FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Week 5 marks the mid point of the term. We have made it a priority to establish and reinforce procedures, standards and positive school culture.

Students have responded really well. We now move into the business end of the term where we can put that investment to good use and build students’ work rate and productivity.

STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

A commitment by all organisations to continually review their performance and build capacity of their staff is essential to improving their performance.

On Monday teaching staff and myself were at a Teacher professional development day about the New Australian curriculum. We joined with Moorook, Loveday, Cobdogla and Kingston-Murray to form a group teacher to work on this, learn together and build good practice.

We have formed 2 groups – R-3 & 4-7 teachers who will meet twice per term to continue this learning.

Also this week on Thursday and Friday I will be at a two day conference for Murray and Mallee Leaders. The theme for the Conference is ‘Beyond Events Management of Visionary Leadership. The Educational Leader as Coach’.

SWIMMING

The progress of students made last week was outstanding. I also appreciated the opportunity to work closely with students at the pool during their breaks. We had spelling, maths, basketball skills, dressing – putting on sock and jocks, tie shoe laces and many other lessons.

*Students have produced a swimming mural – on display now at the reception which is creating a lot of interest.

SPECIAL SCHOOL LUNCHES UPDATE

Students had a lesson yesterday investigating options we could schedule for special lunches. We based our criteria on:

- Lunch items should be affordable
- Healthy choices
- Should look appealing and taste good
- Use items we are growing and items donated by parents
- Use fresh, local produce in season if possible

We are nearly in a position to publish our chosen special lunches menu for the rest of Term 1 and Term 2.

☆ Thank you to Tanya who prepared our special lunch last Friday and brought it in to the Jarrett Memorial Garden playground after our final swimming lesson.
GOVERNING COUNCIL

Governing Council has been formed for 2012 with each family represented. Well done parents!

2012 Council is:
Geoff Sluggett ~ Chairperson
Rhonda Centofanti ~ Community Rep and Secretary
Tanya Price ~ Treasurer
John Trobbiani ~ Principal
Jeanette Brauer ~ Community Rep
Peter Hill
Kelly Modistach
Alicia Tregillis

NEXT MEETING WILL BE:
THURSDAY 22nd MARCH at 8:45 am (Week 8)

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is alarming to see how much school time can be lost over a year sometimes through student absences.

If students are ill or need to be away we would appreciate a phone call between 8am-8:30am to advise us if your child will be absent, so that the teacher can alter the days teaching program accordingly.

We are also required to record and provide explanations of all absences to DECD.

John Trobbiani
Principal

FROM THE CLASSROOM

Scott’s Speel

Well it’s hard to believe we are half way through term one already! Last week was a very successful week at the Renmark Swimming Pool. Our students can be very proud of themselves for how they participated in the lessons, their organisational skills and behaviour for the week. Positive comments from the swimming instructors as well as the Loveday staff, confirmed our belief that our students represented our school in a positive manner! Congratulations to all our students who participated.

Last week we also had a visit from Tim Frazer, our ‘resident wildlife expert’ who gave a very interesting talk about the Boo Book Owl, and once again our students demonstrated good manners and positive learning behaviours, and asked great questions. By the end of Tim’s visit the students were imitating the ‘Boo Book Owl Hoot’!

On Monday, John and I attended a day of professional development at Cobdogla Primary School with staff from the other smaller schools in the Riverland district. It was a great opportunity to network with other teachers and to discuss new directions and initiatives each school is implementing. The focus of the day was the National Australian Curriculum and the day was a very successful and valuable experience. Teachers from the small schools will be working together in Professional Learning Communities in the future to continue our learning and development.

This Thursday, the older students will be attending the first session of Youth Environment Forum in Renmark at the McCormick Centre. I will be taking the students in my car and look forward to my first forum!

Next week, the younger students will begin intensive literacy instruction for an hour a day four days a week. The Mini Lit program has wide acclaim across Australia as being a highly successful program to fast track beginning readers, and provides the necessary literacy skills and foundations for positive, successful and effective learning in the future. I attended training late last year in preparation and the school has invested in the resources for this program. Lyrup Primary School is the first school in the Riverland to introduce Mini Lit, and one of the first schools in South Australia

Our Swimming Mural

Bryce continually improved every day at swimming lessons and when he found the disc it was his proudest moment.
Lastly, congratulations to Hayden, Bryce and Breanna for reaching 25 nights of reading at home. Reading at home is highly valued at Lyrup and we encourage all families to participate in the reading every day program. The importance and value of children reading frequently can never be underestimated!

Scott Freeman
Teacher

Mr Trob was surprised when we presented him with a special strawberry birthday tart and then we all enjoyed it!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

LYRUP FOOTBALL CLUB

COLT’S U/14’S TRAINING

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
5:30 to 6:30 pm @ Lyrup Oval

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND DRINKS
MONDAY MARCH 5th

Phone Jason Marr 0449 865 015
For further information

Local kids need local foster carers
Foster caring is sensitivity, ability and commitment. Together ac.care and foster carers offer a safe, nurturing and stable environment for children.

Ac.care providers carers with guidance, training and partnership 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are considering becoming a foster carer and want to find out more about today’s foster care, contact ac.care on: 08 852 2344
www.accare.org.au