Our Parents and Friends are a very dedicated group that support the school and the community of families to ensure their experience with Blackwood Primary School is an enjoyable, happy and rewarding one. All the exciting events such as the recent camp out on our oval, Autism Awareness Day, Thursday coffee afternoons, Mothers’ Day stall, our upcoming student disco, polling booth BBQ are all organised and run by a small group of dedicated parents and friends.

The P and F, as they are commonly referred to, are always looking to involve more parents and are keen to have as many as possible to share the workload and spread the word about our great school. If you are interested in making friends, supporting your children and their school please catch up at our next coffee afternoon at 3.00pm on Thursday the 16th of June outside our canteen or call in to our school office. You will be welcomed in true Blackwood Primary School style.

Lateness to School
We are constantly having students arrive late for school. On average 8-10 students are late each morning. This not only affects the educational opportunities of these students but also interrupts the start of the day for the whole class, distracts the office staff when late students sign in, and creates extra administration work in completing our attendance module. Being late for school also gives the wrong message about the value of education and respecting other people’s time and efforts. For those who find it a struggle to get to school on time perhaps the following may be of some assistance.

No More Morning Madness!
Calm. Relaxed. Smiling. Words seldom heard when parents describe the morning routine on school days. No one wants to start their day in a frenzied mess of untied shoes and breakfast as they run out the door to school.

Follow these short recommendations for smoothing out those rough mornings.

Pack lunches the night before
If your child brings their lunch to school, pack it up the night before. Complaints about apple slices that have browned? Dip apple slices into orange juice before packing them up.

Pack the book bag
As you’re packing lunch, ask your child to pack their bookbag. Double check for things like library books, excursion permission forms, or other special items that need to be returned to school.

Think breakfast menu
Work with your child to write a short list of acceptable healthy breakfast foods. Turn the list into a menu that can be posted on the refrigerator and ask your child to fill it out before going to bed. Or, if it’s too hard to choose at night, a short list will make it easier to choose from in the morning. Don’t forget we have breakfast club every morning from 8.30 – 8.45 and best of all it’s free, compliments of Kick Start for Kids.

Go ahead, set that alarm clock
Now set it for 10 minutes earlier. Until a good school routine is established, recognise that everything will take extra time. Give your child (and yourself!) the cushion of a few extra minutes. Once your routine is in place, you may find you can get up a little later. These recommendations might not smooth out every wrinkle in your morning routine, but they may leave your family feeling a little calmer, relaxed, and who knows, maybe smiling!
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

We have commenced the annual nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability (‘the Collection’).

This will involve the collection of: the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students; the level of adjustment provided to students; and where known, the student’s type of disability.

Under the Collection model the definition of disability is broad and includes learning difficulties, health and mental health conditions.

If your child is identified for inclusion in the Collection, the required information about your child will be included in this year’s data collection.

If you have any questions about the data collection, or do not wish your child to be included in this data collection, please contact Kris Robson on 82785355.

Adelaide Botanic Gardens – Room 3

On Thursday the 19th of May, Room 3 went to the Adelaide Botanic Gardens for our unit of inquiry. Our central idea is, “Plants are essential to the environment, and humans have an impact on their survival.”

We went on the Aboriginal trail with Aaron and we had to observe and inquire about the plants that we were shown on the trail. We learnt about how Aboriginal people used plants for shelter, food and medical supplies. Our favourite plants were the Bottle Tree, Brachychiton Rupestre and the Parapara. The Bottle Tree was one of our favourites because it sounded like, water was inside and the splashing in the tree was so calming and amazing! The Parapara was our other favourite. It was very sticky and would probably stick to anything! We had a great time learning about plants!

