



# NEWSLETTER

Week 10 Term 2 2023



Principal: Kris Robson  
Deputy Principal: Clare O'Neill

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

## Important Diary Dates

**Friday 7 July**  
**Last Day of Term 2**  
**2.20pm finish**

**Monday 24 July**  
Term 3 commences

**Monday 31 July**  
RSPCA R/1 & 1/2  
incursion

**Tuesday 1 August**  
P&F Mtg 6pm

**Friday 8 June**  
Assembly 2.30pm  
Year 2/3 classes  
presenting

**Tuesday 8 August**  
Gov. Council Mtg 6pm

We have made it to week 10 term 2, half way through the year! Since I've started at Blackwood Primary School I have been welcomed with kindness and lots of learning. It has been a lovely end to my term, and even though I know most of our students are ready for their holidays, I'm also hopeful that all of our students and staff are heading into their holidays on a high, reflecting on all the things that have been learned and experienced this term.



This term has been a busy one. We have had swimming, Footsteps, Japanese quiz day, shared SRC collaborative sessions at Eden Hills Primary School and a student free day to name a mere few. It has been wonderful to see so many students engage in their learning and it was lovely to see Blackwood Primary staff engage in their learning on the student free day as well. On our student free day the staff went down the Maths and Numeracy rabbit hole and looked into how we can improve our skills and knowledge to support our students reach their highest potential within Maths. We are hoping that our staff learning next term will continue on this track as we excitedly look forward to working with Katherine Murdoch who will enhance our own pedagogy when it comes to teaching Maths later in Term 3.

### OSHC

Dee has been a welcome addition to the OSHC family this term, and she has hit the ground running. Dee brings a lot of experience and knowledge with her and we are happy to have her on board. She has enjoyed getting to know all of the students and staff and with her friendly nature. I'm sure she will be friends with everyone in no time!

### Family Games Night

Last Friday night our Parents and Friends committee held a family games night which was a great success. It saw upwards of 15 families come together in the library to play games and connect with each other. It seemed like it was a good night for all and was a nice way to finish up the term. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers that organised the event and thanks to Sacha Uern, Casey Turner and Kate Johnson would turned up and supported on the night.

### Uniforms

We have recently changed our uniform suppliers to UMS. We don't have an official date yet as to when our onsite uniform shops will be back up and running, but the online shop is live and ready to go now for orders <https://umspl.com.au/> The shop front at Shop 2 985-987 South Road Melrose Park ph: 0431 776 713 is open and they will take orders if not in stock.

### Reports

This Friday your child will bring home their Mid-Year Report. Many hours of work go into writing these reports in a way to provide useful information for students and parents. These reports provide a great opportunity for your child to be able to reflect on where they are in their learning, what successes they've had and set some goals for the remaining two terms. Please take the time to read through this report with your child and discuss areas of success and areas of improvement with them.

Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me so kindly into the Blackwood Primary School community and who has contributed to a wonderful term. I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable school holiday period and look forward to another rewarding term, filled with more wonderful learning experiences, in Term 3.



## 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**

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### 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

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### KickStart Breakfast

Monday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday  
8:30am

Outside the Canteen

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### 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.

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### BPS Playgroup

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

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### 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.

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



## Acknowledgment of Country *By Isabel (house leader)*

We acknowledge and honour our respects to the Kaurana people, land, sea and sky, in which we live and travel through today and respect the importance for Indigenous Country. We continue to accept and thrive in our diverse communities and honour our respects to their spiritual beliefs and incredible culture.

### Why is this important?

Acknowledgements of Country are an important way to address and celebrate the Indigenous peoples of Australia and are used by non-Indigenous peoples for events varying from school assemblies to sporting events and even theatre plays. Although you may hear these very often, you may not notice their meanings or even significance. It is important that we reflect on the past to build a better future, and acknowledgment of Country is one way we can do this. An acknowledgment of Country is different to a Welcome to Country, which is a similar procedure performed by Indigenous people to welcome us to the land.

## Belair Hotel Fundraiser

During the month of May Blackwood Primary School had the opportunity of joining the Belair Hotel in a unique fund-raising opportunity. Five dollars from every meal served in the front bar during May was allocated to our school.

This scheme was established during the height of the Covid crisis, when many community-based businesses (including schools) were struggling to meet rental needs or to offer those optional extras to customers and students.

Jenny, our IB Curriculum Coordinator/Teacher Librarian, secured our school and, thanks to this generous initiative, was thrilled to receive a cheque for \$920. This really highlights our amazing community who really are trying to 'support local'. The money will be used for one of our up-and-coming fundraising projects coordinated via our Parents and Friends Committee.

