trying to find out! This unit has explored the extraordinary efforts that past went to in their day to day lives. Whether it be mines during the day then going off to school to learn making sausages, milking the cow, churning the butter from Hahndorf to Adelaide to sell their goods at the just the extensive chores that were required to help home to help put food on the table....all without of the modern technology that students of today are



exactly what our term our HASS children of the working the at night; or then walking local market; or around the electricity or any accustomed to.



The Little Learners unit with their usual enthusiasm and proved once again what 'Powerful Learning' and 'Being the Best You Can Be' truly looks like.

Our extra special adventure, and challenge for the students was our recent excursion to the Loxton Historical Village, where we were able to once again ask the question 'Are you tougher than your ancestors?' and really put them to the test.

With smiles and excitement, the R2's embarked on their adventure and proved they were up to the tasks of whipping cream into butter, making damper.....eating damper, twisting yarn into rope and washing clothes by hand without electricity.

They even survived a visit to the pioneer classroom, lining up and standing to attention to sing the old national anthem 'God save the King', practicing handwriting in old cursive font and listened to stories of discipline that students experienced long ago.



You'll have to ask the students yourselves to find out the answer to 'Are you tougher than your ancestors?' For some the jury may still be out. For others a renewed respect for those that came before, and all that they experienced in their daily lives.

Please enjoy some pictures of the students putting themselves to the test.

