NEWSLETTER

Week 7 Term 1 2023

Blackwood Primary School

Principal: Kris Robson
Deputy Principal: Amanda Gulliver

4 Seymour Street, Eden Hills 5050 Phone: 8278 5355 www.blackwoodps.sa.edu.au

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

Important Diary Dates

Tuesday 21 March
Harmony Day

Governing Council Mtg 6pm

Friday 24 March
National Ride 2 School Day

Cricket 5/6 Comp at Hallett Cove

Monday 27 March
School Photo Day

Thursday 30 March
SAPSASA District Athletics Day

Week 10
3 Way Conferences

The term is really moving past quickly and students are now well settled into their new learning for 2023. This year, as a whole school, we have focussed on a the central idea that *"Caring for ourselves and others helps to build a respectful and supportive community."* This central idea was developed with input from students, staff and parents.

Each year level has been working on different aspects of this central idea and it is really pleasing to see some of our Senior students stepping up to offer suggestions for projects to help us be more caring of not only each other, but also the environment. I have had several meetings with students who are wanting to take the lead in some of these projects and look forward to these students implementing their suggestions and ideas to help us become an even more caring and supportive community.

During Week 6, the polling for our Governing Council was open and I am pleased to announce our Governing Council for 2023 is:

- Sebastian Pawelski (Ongoing member)
- Danni Nicholas-Sexton (Ongoing member)
- Niven Khosa (Ongoing member)
- Nikki Peachey (Ongoing member)
- Leslie Morrison (Ongoing member)
- Ryan Kitchen (Newly elected member)
- Emma Doran (Newly elected member)
- Tahlia Eddy (Newly elected member)
- Lisa Reichstein (Newly elected member)

The first meeting of the newly elected council is on Tuesday 21st March where we will elect our Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. Thank you to everyone who nominated for Governing Council and all parents who voted for the new council. Remember that the council is there to represent you so feel free to contact any of the above people with suggestions and feedback. I look forward to working with the new council in 2023.

3 Way Conferences
Shortly you will receive an invitation to attend 3 Way conferences with your children. This is a great opportunity to meet with classroom teachers and your child to discuss learning progress and help to develop some further learning goals.

So Why 3 Way Conferences?
3 Way conferences allow for students to have a voice in their learning and discussion of their progress. They help to build home- school relationships so that students can see their parents working in partnership to assist in their learning. 3 Way Conferences place the most important person at the heart of the assessment process; the student.
So please take the opportunity to join with us in supporting your child on their learning journey and book a 3 Way Conference with your child's teacher.

School Information

Student Absence

If your child will be **absent** from school, please send a txt through the

School Star App

or

SMS Text to 0427 016 460

***

Term Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Monday	8:15 – 9:15
Wednesday	12.45 - 1.30
Friday	8:15 – 9:15
	3:00 – 3:45

Ph: 8350 7933

***

KickStart Breakfast

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
8:30am
Outside the Canteen

***

Lost and Found

Ensure all items are clearly labelled so we can return them to you and check the lost and found cupboard for missing items.

***

BPS Playgroup

Thursdays
0 – 4 year olds
9am to 11am
OSHC Room

***

School Tour Days

We offer school tours for new families & new students.
Contact Reception on 8278 5355 for the next tour date and to book.

***

To join, search for Blackwood PS Scene in Facebook and click on the Join button.

Autism Inclusion Teachers in South Australia: Bridging the Gap

In recent years, there has been a growing awareness and understanding of autism in society. As more people become familiar with autism, schools are taking steps to provide an inclusive learning environment for students with autism. In South Australia, one of the ways the Department for Education is aiming for this to be achieved is through the work of Autism Inclusion Teachers.

Autism Inclusion Teachers (AITs) are teachers at each public school who will aim to provide support and assistance to students with autism in mainstream schools via the sharing of knowledge and latest best practice with the staff at that school.

I am the Autism Inclusion Teacher at Blackwood Primary. I currently teach in the Year 5/6 team and am keen and enthusiastic to support students at Blackwood Primary to achieve their personal best. As the training progresses I plan to work closely with classroom teachers, student support officers, parents and carers to ensure that students with autism are included in all aspects of school life. This includes the academic, social and emotional aspects of school. During week 5, I attended a two day workshop hosted by Positive Partnerships with other AITs from across the state. In Week 6, I was lucky to spend the day listening to Professor Barry Carpenter who presented three lectures on mental health, neurodiversity and routes to learning, autism in girls and decoding foetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

The role of AITs can include helping with social interactions, communication, academic task design, and sensory regulation opportunities. Through a network of AITs who meet on a regular basis, documents and knowledge will be filtered down to our staff to best understand how we can all support students with autism at BPS. The AIT network also provides collaborative meetings with other professionals, such as speech therapists and occupational therapists.

The key goal I have for the AIT role at BPS is to create an inclusive learning environment for all our students. This will be achieved through:

- Using some of my allocated time each fortnight to work with classroom teachers to ensure that learning is accessible for students with autism and students with disabilities.
- The AIT training and upskilling to help me provide resources to teachers, so they are better equipped to support students with autism.

