



Athelstone
School

EXCELLENCE | RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | INTEGRITY

ISSUE 13 - 30th August 2017

Newsletter



Diary Dates

Assembly

Thursday 31st August
2:15pm

SAPSASA Athletics

Tuesday 5th September

School Closure Day

Friday 8th September

Year 6/7 Aquatics Day

Monday 11th September

Governing Council Meeting

Monday 11th September
7:00pm

Parent / Teacher

Interviews - Weeks 8 & 9
11th - 22nd September

Choir Perform at

Entertainment Centre

Tuesday 12th September

SAPSASA Volleyball Finals

Wednesday 13th September

Band Perform at The

Entertainment Centre Orb

Thursday 14th September

Athelstone School

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www.athelstone.sa.edu.au

Principal

Juliette Cools

Deputy Principal

Lorna Porter

Governing Council

Chairperson

David Evans

Inclusivity

Inclusivity is something that sets public schools apart. Research shows that an environment with rich cultural and social diversity offers a real advantage to our children. It develops dispositions of compassion, empathy and trust so that children who learn alongside children with diverse strengths, abilities and backgrounds are well prepared for the real world. We appreciate the diversity in our community and the inclusive spirit of Athelstone School.

ABODA Festival

A silver!! Congratulations to the Athelstone School Band who were once again awarded a 'Silver' at the 2017 ABODA festival. This is a substantial achievement considering that every year the band loses many experienced players as they head off to high school and Vanessa effectively 'begins again' with a new group of students.

This year our band comprises many new young members, including only four Year 7 students and we are very proud of the progress they have made. We look forward to hearing more fabulous pieces 'Under the Orb' at the Entertainment Centre on the evening of 14th September and at our Gala Night on 27th September.



VOLLEYBALL

A huge congratulations to the 130+ students who represented Athelstone School at SAPSASA volleyball at MARS stadium on 21st August. Our teams represented us with pride and sportsmanship with results that ranged from just giving it a go and having a great time to our 12 teams who went through undefeated.

A big thank you to Mr Wait for his tireless energy and continuous support of our Volleyball program.



Interviews

A reminder that parent teacher interviews are coming up during Weeks 8 and 9 this term. Our late night for interviews will be Wednesday 13th September. Interviews can be booked via our online booking system (www.schoolinterviews.com.au using the code **a5stu**). Online bookings will close on 7th September. Any changes after this date will need to be negotiated directly with the class teacher. Please call the office if you do not have access to the internet. Our front office staff can arrange the interview booking for you.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Book Week Assembly

Congratulations to Jo Spyrou and her team on the organisation of our 2017 Book Week celebration and to all classes for their wonderful artwork (now on display in the Resource Centre). It was fabulous to see the deep integration of the arts with the joy of literature. Our students looked great in their costumes and really embraced the theme "Escape to Everywhere."



Book Week Awards

Some of the winners of the 2017 Children's Book Council of Australia Book Awards are listed below;

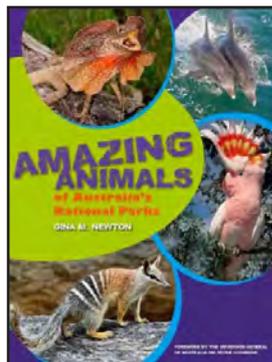
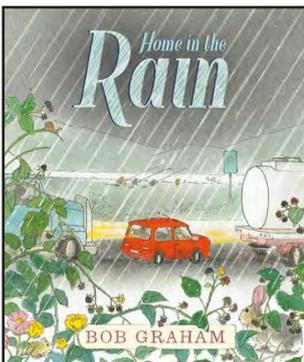
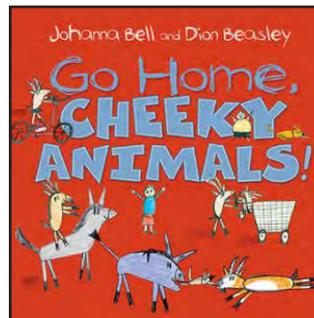
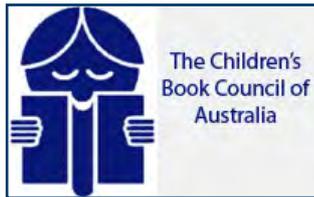
Early Childhood Book award - Go Home Cheeky Animals, Johanna Bell

Younger Readers award – Rock Hopping, Trace Balla

Information Book award – Amazing Animals of Australia's National Parks, Gina Newton

Picture Book award – Home in the Rain, Bob Graham

All of these books are available to borrow in our school library.



DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF HOME READING!!!

Just 15 – 20 minutes per day can make all the difference to the long term success of your child. Reading is the key that opens all other doors.....

We have a site expectation that all children (R-7) read aloud for 15-20 minutes every night and that every student's diary is signed daily by the adult who listened to them read.

Our significant rise in reading achievement over the past 4 years has occurred because we are working together – quality teaching and learning with deep assessment in the classroom and regular practice at home. Please continue to support your child with their home reading.

Below for your reference are some questions you can ask to help your child with their inferential comprehension of non-fiction texts.

Inferring is being able to 'read between the lines', when the author implies something but doesn't exactly state it. To infer, we need to use both the clues in the text including illustrations and our own prior knowledge. By using the text and our own prior knowledge, we can interpret what we think the author is really trying to say. 'Teaching Comprehension Strategies' Sheena Cameron

Activating Prior Knowledge

Activating prior knowledge is an important comprehension strategy. This allows students to connect with what they already know and gives them a base on which to build further knowledge. Encourage your child to talk about what they already know about the topic in the text they are about to read eg ask the question. What do you already know about this topic?

Examples of types of questions to ask your child during and after reading:

Tell what you learnt about.....from this book.

What is the most important thing about.....?

What did the author want you to learn from this book?

What is the main idea of this paragraph, page, book?

How did the author help you understand.....? Give an example.

Why do you think.....are important? What does the author say that makes you think that?

Why is it important for.....to live where they do?

What is a question that you still have about.....?

Explain why.....

Tell why people might.....instead of.....?



It is very important not to skip over but to look carefully at the following elements if they are included in the text:

- contents
- labels
- cross-sections
- index
- title
- photographs
- maps
- glossary
- subheading
- caption
- tables
- key
- comparison
- summary

What about maths??

It is critically important for your child to become confident and competent in the four proficiencies of mathematics – understanding, problem solving, fluency and reasoning.

IXL is a fabulous tool for consolidating the mathematical understanding that is occurring within the classroom (Years 3 – 7). It offers instantaneous feedback and differentiated opportunities for learning. Just 15 – 20 minutes of IXL daily will improve confidence, understanding and mathematical fluency.

We appreciate your continued support in working in partnership with the classroom teacher to support of your child in fulfilling their homework expectations.



Look at all our Boxes of Books!

Torrens Top Floor News

During the past 9 months the teachers on the Torrens Top Floor have been researching and hunting for, sourcing and going out to buy a vast and incredible range of 126 sets of books for our Year 5 – 7 students. The sets of 5 books per box range in complexity and topics, but target the top end reading range of level 32+. Governing Council generously provided \$2000 towards the project, supported by funds from Mrs Cools. Jo, Rosie and volunteers in the Resource Centre have spent hours contacting, labelling and cataloguing the books for us – a very special thank you to them, Governing Council and Mrs Cools for enabling this to happen. It is a wonderful resource that all Top Floor classes are utilising daily, and feel lucky to have.

Teachers are now collating suitable texts from their own class budgets for level 20+ to cater for our children who find reading challenging but are loving being part of a weekly Book Club group.

Have a read below to see how our children are enjoying the experience!