Thank you to Chris and the team at The Belair Hotel for including us in this scheme and for your kindness. If you haven't had a meal there lately then make a booking and check out their latest menu – our turn to support local.

Jenny Allard



## Early Dismissal Last Day of Term, 2.20pm

To secure a space in OSHC for after school on Friday 14 April, please book using the My Family Lounge APP, booking under the 'Early Finish Roll'.

## State Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to Amon for coming second in the 10 Year Old Boys age group at the State Cross Country Championships at Oakbank Racecourse on Thursday of Week 6. Amon completed the muddy 2km track in 8:04:83, just 3 seconds behind the winner in a field of nearly 200 runners. Well done Amon.



## SAPSASA Soccer

Well done to our team of 14 boys who competed in the first round of the statewide knockout soccer competition for Year 5 and 6 students. On Wednesday of Week 8 the team played three matches at Frank Smith Park at Coromandel Valley. In the first match they were beaten 0-5 by Reynella East College. In the second match they were narrowly beaten by Reynella Primary School 0-1 and in the final game they were beaten 0-4 by Coromandel Valley Primary School. A big thank you to Amy Jennings, James Cassell, Tim Clarke and Adele Foran for transporting students and supporting the team. A big thanks also to Tim Clarke for running the line in all three matches.

Chris Bates



## Marine Discovery Centre Excursion – Rooms 7, 9 and 12

In Week 7, Rooms 7, 9 and 12 went on an excursion to the Marine Discovery Centre at Henley Beach. We went on the excursion because we are learning all about ecosystems for our Sharing the Planet unit of inquiry.

We travelled by bus to the Marine Discovery Centre. When we got there we had recess and Kano told us all about the rules at the Centre. We went inside and we learned all about rubbish and how we can reduce it by recycling as much as we can. We learned about KESAB, which stands for Keep South Australia Beautiful. We also learned about the giant rubbish patches that form in the middle of our oceans, caused by currents.

After that we walked to the beach. We got in groups with an adult and went beach combing. Some of the interesting things we saw included sea urchins, sea sponges, sea squirts, anemones, clam shells, razor shells and Neptune's necklaces, which look like a bunch of grapes. We also saw multiple rips in the ocean.

When we got back we had lunch and played on the nature playground. After lunch we broke up into 4 groups and got to do different activities. In one room we wore VR headsets. It felt like we were swimming with seals and the seals were trying to bite us. In another room we learnt all about aboriginal culture from Kano. He taught us how to play a didgeridoo. We got to use some of the wooden tools. In another room there were lots of tanks with different kinds of fish. Some of them were puffer fish, sea horses and catfish. We learned that the male seahorses give birth and that only 2% of their eggs survive. In the final room we learned more about recycling and how long it takes for plastic to break down. Some types of plastic take up to 1 million years to breakdown.

It was a really fun day and we learned heaps about marine ecosystems.

By Room 7



## Rooms 7, 9 and 12 Units of Inquiry

### Who We Are

The Year 3/4 classes began this year focusing on 'Who We Are' which is our whole school unit of inquiry that Rooms 7, 9 and 12 are exploring all year. The central idea is, 'Caring for ourselves and others helps to build a respectful and supportive community'. We have been inquiring into how challenge helps us grow and achieve our goals, the impact our choices have on others and action we can take to support our community. To show that we care for ourselves and others, we made kindness collaborative artworks, painted a class kindness tree and created a 'Random Acts of Kindness' board. We discovered more about growth mindset and now know that it's okay to be in the learning pit when we are challenged because we have so many people around us who can help. Goal setting has been a big part of our learning growth this year. Through setting goals and reflecting upon them, we know what we can do to grow in our learning. We also created Vision Boards to depict our goals and dreams for 2023 and beyond. We look forward to seeing where this unit of inquiry will take us throughout the rest of this year.



### How We Organise Ourselves

Our second unit of inquiry this year was all about volunteers. Our central idea was "Local and global communities rely upon the action of people to support them". We inquired into how and why people volunteer and the ways we can help. We invited guest speakers into our classes and had many parents and family members talk to us about how they volunteer their time. Jo from Room 9 invited the CFS to visit our school. They spoke to us about what they do and let us use their fire hoses. We researched how people volunteer at our school and found out that there are nearly 100 people who have helped our school so far this year. We made them thank you cards and gave them out during volunteer week which was during Week 3 of this term.