By Michelle and Inara - Students

SAPSASA Cross Country

This term on Thursday, 28 of students from Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 participated in a big race called “Cross Country,” against lots of other schools. The 10 year olds who participated completed a 2km race and the 11, 12, 13 year olds did 3kms. We represented the school by wearing the school sports uniform. We were transported by parents in different groups. When we arrived we were all very excited by the different schools there. The 10 year olds boys and girls went first. The Blackwood representatives all did a great job with Luke making it into the District team to go to State Day. The 11 year olds were next in the same order; boys before the girls. We were very nervous waiting to start. At the start, lots of people were pushing but this stopped nearly straight after the whistle blew. The race puffed us out but it was a great feeling when we passed the finish line. We needed to sprint our hardest at the end to get a good place. The first kilometre was up hill and the second and third kilometres were all downhill. When someone passed you they gave you encouragement and that helped us to improve and have a positive attitude to running such a long way. It was a good feeling when you either passed someone or they passed you and said, “Good job keep going!” or “Well done you’re doing great job!” Thank you to Mrs Fuller who kindly used her spare morning time to help us to prepare and train us to do our best on the day. Out of the 28 runners, who ran on the day, 3 made it to State Day. These were Luke Beckham, Lily Morris-Yates and Riley Jones. Next year we aim to encourage more people to do cross country; it is loads of fun. It is good because it helps you to improve your running skills and gives you a feel of what it is like to achieve something. All runners improved their skills. Next year many of us are aiming to get better results in the race. Thanks also to Lisa who was a big help coming to every training and helping transport the competitors to the event. We would also like to thank all the drivers for volunteering to transport the kids to the event.

By Abbie and Daniel – Students

Blackwood High School Canteen Closed - Tuesday 14th June 2016

We would like to advise that the Blackwood High School Canteen will be closed on Tuesday 14th June 2016 on the Blackwood High School’s (only) Student Free Day.

No Lunches will be available for Blackwood Primary School on this day.
Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day

On the 18th of May our school had a Jump Off Day, it was on Wednesday Week Three, Term 2. The day was a whole lot of skipping and jumping. It was a whole lot of fun.

First of all we had an opening ceremony, the Jump Rope team did a skipping routine, at the end of that routine all the teachers started to skip and do skipping routines. Surprisingly the teachers were actually pretty good especially Mrs Fuller and Mr Bates, they were amazing. For us it was just funny to watch. Next we went to our starting stations and then we did the warm up run by Max, TJ and Bonnie. After the warm up we started to do our first activity. Some of the activities were long rope, short rope routine making, how many skips, short partner rope, helicopter, hoops, double dutch and running skipping. Those were some the fun activities we did. When we had finished an activity we would move on to another fun activity.

After recess we got to run a Jump Off for the Years 5, 6, 7 classes. Rianna and Kelly ran the warm up. Then other class members got to run activities. The activities were almost the same as Room 1, 2 & 3 except they got to use beaded ropes. Rianna and Kelly also helped everyone else with their activities. Jack and Manan were the event managers. That meant they basically run the whole thing, they made everything run smoothly.

Most people had fun participating in and running the Jump Off Day. Everyone had fun somehow, someway! Everyone did really well including the teachers with their routine. Thank you to everyone who has raised money. So far we have raised $3940. Let’s work together and see how much more money we can raise for such a worthy cause!

By Rianna and Mia

Children’s University

If your child is enrolled in Children’s University, I am in the office before school on Tuesday mornings to stamp passports for validated learning. School sports - basketball, netball, cricket & soccer, debating, jump rope and some OSHC and vacation care activities are all approved validated learning destinations.

Judy Adami
Children’s University Coordinator
Who We Are – The Human Body
Throughout Term 2, students in room 1 have been studying the human body. Our central idea for this unit of work was: “The human body is an intricate system that is constantly changing.” We investigated the structure and function of different body systems, the role they play in keeping us alive and the things we can do to stay fit and healthy.