"I think having multiple texts is excellent and encourages group learning and tasks. It is great for students to work together and help each other out." Imogen, Room 12

"I think it is worthwhile having two of the same boxes with the same books so then students can discuss their thinking and share their ideas." Ethan, Room 12

"Our class has been doing something called Book Club. It has helped us comprehend and understand the genre of the book. There are a variety of books to read and enjoy. The books also tell different stories like someone's life, the war, history etc." Claudia, Room 13

"The new books are fascinating and interesting! I believe that it was a great investment for Torrens Top Floor." Robbie, Room 13

"The books are really interesting and they motivate us to read more! When I read them they make me want to keep reading which is why we get through so many books." Macy, Emily, Alex, Room 14

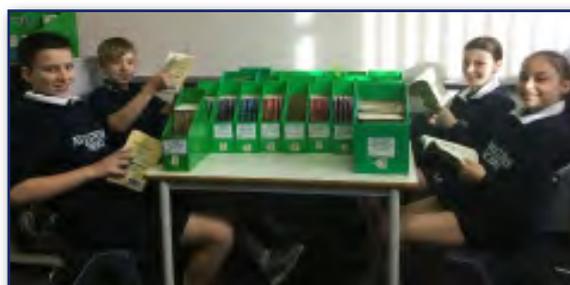
"Book Club is an interesting experience because usually it's for adults." Kane, Room 14

"Thank you governing Council for giving us such interesting novels for our reading groups. My comprehension skills are improving due to the engaging texts. The books that you gave us are much better than the shorter books meaning that they last longer, and are related to history, giving us a better understanding of our history in other countries. I'm very grateful for the books that the Governing Council have given us!" Gary, Room 15

"The new reader novels have been great and engaging. They have improved people's comprehension and fluency in my reading group. The topics are fun and interesting. I have read a couple of them and they have really made me more interested in topics that I had never really given much thought to, and they're interesting to my reader group too. Thank you, Governing Council for the money you spent on those books because it's really helped." Keira, Room 15

"Awesome Egyptians is part of the Horrible Histories series and was written by Terry Deary, Peter Haplewhite and illustrated by Martin Brown. It is excellent, interesting and educational. I learnt a lot from this book. The best thing is that it appeals to all ages and teaches the reader a lot about Egypt without overloading them with information." Brooke, Room 16

"My Brother's Secret is an entertaining novel showing the perspective of a young German boy in World War 2. I have enjoyed this book because as well as being very well written, it shows perspective not many people know about or understand. This is the only book by Dan Smith I have read but he's a great writer!" Ilona, Room 16



Environment and Gardening Team Update

So far this year we have done weeding, planting, cooking and manuring with some help from Rooms 7 and 14. Thank you Chas and Ian from the Kiwanis Club who volunteer each week. They also brought the team a full trailer-load of horse manure and straw for our planned compost heap, and to spread on the garden in spring.

We would also like to thank Shaun and Lisa Mrowka for donating potted plant colour in Term 2. We have been doing cooking with Rooms 7 and 14. Some of the things we have cooked are pumpkin soup, sausage rolls, stone fruit crumble, apple and rhubarb with custard, calendula muffins and carrot muffins.

In the future we would like to get every class collecting their food scraps for our free-standing compost structure, and improve the garden with more plants. Keep watching!

By the Environment and Gardening Team



Athelstone Sharks

The Athelstone Sharks football season has now come to a close. Well done to all children from Year 1 through to Year 7 who committed to a team, displayed good sportsmanship and enthusiasm and learnt new skills. The Year 6/7 comp ran finals for the first time and after a couple of nail biting games our team finished 3rd on the ladder – well done! Despite running low numbers the Year 4/5 team put in a brilliant effort each week, with the team bonding well. The season finished with a mini finals comp in a round robin of games. Our Year 1/2/3 team members (including 3 girls) finished the season as a cohesive team. A fun day was hosted by SANFL to round out the season for these kids. Many thanks go to our 4 wonderful coaches – most of who were new to the role – and of course our supportive parents!



Football Coaching Clinic

In week 2, the Athelstone Sharks were fortunate enough to have a coaching clinic run at the school by Norwood Football Club. Chris O'Conner (coach of the Under 15's and assistant coach of the Under 16's) and Corey Distefano (assistant coach of the Under 15's and player for Norwood in the reserves / league) ran some drills with our enthusiastic kids on a freezing cold Thursday morning.

