An IB school valuing, supporting and inspiring a community of lifelong learners

2016 PYP Year 7 Exhibition

The PYP Exhibition at Blackwood Primary School has been a term-long inquiry in which students had a lot of freedom in the way they delved into the Central Theme that involved working scientifically to create solutions for issues at our school.

The Year 7s investigated a range of issues including:
The Environment, such as the use of electricity and litter around the school.
Health and Safety, such as well-being, relaxation, hygiene, fitness activities.
The impact of technology and healthy eating and Behavioural Science, including impacts on learning, noise levels, the use of devices and different learning styles.

A major component of the PYP Exhibition is taking Action. While some students have completed their Action, there are many who are mid-way through achieving their goals, as many issues take time to solve and therefore need more time to improve and develop.

Students are very much in charge of their own learning. With support and guidance from their teachers, students have directed their own inquiries and taken it in directions that they believe will be successful. They have taken risks and tried new things, learnt from their mistakes and reflected on their progress. As mature, independent learners, they are proud of their achievements and should be congratulated for their efforts.

Thank you to the students and staff of Blackwood for their support of the Year 7s this term, in particular to Barbara and Ms Gulliver for their extra support. Thank you to parents who have shown interest and helped their child during the process.

Primary Schools Festival of Music

On Wednesday 21st September 14 of our students performed on stage at Festival Theatre as part of the Public Primary Schools Festival of Music.

The Primary Schools Festival of Music is a public school-based music education program involving DECD and the SAPPS Music Society which gives all SA public primary students the opportunity to perform in an official state performance at Festival Theatre.

Our school is very proud of our senior choir and their commitment to learning and singing the wide repertoire of songs and choreography. We would like to commend Jodie, our Music and Performing Arts teacher, for all the hard work.
she has done throughout the year to get our students to perform at the high levels required.

Georgie and Gwenda are two extremely talented students who were chosen to represent Blackwood Primary School as soloists in the Festival. James was also chosen to be a part of the Troupe (who entertained us during the performance) and Young Young was chosen to be play with the Orchestra. Congratulations to everyone who participated in this wonderful extravaganza.

Phil Garner, Principal
Governing Council Chairperson Report Term 3

The Governing Council welcomed the news that the Parkour playground has been approved and work will commence shortly, this will be a great new way for our kids to play. We also thank those parents who voiced their support for the proposed Nature Play Space in Wittunga Botanical Gardens. While no decision has been made as yet, it would be marvellous if this new outdoor play space could be next door.

We heard of the inventive costumes that were put together by the children (and parents, grandparents and other carers!) for Book Week. We look forward to having the new Reading Garden in the Junior Primary area for our children to read in, and ask you to consider helping with the next working bee if you can.

Some year 5s and 6s welcomed some newly arrived refugees with donated books and toys, and made new friends, which helped to bring a new depth of understanding to their classroom lessons.

We noted with sadness that Nigel Jamieson has moved on from our OSHC team and we thank him for his work, particularly in the finance side of running the service. We will be announcing our new OSHC director very soon. In the meantime, we are moving to direct debit as our only method of payment for OSHC from term 4. If you use OSHC but you haven’t already got the direct debit form, please contact OSHC today. We also thank outgoing Governing Council Treasurer Elise Ruthenbeck and welcome our new treasurer Kirrily Burton.

And lastly, I look forward to Bluearth sports day on Wednesday next week and the Halloween-themed Bingo night on Saturday 29 October, hosted by yours truly, to raise funds for a new PA system in Ashby Hall. See you there!

SAPSASA 12 and Under Team Australia Swimming Championships

Congratulation to Alicia who was selected to compete in the School Sport Australia Swimming Championships that were held in Darwin, NT from 15th – 21st September 2016.

Junior Women’s Inline Hockey State Team

Congratulations to Jamie who has been selected to the Junior Women’s Inline Hockey State team and will be competing in Melbourne on 23rd September to 1st October.

Good Luck with the competition.
Student Free Day – Monday 17th October (1st day Term 4)

We would like to remind all families that the first day back in Term 4 Monday 17th September is a Student Free Day and staff will be doing Numeracy Training and Development on this day.