Here are some reflections from students on what they learned during the unit:

- A fully grown human has 7000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000 atoms in their body – Daniel
- There are nearly 600 muscles in the body – Owen
- Eating food isn’t as easy as it sounds – Mia
- As you get older some bones fuse together – Peter
- You can hold half a litre of urine in your bladder before going to the toilet – Micaela
- When you are born you have more bones than adults do – Abigail
- The spinal cord has the most nerves in the body – Amelie
- A blood clot forms to heal a broken bone – Caitlin
- Stomach acid is very strong and it breaks food down – Mitchell
- Messages from the brain travel faster than a Formula 1 car – Jack
- An adult skeleton has 206 bones - Connor
- Your nose can remember 50, 000 scents – Max
- Stomach acid can burn a hole in the stomach lining – Alee
- The biggest muscle in the body is your gluteus maximus (bottom) – Suhani
- Tongues have over 1000 taste buds – Olivia C
- The hand has 27 bones – Abbie
- If you lined up all of the nerves in the body it would reach 60,000 miles – Manan
- There is 73 trillion cells in the body - Rian
- The stomach is one of the laziest parts of the body – Harry L
- Arteries pump blood away from the heart – Nadia
- Blood can be lots of different colours – Rianna
- Muscles help us to move – Olivia M
- There are 14 bones in the face area – Huw
- Every 10 days to two weeks your taste buds reset – Kelly
- The left part of your brain controls the right side of your body – Kai
- If you stretched your brain out flat it would cover a surfboard - Eva
Migration Museum - Room 4

On Monday the 30th of May, Room 4 went on an excursion with Miss A and Barbara, to the Migration Museum in Adelaide. At 8:45 am we started to walk to the station to catch the 9:00 train. Once aboard the train we all sat down for the journey to the city. When we arrived in the city we walked to the Migration Museum, and at the museum we sat under some shelter to eat our recess.

After recess our class was split into groups of five and we were led into a room nearby. In the room each group was put at a different table with a suitcase or a box to unpack and understand.

The idea of the activity was that we had to work out the story of the real person that owned the suitcase at that time that they migrated to Australia, and compare it to the actual story of the person. Some of the people’s stories were quite shocking as some people had to seek asylum. After we discovered the stories we went to the art gallery and looked at some paintings about what Australia looked like when migration was for the purpose of populating Australia.

By Caden and Nathaniel

Congratulations

Congratulations to Anita from Room 4 for her participation in the South Australian Rhythmic Gymnastics State Team in Melbourne last week. Anita performed well in all her events.
**Under 11 Soccer Carnival**

On Tuesday, 31 May 2016, thirteen members of the Blackwood PS under 11 soccer team participated in the annual Southern Districts Junior Soccer Association (SDJSA) carnival.

Blackwood’s first game was against Paringa Park. The game ended in a 0-0 draw, but we came close to scoring on several occasions. The second game, against St Teresa’s, was very competitive and our team defended strongly. Blackwood created several scoring opportunities and we hit the post twice, but the game ended in a 0-0 draw. Our third game, against Hawthorndene, produced a wonderful goal from a corner kick. The celebrations were wild, but short-lived when Hawthorndene equalized less than a minute later. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. The heavens opened up at the start of our final game, against Coromandel Valley, and the carnival was officially “washed out”, leaving many disappointed players on the pitch.

Thank you to Olivia’s brother, Caellan, who did an excellent job as referee. A special mention also goes to the families and friends of our players who braved the cold and persistent rain to cheer loudly for our team. The things we do for love!

I would like to congratulate all of the team for their excellent performance on the night, and for representing Blackwood PS in such a positive manner.

Jamie Offler  
Coach – Under 11 Team 2016

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**Living Diabetes SA – Blue Donation Clothing Bin**

We would like remind families that Blackwood Primary School is participating in Diabetes SA’s Donate and Educate Clothing Collection Program. If you have any pre-loved clothing that you would like to donate, please collect a bag from the Blue collection bin outside the Blackwood Primary School reception office and when you have filled it, drop it into the bin for collection.