## Sharing the Planet

Our final unit of inquiry for the semester was about exploring ecosystems. The central idea is 'Ecosystems are maintained when there is a balance of organisms within them'. We inquired into components and location of ecosystems, similarities and differences between ecosystems, and human impact on ecosystems. We learnt about some of the major ecosystems in the world and the roles within them. We used our knowledge of roles in the ecosystem to investigate food chains and food webs. We investigated the many human impacts on ecosystems and tried to provide solutions to these problems. In week 7, we were able to visit the Marine Discovery centre and participate in a range of activities that sparked our curiosity and deepened our understanding of the marine ecosystem. Finally, we inquired further into a chosen ecosystem and created triaramas that represented the living and non-living things that belong to the ecosystem and supported our designs with an informative report.



## Numeracy at Blackwood Primary School

This year we have had a whole school focus on using the Teaching and Learning Cycle to plan and deliver mathematics in our classrooms.

At our Student Free Day, the Junior and Middle Primary staff analysed our students' data to inform our planning for Semester 2. Staff showed interest in further exploring how we can support students' understanding and next steps in Number.

The year 5/6 teachers looked into the Learning Assessment Framework, or 'Danger Zone Maths' as it's known to our students. Danger Zone Maths is taught across the Year 5/6 classes and students are split into flexible groups. We have a focus each lesson on a Number concept. Here are what some of our students think about Danger Zone Maths:

Marshall - In Danger Zone math's we are doing arrays and groups of certain things. It's really fun.

Wyatt - I think I'm starting to get a good understanding of the learning.

Will - Danger Zone Maths is a good way to practise our problem solving.

Zosia - It's really good. It helps me with maths,

## Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard was bursting at the seams!

During Week 10, a table will be placed at the front of the Reception Office with items of uniform, lunch boxes and drink bottles. Please look through to claim any lost items.

Any unclaimed/unnamed items will be sold as second hand, or donated at the end of the term.

Don't forget to name all uniform clothing (hats, shirts, jackets/windcheaters) as well as drink bottles and lunch boxes.



## Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day

We held our Jump Rope Jump Off Day on Friday of Week 8, with all classes having the chance to demonstrate their skipping skills across the day.

A huge thank you for the effort skipping and fundraising for the Jump Rope for Heart program this term.

Together we raised an incredible **\$3496**, and this money will all go towards vital heart research and education programs.

We've loved seeing so many smiling faces skipping on the playground and in PE lessons. Below you can see some photos of our students in action across the day.

Here's our school leaderboard, congratulations to our top fundraisers! Keep up the skipping and thanks again for the hard work!

Charlotte C	\$402
Siobhan	\$280
Dylan	\$259
Lauchlan	\$240
Victoria	\$169

Chris Bates and Janita Bentley





## Yr 6 Japanese Quiz Day

On the 15th of June, Year 6's from Rooms 2, 4 and 5 participated in the Year 6 Japanese Quiz Day. The students were Aliya, Izzy, Harper, Chirana, Onadee, Aasini, Rishana and Kei. There were 8 rounds. The topics included geography, numbers, hiragana, true or false and more.



Onadee from Room 4 said, "We were in teams with students from other schools, and had to work together to answer the questions given. It was fun and a great experience for us. There were lots of Year 6's at the competition. Our school participants had to be separated into 3 groups, and we went with other school kids to form our teams. True or False was my favourite round. Our team got bonus points for getting the questions right. It was challenging but fun."



It was a great experience for us to work together with our groups and to answer questions. My teammates were Aasini and Kei, and students from other schools as well. In the end we were close to tying with another team. But we came first! The Japanese Quiz Day is a great way to work with others and share your knowledge.

Written by Rishana

## Nature Play

Last week, Room 18 and Room 20 were invited to take part in a Nature Play session in Wittunga. Students were very excited to walk through Wittunga and when we arrived we were greeted by Cameron, one of the Nature Play team members. We also had some fantastic student helpers from Blackwood High School, currently studying Child studies, who helped organise and run the session. Students had a wonderful time making nature potions, creating Australian animal clay creations, and constructing shelters. Farryn from Room 18 said “I got to find special nature things to put on my clay creation”, and Cameron said “I really enjoyed making a cubby because lots of my friends joined in. We had to hammer the sticks into the ground!” Willem said “I enjoyed making potions using bits and pieces I found in nature!” Zani from Room 20 said “It was lots of fun that we got to hang-out and chill in the nature play area. We got to make small structures using loose parts”, and Kenzie said “I loved making with the clay because you got to make whatever you wanted - I made a snake!” Scarlett said “I loved building the tents – I made a little house using the sticks.”





GLENELG  
**Rebels**  
SOFTBALL CLUB INC

**Come and Try Softball  
School Holiday Clinic**

Friday 14 July

8.30am - 3.00pm

Diamond Sports

Barratt Reserve, West Beach

# SOFTBALL

**FREE CLINIC**

**Lunch and equipment Included**

*More Info*

**HERE**