This collaborative approach is designed to ensure that students with autism are included in all aspects of the classroom, and their unique strengths and challenges are recognised.

Kate Johnson
Autism Inclusion Teacher

Student Free & School Closure Days 2023

Tuesday 13th June - Student Free Day
Friday 8th September – School Closure Day
Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th October - Student Free Day (first 2 days of term 4)

There is 1 more Student Free Day to be decided.

Twilight Picnic – 3rd March

Giant Connect Four and a patch-work of rugs set the scene for Blackwood Primary School's first Twilight Picnic of 2023.
Great weather, great food and fabulous families made the event a huge success. It was lovely to see so many people enjoying the warm evening sunshine, while their children played. Conversations flowed, platters were shared and laughter hung in the air. It was also lovely to see new families make connections with existing families of the school, while their children bounced balls, made rows of 4 or enjoyed a swing in the playground. Definitely all the right ingredients for a twilight gathering.
Staff and Parents and Friends (P&F) committee would like to thank everyone for supporting the event and hope there can be more community gatherings throughout the year.

Social Work Student

Hi, my name is April and I'm the student social worker at Flinders University. I'm here to learn from the teachers, students and parents with a focus on how to best support the Blackwood Primary School community. I will be here on Placement until the end of Term 2.

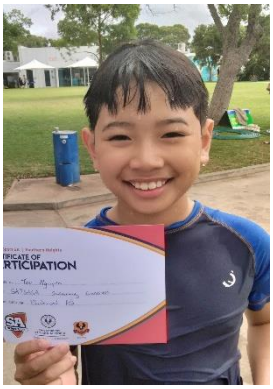
Where you can find me: I'll be at school from Tuesday to Friday. In the mornings I'll be helping at Breakfast Club. You can also find me walking around the yard at recess and lunch! Come up and say hi!

Hobbies: I enjoy hanging out with friends, walking my dog and Yoga! I wonder what you enjoy doing?

Thank you to all who have introduced themselves and made me feel so welcome. Looking forward to meeting all your smiling faces!

Sports Update

It has been a busy few weeks with lots of great stories and achievements. To start with, a big congratulations to Lawson from Room 1 for getting a gold medal for 10 year boys diving. Lawson completed several tough dives such as somersault and tuck dive on 1m boards and 3m platform. We are still waiting to hear if Lawson will make the state team for diving.



SAPSASA Swimming

On the 1st of March we had 8 brave students represent the school in SAPSASA swimming. They all did really well, breaking some PBs and placing in some heats. I am really proud of their effort and commitment. For some of our swimmers it was the first time they have competed in a swimming event.

Athletics Day

On the 2nd of March we had 10 years + Athletics day. It was a wonderful day. Thank you to all the parents that came out to support your child in their events and another big thank you to all the students who showed great risk taking, and being principled on the day. I loved the cheering and positive support all the students gave towards each other. Another big thank you goes to the SEDA students who came out and supported the day.

Athletic House team points
Bradman came 4th with 241 points
Fraser came 3rd with 318 points
Rosewall came 2nd with 354
And the winners of the day with a massive 496 points was Thomson

Well done on another fantastic whole school event. Individual medals and the SAPSASA Athletics Team will be decided at a later date in a school assembly.

Upcoming events

- 5/6s Boys cricket team versus Hallett Cove East on the 24th of March.
- 5/6s Netball tryouts will happen in the next couple of weeks for a school team to enter SAPSASA Carnival.

Reminders

- Wednesdays at 8:10am before school Year 4 - 6s Athletics Field events training (High jump, Shot Put and Discus).
- Fridays 8:10am before school Cross Country Training, where everyone is welcome (parents too) to run around the school on a 600m track.