*If you would like more information or to view the Living Diabetes SA current Newsletter, please visit the below link:*

BPS Playgroup

Playgroup is a supportive environment that encourages children to learn, share, connect and grow through creative and fun activities for 0-5 years old. It is just as beneficial for children and babies, as mums, dads, grandparents, carers and family members have a supportive, welcoming community that they can seek information, gain ideas and enjoy the friendly company.

Playgroup offers experiences based on the Early Learning Frameworks.
- free play with guidance of parents
- arts and crafts
- sand or water play
- outside play/ inside play
- communication skills (making friends)
- experiencing books
- learning to share, problem solve and take turns
- preparation for school
- more independence from parents
- a little more structure to play
- suitable baby activities and toys

In Term 1 Blackwood’s playgroup program focused on special events and the change of seasons. Children made art works that connected to their everyday lives as well as learnt more about Chinese New Year. As one of our playgroup members is Chinese, this special event allowed the parent and her child to express what this event meant to them through making traditional food and creating celebrative dragon and monkey masks. Change of season’s tree posters were also made by parents and children visually experienced the seasonal changes in our environment.

The Term 2 Blackwood program has been focusing more on the skill development of the playgroup community, supporting children to be more prepared for school. Activities have been focused on are tracing and threading to support fine motor skills and hand eye coordination, baby yoga and movement activities for gross motor. To support oral language development we have also been using a reading corner and story of the day for the end of each playgroup session.

Jade Tajnikar, SSO/Teacher who Coordinates with Dianne Deed, Pastoral Care Worker

Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard is bursting at the seams.

Has your child lost an item of clothing or their drink bottle/lunch box?

Please check the lost property cupboard in the main building.
Parents & Friends

Family Camp Out
Last weekend’s family camp out was wonderful. After being postponed from the weekend before due to torrential rains, we had the best weather. Thirty families attended and the front oval was turned into tent city for the night. James, the groundsman, lit a huge bonfire and the kids had a lot of fun toasting marshmallows and enjoying the opportunity to safely play with the fire. The kids roamed the oval and each other’s tents with their torches into the night. A light smattering of rain early in the morning got everyone up and moving quickly after a delicious breakfast of bacon and egg sandwiches. Thank you so much to all the parents who helped out, especially Brad who cooked dinner and breakfast on the BBQ and to Amy who organised the whole thing.

Get involved....
We always need volunteers, even if you can only commit to one event. More parents involved means a stronger and more supportive school community. If you are interested please contact via email on Blackwoodps.PandF28@schools.sa.edu.au or leave your details at the office.

Election Day BBQ & Cake Stall
The school will once again be a polling booth for Election Day on Saturday 2nd July. As a fundraiser for the school Parent and Friends will be organising a sausage sizzle/BBQ. The BBQ will be offering bacon and egg sandwiches and sausages from 8.00am.
We need help and support on the day. If you can spare an hour to help, please return the tear off reply slip on the note that will be sent home next week.
Keep your kids smiling

At the School Dental Service, dental care is FREE for all babies, children not yet at school and most children to age 17.

The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Call us now for an appointment!
Marion GP Plus Dental Clinic
Phone: 7425 8400

GifT Dance at Mitcham

The GifT Dance Program at Mitcham Girls High School offers girls the opportunity to develop their skills and passion for dance performance. Students develop creative, technical and physical understanding and an appreciation of dance as an art form.

With intensive and skilful coaching students become successful performers. Our GifT dance teacher is recognised as a leader in Dance Education. She has had professional experience with teaching expertise in ballet, contemporary dance and jazz dance technique, including choreography for musical theatre productions and national choirs. She has also played a significant role in the development of the SACE Dance curriculum and the management of Dance assessment in South Australia.

For those of you who love dance and want to share and develop your gift, GifT Dance at Mitcham Girls High School is for you.

Audition date: Monday 4th July 2016, 11.30am

Please register your interest at
www.mitchamgirls.sa.edu.au

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