Please ensure that if you need to book OSHC on this day that you have made your booking by 9am Thursday 29th September. If there are insufficient booking for this student free day – OSHC will not operate and those families who have book will be notified.

Rooms 8 & 10 Excursion to Railway and Aviation Museums

On Monday 29th August, Rooms 8 and 10 took a journey into railway and aviation history. We visited the Railway and Aviation Museums in Port Adelaide, exploring the amazing trains and planes from long ago. This was for our unit of inquiry ‘Where We Are in Place and Time’ to learn about how technology in transport has impacted people’s lives.

We began at the railway museum where a volunteer showed us a film about the Tea and Sugar train and how it played an important part in the lives of people living in the outback. Then in small groups with our own wonderful parent volunteers, we explored the museum. We were able to climb into the cabs of the giant steam engines, walk through the interesting carriages and participate in some interactive and visual displays, before enjoying a ride on a mini steam train around the museum grounds.

After lunch, we walked down the road to the Aviation Museum. There we were met by a group of volunteers, some being former pilots, who guided us through the museum. They explained how the aircraft fly and work and how air transport has changed from 1900 to modern times. They talked about flight in South Australia and of the famous male and female pilots. We also got to see how they restore old aircraft to look new again. The best part was being able to board some of the aeroplanes and a helicopter to get a feel of what it was like inside one of these old aircraft.

It was a wonderful highlight for both classes this term! A special thanks, to all the parent volunteers for accompanying us and assisting throughout the day.

Ingrid Lord, Room 8
Veta Grigoris, Room 10
Room 9 Class Update – Ms Chantal Rae

Room 9 have been extremely busy! We recently completed a Unit of Inquiry that saw us investigate how people express thoughts, feelings and ideas through performances. The children then had the opportunity to work with peers or individually and present a form of entertainment in front of others. Room 9 presented some of these acts when we hosted assembly in week 7. Tristan, Hunter, Maeve and Logan hosted Room 9’s Got Talent, whilst Annika, Flynn and Jamie issued their professional and personal opinions on the four different acts performed by Room 9 students. In front of a live audience Lucas and Lucius cut Juliet in half and the judges put them through to the next round!

We were eagerly awaiting sunshine and a break from the rain so we could put our Reading Garden plan into action. Friday, week 8 saw a group of volunteers work alongside James to implement the first stage of the transformation. While our hardworking team removed stumps, lifted heavy blocks and made a retaining wall, we sat nearby making bird feeders.

Term 3 is a great time for reflection and goal setting, and with Student Led Conferences this week, the children have been critically analysing and using their personal data tracking sheets to set new goals and identify their growth and development. We use the Learning Pit analogy and the research derived from Carol Dweck’s research on fixed and growth mindsets. There are lots of things that we can’t do…YET!

A huge shout out and thank you to all our wonderful volunteers that came out to help transform our garden space last Friday! Your hard work and effort is really appreciated- all staff, children and families are amazed and excited about the transformation.

Ms Chantal Rae - Room 9

Blackwood Primary School thanks our volunteers for this day and all the other days that you so generously help out in every way.

Please watch this space- we may require more help in the near future.

Playgroup every Thursday 9am-11am

This term we have been focusing on our 5 senses such as smell, touch, see, taste and hear. The activities we have been doing have been designed to explore these senses using our fine motor skills, such as using tongs to pick up objects being animals or nature in our discovery jars and tray. To explore smell we have looked at all the different types of spices we can use in our cooking such as cinnamon, vanilla, and nutmeg. In exploring sound we have used cooking utensils and pots and pans to look at how different objects and textures sound.

We have had 8 new families enrol into our supportive playgroup community this term which is wonderful! We are looking forward to seeing many new people next term to join into our fun games and activities and share a good conversation over a coffee.

Have a sunny school holidays!

From Jade Tajnikar and Dianne Deed - Playgroup
Netball Season 2016
Wow I can hardly believe the season is over, and we only got rained on a couple of times!

