



DIARY DATES

Monday	16	March	Swimming commences
Friday	20	March	Harmony Day
Wednesday	25	March	Governing Council meeting
Tuesday	31	March	Finance Committee meeting
Thursday	2	April	Sports Day
Friday	3	April	Good Friday
Monday	6	April	Easter Monday
Monday	9	March	Year 6 Canberra camp

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term 1, Week 7, March 12th, 2015

Year 6 & 7 Camps

I have just had the absolute delight and pleasure of accompanying our year 7 students on school camp to Canberra. The students, staff and parent helpers on the year 7 trip all agreed that it was a fantastic experience and the learning experiences that we participated in were well planned, engaging and highly informative. Over the four days we packed in trips to Australian War Memorial, Parliament House, Old Parliament House, National Gallery, Electoral Office, High Court of Australia, Regatta Point and Mount Ainslie. There was also time for fun and hands on learning at Questacon, Australian Institute of Sport and the Canberra Aquatics Centre. Our students had the opportunity to work with the education officers at each of the venues to listen to information about our history, government, citizenship, legal system and election processes as well as to participate in simulated hands on experiences. The year 6 students left on their camp on Monday morning and will return on Friday.

External Review

In a previous newsletter information was included about the new DECD External School Reviews that replace the previous School Validations. All schools will be reviewed by officers from the DECD External Review Unit, Education Director and a Review Principal every four years. Validations were conducted every three years. Next week our school will participate in a 3 day review involving presentations, classroom visits, policy examination, teacher and student meetings and interviews.

Sports Day

Sports Day will be held on Thursday 2nd April which is immediately prior to the Easter Break. Over the past two years we have had cold, wet weather for most of term 4 and both times we have had to dodge the rain. By moving Sports Day to earlier in the year we are hoping for more pleasant weather. This will also provide an opportunity to hold time trials for senior students who go on to compete in SAPSASA Athletics and Cross Country in Term 2.

We are changing the format slightly this year to include whole school team games, sprints and relays after the lunch break that will be scored for team points as well as the usual tabloid format.

Governing Council will have barbeque food for sale and there will be prepaid pizza lunches by the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West available. This year Governing Council will also be organising a café with slices, tea and coffee. Programs for the day will be sent home earlier to the date.

Governing Council 2015

Recently we held the Governing Council AGM for 2015. My congratulations to the parents who were elected to our council or who are continuing members:

Chairperson	Andrew Hunter	Vice Chairperson	Sonya Dyson
Secretary	Cathy Lunnay	Treasurer	John Miles

Continuing members: Lorenza McMahon, Stephanie Beck, Sally Alexander, Laura Heesmans, Aaron Warden, Justyna Grosse, Jim Cornolo, Kelli Winterfield, Duane Gertners and David Burt.

New members: Jo Foster, Caroline Hill and Yunita Manfrin.

Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the nation capital. Students have been given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of \$60 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program, which we have already factored into the overall cost of the camp. The rebate will be paid directly to the school upon



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Principal:
Deputy Principal:
Assistant Principal:
Governing Council Chairperson:
Phone: 8725 3381
Website: <http://www.reidyprkps.sa.edu.au>

Chris Sheldon
Lesley Okholm
Sue Hutchesson
Andrew Hunter
Fax: 8725 0576
Email: dl.0290_info@schools.sa.edu.au



Governing Council meets on Wednesday evenings in Week 3 and Week 9 of each term (exception is Week 8 of Term 4) from 7.30pm in the Library. Immediately prior to this Grounds and Fundraising subcommittees meet and we are always welcoming of parents who wish to join either committee; being a full voting member of Governing Council is not a prerequisite of joining subcommittees. Finance subcommittee meets on Tuesdays of Week 3 and 9 of the term at 5.30pm in the Front Office. If you would like to be a member of any of these subcommittees please contact the Front Office staff at school.

*Chris Sheldon
Principal*

*Lesley Okholm
Deputy Principal*

*Sue Hutchesson
Assistant Principal*

ICAS) International Competitions & Assesments for Schools

Your child is invited to take part in the ICAS in 2015 in any of the following subject areas
Please return the permission slip with full entry fee(s) to the Front Office no later than Monday 6th April.
The competitions take place every year in schools throughout Australia and South Pacific region. They provide an opportunity for students to measure their own achievement in an external assessment situation, and are a valuable experience. They are, however, voluntary, not compulsory, and we understand that there are many financial commitments which parents have at the beginning of the school year.
All students receive a Certificate and an individual results letter indicating which questions they answered correctly, as well as the average mark for their state. The documents are suitable for inclusion in a portfolio.
Certificates are awarded for each Year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants in the state
- Distinction to the next 10% entrants in the state
- Credit to the next 20% of entrants in the state
- Achievement to the students who are placed in the top 20% of their year level at their school, but do not qualify for one of the above certificates
- Participation to all students who do not qualify for one of the above certificates

Medals are awarded to top students in each year level in each state. The competitions are an initiative of the Educational Assessment Centre of the University of New South Wales.