The kids looked to enjoy themselves and hopefully came away with a few extra skills. Thanks go to Ben Mesisca (Development Officer of the Norwood Football Club SANFL) for organising this wonderful experience for the kids.



Sport Fees

A reminder that school sport fees are now due.

Sports fees help to cover the cost of team nominations, player nominations, competition fees, uniform, sport equipment, first aid kits and trophies.

The Sports Committee are beginning to plan for the Sport Presentation Night and organise trophies for students involved in after school sport.

Please make arrangements to pay your fees as soon as possible.

BOOK DRIVE

So far we have raised \$1,410. These donated funds allow us to buy more take home readers for our students that are specifically written to help decode a child's reading fluency and comprehension, whatever stage they are at.

If every student contributes \$15.00, it will boost the schools readers by over 400! This will be an amazing result and a significant addition to school resources.

Thank you to all the families who have already donated and if you have not already done so, it's not too late!

Athelstone Basketball Club



Register your interest now for summer season (Terms 4 & 1)

The Athelstone Football Club Basketball Club was originally formed to keep the footballers fit in the off season.

Over the years we have grown to offer winter and summer seasons of basketball to all children wanting to play social basketball in a club atmosphere - not just footy players! We have mixed, boys and girls teams!

The new season starts next term and teams are currently being formed, so register your interest now! - All enquiries welcome. Please contact Sue Wood via email on edgeexpress@bigpond.com or check out our website www.athelstonebasketballclub.com You can also join us on Facebook!

Games times:

U8 & U10's: Saturday mornings at Turramurra.

Under 12 and over: Saturday afternoons at Turramurra or Golden Grove.

Training is held one night a week. (Usually Wednesday for Under 8—10's)

Karin's Corner

Father's Day this Sunday is a celebration honouring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. I would also like to acknowledge that not everyone has a positive role model to look up to and this time of year can be quite difficult and upsetting for some.

Dads play an important part in a child's life and it led me to thinking of my husband and the role he plays in my children's lives, but particularly towards my son. After all we aren't raising boys to be boys, but boys to be men, where some may eventually have a wife and a family. How will they be treating them? And how will your daughters know how they should expect to be treated by their potential partner?

Psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg has said that many psychologists agreed that kids take their most significant cues from the parent of the same sex. "So for boys, their template on how to be a man, how to relate to women, is learned through watching their father," he said. "Make absolutely sure right from the start that they do help around the house, that they do speak in a courteous manner, not just to their fathers but also to their mothers and all adults," he said.

Dads, don't under-estimate your role, you are valued and needed by your children. Even if you are in a separated situation, set a good example with regards to how you treat your partner and family, children watch and learn from your behaviour and character.

So to all the fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, and father figures out there making a difference in the eyes of the kids who love them, those big things you do are important, but some of those small, simple things are what your child will remember for the rest of his or her life. Spend time with your children this weekend, giving them all your attention without distraction. Kids don't need more stuff, just more of you. Hoping all dads get spoilt and have a lovely weekend!!

Karin Williams (PCW)

"Being a Dad "parent guides are available in the front office and the JP notice board.



SAFL JUNIOR FUTSAL

U/6's to U/16's

Saturdays: September to December

Coaches & Training Available!

Team Nominations by August 25th

Adelaide Super-Drome, Gepps Cross

The Parks Rec Centre, Angle Park

The Hub Rec Centre, Aberfoyle Park

Cornerstone College, Mount Barker

Email: SAFLjuniors@gmail.com

\$50
Match Fees!

To submit articles for the newsletter please email jackie.day360@schools.sa.edu.au

ROOM 12

Book Club



Book Club is a fun and interactive opportunity where year 5's can select a book and think about what might happen in the book. We read it at home for the week, bring it back every Friday and discuss it at school. After we discuss the book, we have a bite to eat. We take it in turns to supply some food. We made a roster at our very first Book Club meeting.