We had three great teams this year representing Blackwood Primary, E3, C2 and A3. It was wonderful watching the girls work together as a team and really begin to enjoy the game. They should all be very proud of themselves as being part of a team can lift and elevate the performance of an individual to heights never before achieved. Each of the girls also learned to recognise their own strengths in the game.

We would not have these teams if it were not for our amazing volunteer coaches. A huge thank you to Erin, Kerry and Scott for all of your dedicated time, patience and persistence. The girls were most fortunate to have your support throughout the season.

On Saturday after our last match we all met in Apex park for an end of season celebration. We had a great turn out where all players ate sausages, drank a fruit box, gobbled up cupcakes, lolly bags and jelly cups. Oh, and most importantly received a well-deserved trophy and ribbon to take home.

I hope to see the girls all play again next year. Kind regards Libby Matson, Netball Coordinator 2016

Soccer Season 2016
Another enjoyable soccer season has finished, concluding with a very wet trophy presentation earlier this month! The weather didn’t spoil the celebrations however, and a great time was had by all on the day, especially during our players’ vs parents’ games!

We had over 40 players register across three age groups this season; Under 9, Under 11 and Seniors. Not only did we welcome back many familiar faces, but we also saw lots of new players, particularly in the U9 Team who were playing for the very first time. I would like to thank all the players and their families for their support and enthusiasm during the season. The players gave their all each game, improving their skills and learning to work together as a team….and most importantly; great fun was had by all.

And finally, a big thank you to our coaches, Olly (U9), Jamie (U11) and Bence and Daniel (Seniors) as well as our resident referee Lincoln Herring for all their hard work and dedication throughout the season…there wouldn’t be school soccer without you.”

Claire Dunstall, Soccer Coordinator 2016

Pastoral Care Worker Update
Term 3 began with our Annual School Ministry Group (SMG) Conference and training.

Kickstart for Kids breakfast program is great fun, even on Thursday, our busy hot chocolate morning. Breakfast is free, the cost is covered by Café 53 of Mitcham Square Shopping Centre. We have great volunteers who also provide the drinking chocolate, thanks to Udo, Gill and Nicole.

Mentors from both Kickstart for kids and Kids Hope are cooking, doing craft or games and school work with some of our students once a week.

Beacon Emergency Relief Service of 8278 8666, have helped a number of families this term.

As usual, the Circle of Friends groups continue. We run approximately 12-14 groups per week. The groups are a good time to learn how to be a good friend and how to make friends and listen to each other.

Playgroup for me is, preparing fruit for the children, coffee for the adults and helping clean up and mixing with parents and children.. Every week is different and thankfully I still enjoy my role as a Pastoral Care Worker. If you would like to catch up with me, my days at school are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8.30am to 3.00pm.
2017 Materials and Services Charge

At the next Governing Council meeting, which will be held on Tuesday 1st November at 7pm in the Blackwood Primary School Staff room, the 2017 Materials and Services Charge will be approved. Parents who would like to discuss the fees are welcome to attend the meeting. In lieu of attendance at the meeting, parents can express their views in writing to the Chairperson of the Governing Council to reach the school by 3pm on Tuesday 1st November 2016. The charge proposed for 2017 is $360 which is above the standard sum. For this reason we will soon be posting families a voting slip seeking their approval to make the full amount of the charge legally recoverable.

A copy of the proposed M & S charges is displayed below.
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JESSICA TRENGOVE

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sala.as.org.au/holidayclinics

December 2016 & January 2017
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Sports & Activities
South Australian sporting and recreation bodies have come together to provide a coordinated program of Come’n Try sessions for 5 to 16 year olds.

It’s all happening in the second week of the Spring holidays (Mon 10th October – Fri 14th October) and sessions start from 9am.

Instead of just one session, many associations are providing Come’n Try on multiple days at different times and as everything takes place around the Park Lands or in the CBD it’s quick to get from one location to another.

When & Where

FEES & BOOKINGS
While costs may differ from activity to activity, most sessions cost around $10 so a full day of Come’n Try could cost as little as $30.

All sessions must be booked and paid for in advance at www.comentry.com.au

For further information please contact ‘Life. Be in it’ on 8362 2150.

For all information and bookings visit: www.comentry.com.au

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