Something New - Bike Riding In the Gully

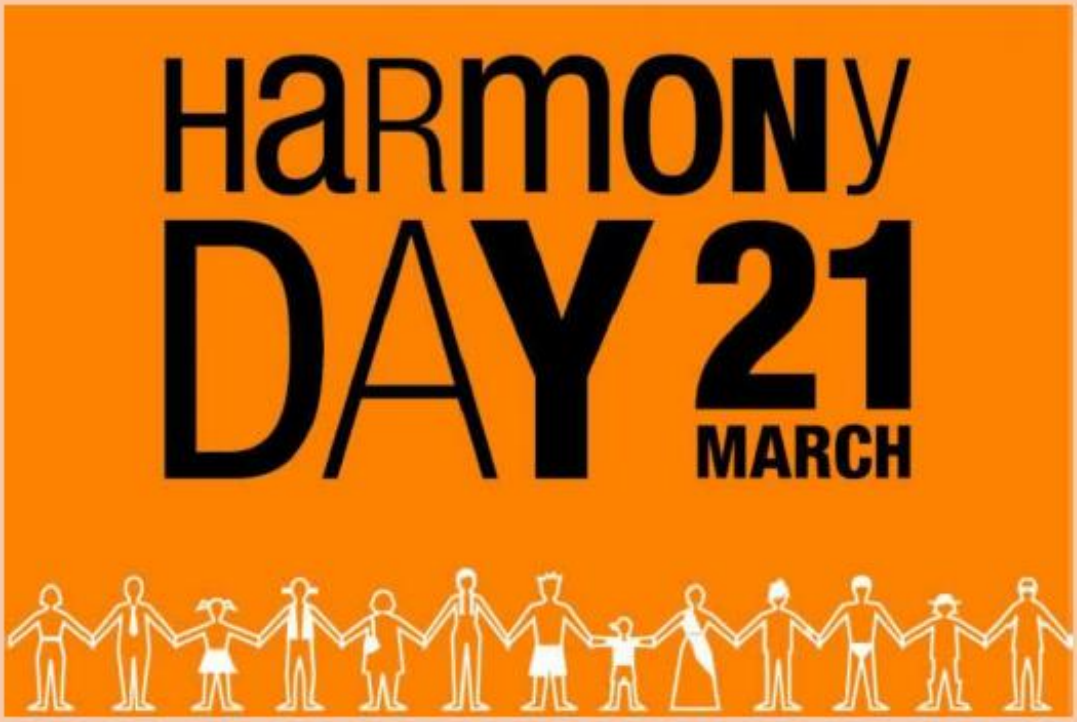
Thursday lunch times the Gully will be open for children to ride in the gully. This is to encourage more students to ride to school. All ages are welcome and we will be developing a track over the course of the term. So remember to ride to school on Thursdays.

National Ride2School Day is Australia's biggest celebration of active travel and one of the best days on the school calendar. It is a day full of fun and colour where students, teachers and parents discover the joy of riding and kick-start healthy habits for the future.

What are the benefits of riding to school?

- It helps children get enough exercise
- It reduces pollution
- It improves children's health and wellbeing
- It helps children learn about road safety
- It's fun!

How are you getting to school on Friday March 24th?



WEAR ORANGE OR CLOTHING THAT REPRESENTS YOUR CULTURE

Harmony Day is on **Tuesday** of Week 8 – yes, **next week**.

Students are invited to wear:

- School uniform with a splash of orange
- All orange clothing, or
- Cultural clothing that represents your heritage

Thank you for your support

(This is not a fund-raiser, so gold coin donations will not be necessary.)

msp photography

Say Cheese

School Photo Day is: **MONDAY 27TH MARCH 2023**

Have your child's school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don't seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon *request and need to be ordered before or on photography day.* Please make your children aware they are having a family photo.
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash, cheques, credit card and money orders accepted.

Why not give ONLINE ORDERING a go!!
It's the safest & easiest way to order

Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.
email: admin.adelaidesouth@msp.com.au ph: 08 83913951

Oliphant Science Awards

Are you interested in Science?
Do you want to take part in the largest Science Competition in South Australia?
Are you ready to take charge of your own learning?
Do you want a chance to win $500?

Blackwood Primary School will be entering the Oliphant Science Award and we are looking for students that are willing to spend their own time to create interesting, thought provoking science projects.

The Oliphant Science Awards have been running for over 40 years and is a great way to expand your knowledge, get credit for your hard work and could lead to a career in science.

The Oliphant Science Awards are broken into year level groups and categories, so there is something for everyone.

Year Level Groups	**Categories**
R-2	Crystal Investigation
3-4	Games
5-6	Models & Inventions
	Multimedia
	Photography
	Posters
	Programming, Apps & Robotics
	Science Writing
	Scientific Inquiry

To find out more information please visit
http://www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au/

If your child is interested in participating in the Oliphant Science Award please email me on John.darrell961@schools.sa.edu.au

In your email please include your child's full name, class and the category they wish to enter. I will then forward on ideas, links and the registration form. I look forward to seeing all the wonderful entries.

Thank You
John Darrell

BLACKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Inspiring Achievement and Respect

4 Seymour Street, Eden Hills SA 5050

Phone: 8278 0900 Fax: 8278 0999

www.bhs.sa.edu.au **bhs.info994@schools.sa.edu.au**

Attention: Year 6 Families

Blackwood High School invites you to book a

PRINCIPAL'S TOUR

9:00am - 10:00am

Friday

5 May	12 May
26 May	2 June
9 June	30 June

Bookings required
To book please visit our website

Please note above tours are only for Year 6 families. Tours for other year levels are available from August - December and a limit of 2 adults and 1 child per family.

Government of South Australia
Department for Education
CRICOS No 00018A

URRBRAE
SCIENCE WITH PRACTICE

URRBRAE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

The foremost Agricultural High School in South Australia

Urrbrae Offers

- A focus on Agriculture, Technology & the Environment
- Academic Excellence • Rural Industry Pathways
- Extra Curricular Agricultural Clubs

Term 1 Principal Tours please see website for details and bookings

Urrbrae Agricultural High School

505 Fullarton Road, Netherby SA 5062 Ph: (08) 8274 7455

www.urrbraehs.sa.edu.au

Government of South Australia
Department for Education