Once we finish the book, we ask the teacher if we can look for a book from the other classes but it's a group decision about which book we will read next. There are labels that indicate which boxes we can borrow from. We are all enjoying being a part of The Book Club. *Tennyson and Ryan*



Imogen's and Ella's Script for Book Week

This year room 12 read the book *Captain Jimmy Cook Discovers Third Grade*, written by Kate and Jol Temple. It received an honours mention in "The Young Readers" category. It is about a young boy who thinks he is related to the real Captain James Cook, so for History Week, Jimmy dresses up as him. When he hears that Captain Cook died in Hawaii, he wants to go there to make peace with the natives. But will he find enough coupons in the Wheat Blocks packet to win a family trip to Hawaii?

When we had to summarise the book in an imaginative way. We decided that because every captain needs a good log book, we could use our excellent adjective skills and create some awesome log books. We also used our creativity and created us as explorers either on the land, in the ocean or in space. Which one would you be in? *Ella Anderson*



NAPLAN 2017 results will be provided to schools from mid-August to mid-September, depending on your state or territory Test Administration Authority.

If you are the parent of a student in Years 3, 5, 7 or 9 you will be receiving an individual report of your child's results for the tests they sat in May. These tests in key areas of literacy and numeracy provide parents and educators with a snapshot of how students are progressing — individually, as part of their school community and as a nation.

NAPLAN results enable parents and teachers to see how students are progressing, not just within their class but also against national standards that have been agreed upon by all state and territory governments.

How do I read the results?

The front page of the student report provides some general information about the tests and an explanation of how to read the report.

The second and third pages have diagrams that show your child's results for each area (numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation) on the common assessment scale. The common assessment scale has ten bands and is used to report results for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. However, only the relevant six bands for each year level are shown on the student report.

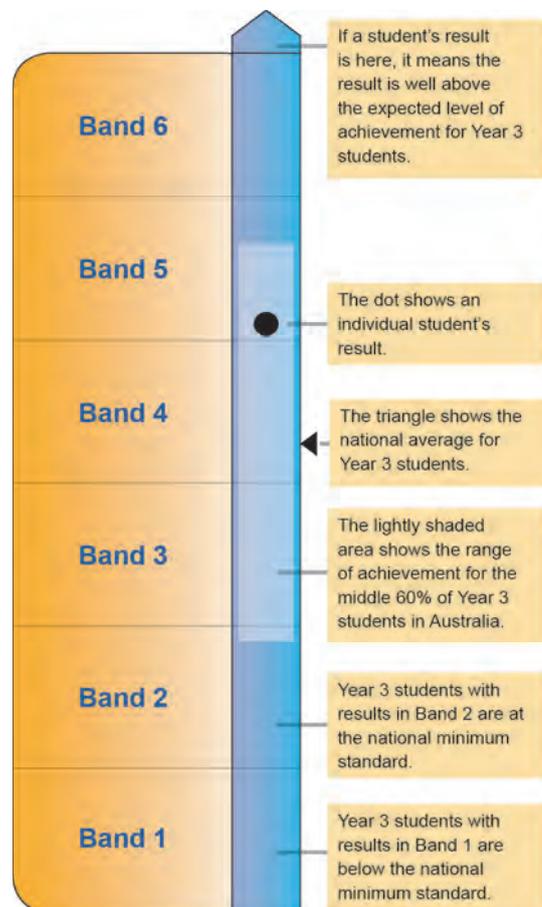
The diagrams in the student report also show the range for the middle 60 per cent of students, the national average result and the national minimum standard for each year level. Reports in some states and territories show the school average.

The final page of the report has a table that provides a brief description of the skills students have typically demonstrated in the tests at each band.

How to read the achievement scale

A student's result is shown on an achievement scale for each assessment area.

Results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10. The achievement scale represents



increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in the assessments.

For example, the large majority of results for Year 3 are reported across the range of Band 1 to Band 6, as illustrated in the diagram above.

How does NAPLAN help my child and my school?