*Lesley Okholm
Deputy Principal*

ICAS Subject	Year Level	ICAS Sitting Date	Price
Digital Technologies	3-7	Tuesday, 19 May 2015	8.00
Science	3-7	Wednesday, 3 June 2015	8.00
Writing	3-7	Monday, 15 June 2015	17.00
Spelling	3-7	Tuesday, 16 June 2015	11.00
English	3-7	Tuesday, 28 July 2015	8.00
Maths	3-7	Tuesday, 11 August 2015	8.00

(ICAS) International Competitions & Assesments for Schools

Please Return to Front Office by Monday 6th April

 CHILD'S NAME ROOM NO YEAR LEVEL

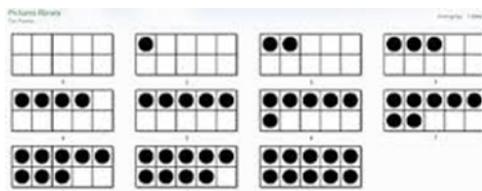
My child would like to take part in the following subject area of ICAS in 2015. (Please tick)

Digital Technologies	\$8.00	Science	\$8.00	Maths	\$8.00
Spelling	\$11.00	Writing	\$17.00	English	\$8.00

I forward \$..... as payment in full for entry to the above nominated competition(s).

George Booker Pupil Free Day.

Recently staff spent the day with George Booker, a mathematics professor from Queensland. Every staff member at Reidy Park has their own textbook "Teaching Mathematics" which we use to plan our units of work. Staff spent the day listening to George outline the process children go through in mastering numeration. (Number). From working with George staff now have a greater awareness of how important it is not to "assume" a student understands place value or that they have an in depth understanding of base ten (in the old days we called it tens and units!!). We know that students need to be able to talk about numbers in a clear and efficient way which includes renaming numbers e.g. 132 is one hundred, 3 tens and 2 ones.. It can also be 13 tens and 2 ones or even 132 ones!! You can expect to see children in J.P using ten frames on a daily basis. Children need to see numbers in many ways.



As a follow up, our Site discuss what our priority in Maths decided to have a renewed focus

Basic number facts is the automatic recall of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts. Our work last year with Ann Baker will fit very nicely with this priority.

Knowing basic number facts will enable students to work with problem solving tasks and apply their thinking in authentic ways which is one of the demands they are faced with in NAPLAN testing.

Improvement Plan team met for 2015 should be. We have on basic number facts R – 7.

completion of the excursion.

Sports Day

Included with this newsletter is a mint coloured insert which has 4 tear-off slips regarding Sports Day on Thursday 2nd April.

Please fill out and return with money those which apply to you to the Front Office , by Monday 30th March

Positive Trackers

Congratulations to Grace S for helping out a new Reception student who was feeling lonely. Also Holly P and Laura M for helping Mr McShane by cleaning his sports shed. Well done girls.

Room 9 Fundraiser

Room 9 are raising money for a Mount Gambier North Primary School family who have been recently affected by a family tragedy. This will be held on Wednesday 25th March.

Students can wear casual clothes on the day for a gold coin donation. There will also be Zooper Doopers for sale, fun activities of arts and crafts, sports, games, singing and dancing. These activities will cost 50c to participate

Can you help out by baking for Sports Day?

The fundraising committee are looking for donations of cupcakes, slices or biscuits to sell at Sports Day on Friday 2nd April.

If you are able to help out please return slip below to the Front Office by Monday 30th March.

All donations of goods should be taken to the Gym at the beginning of the day.

(If you have already responded via Facebook, there is no need to return this slip)

Sports Day Baking

Name:

Child:

I am willing to bake and donate _____ for Sports Day.



2014 Year book

Last Chance!! Orders shut Friday 27th March for last years year book. Order forms available from the Front Office.

Tracy Kain
Admin Officer

Scholastic Book Orders

Order forms have been issued to all classes and are due back at end of school day on Monday 16th March

Michelle Kuller and Tara Moody
Library Staff



Everyone loves chocolate!
Everyone **NEEDS** chocolate!

The school Fundraising committee is helping  out with this basic need by allowing you to sell Cadbury Freddo frogs and Caramello Koalas to friends and family, or chocolate starved members of the public who visit your business or workplace.

NEW

FUN PACK Now with **FREDDO Popping Candy!**

Contains a mix of:



\$1.00 RRP

Up to **\$20.00 Profit** Per Carry Box

*All profits quoted are gross profits before expenses based on recommended selling prices and full boxes sold. Assumes customers are non-GST registered and product is not mixed between boxes.

Come into the office, or send back the return slip, to secure your box!
Our school gains \$20 per box!!



Name: _____ Mobile _____

Child's Class: _____

Please send home _____ box(es) of Fundraiser Chocolates.
I understand that I will be invoiced for the full amount \$50 to cover the cost of all chocolates.