NAPLAN is designed to provide data on a student's literacy and numeracy achievements. It complements school assessment and provides nationally comparable data that allow for objective discussions, for successes to be celebrated, additional support focussed where it is needed and to address areas requiring improvement.

NAPLAN allows for an understanding of a child's literacy and numeracy ability at a school, state and national level. It helps governments to know whether programs designed to improve student literacy and numeracy are effective. It assists parents to know how their child is tracking against students in the same year level across Australia.

Your school principal will be able to give you more details on how your school uses NAPLAN data.

What impact will the results have on my child's future?

NAPLAN results can help teachers and parents direct extra attention where it is needed to help students improve their literacy and numeracy skills. As such NAPLAN tests are 'low stakes' for students as there are no rewards or punishments for the result a student achieves. Testing children is not new. NAPLAN is unique because it gives a national snapshot of how students are doing in the important skills of literacy and numeracy. NAPLAN does not carry the same potential consequences as 'high stakes' tests, such as Year 12 exams.

Some schools may ask for NAPLAN results in addition to school reports as part of the admissions process for secondary school, or for students changing schools. NAPLAN tests are not designed to be a school admission test, however, results are sometimes used to inform new schools of student needs. If you have any concerns, ACARA encourages you to talk them over with the school.

Where can I go for more information?

Your child's classroom teacher or school principal should be your first point of contact for any concerns you might have about your child's results.

More information about NAPLAN tests and the National Assessment Program can be found by visiting the NAP website (www.nap.edu.au).

Who else will see the results?

Schools will be provided with results for all students who sat NAPLAN in 2017. Schools are encouraged to use the results to celebrate success, inform their planning and address areas requiring improvement across the school.

Average school results are publicly reported on the *My School* website (www.myschool.edu.au). The website is updated with the previous year's results in the first quarter of each year. *My School* also offers the opportunity for the community to look at a number of different aspects of each school's profile, as well as comparisons with schools that serve similar student populations. Your child's individual results are not available on *My School*.

What if the results are not what I expected?

NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. Students are provided with an indication of where their results are on the common assessment scale. The student report also indicates the skills and understandings that students are expected to demonstrate at each band of the scale. The same scale is used for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 so you will be able to track your child's progress over the years.

NAPLAN results provide a snapshot of student performance on the days of the tests. There are many reasons why students may not have performed to the best of their ability, such as illness or other distractions. Equally, some students may perform much better than expected when compared against their regular classroom assessment results.

If your child's results are either higher or lower than you expected, you should discuss these results with their teacher.

Who is ACARA?

As an independent authority, ACARA is tasked with improving learning for young Australians through the development and implementation of world class school curriculum, assessment and reporting. Our work is informed and guided by the generous assistance of a wide range of stakeholders, including teachers, principals, governments, education authorities, professional education associations, community groups and the general public. For more information, visit www.acara.edu.au



TENNIS OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2017
42 JENKINS AVE, ROSTREVOR

We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact Todd Perry at todd@toddperrytennisacademy.com.au
or 0414 014 566 for more information

**EVERYONE
WELCOME**
from beginners to
advanced players

**FREE COACHING
SESSIONS**

Juniors (ages 4-17) 11am-12 noon
Seniors 1pm-2pm

FREE BBQ
12 noon

ROSTREVOR TENNIS CLUB



TODD PERRY
tennis academy

Enrol now for Term 4 coaching!
www.toddperrytennisacademy.com.au

COME 'N' TRY SPORTS WITH



1-15 OCTOBER
for 2-17 year olds



Payneham Swimming Club welcomes all swimmers who can competently swim 25 metres of freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke.

We are a strong community based club, providing a range of opportunities for members to develop their potential in all forms of swimming, including competition, fitness and stroke production.

Join our free **“Come and Try”** Friday nights in September!

Please email: payswim@yahoo.com.au for details

For current training times and locations visit our website:

payneham.swimming.org.au

After the trial swimmers can choose to pay for 1 training session per week or up to 3 sessions per week