

# News Update

## Term 1 – Week 7



March 2021

### From Barb

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we welcomed Greg and Ian from the Department for Education's External Site Review Team.

All SA public schools undertake a review periodically, where officers spend a few days in schools meeting with children, families, Governing Council, staff and leaders. The officers look for evidence that the school is meeting the expectations for a quality education setting, and in collaboration with the school, identify levers for the next stage of improvement.



Our last review was in 2017. We received a positive report with recommendations to continue to grow the following aspects of our work:

1. Build the capacity of **students** to think **critically and creatively**.
2. Build on the capacity of **staff** in the design of **consistent teaching practices** that link student learning from R-7 and include student influence **evidence based data and learning intentions**.
3. Strengthen the **whole school assessment process**, including **student voice, qualitative data and evidence based feedback** processes.

During the four years since our last review, staff undertook three years training in **Visible Learning**.

*"Visible Learning means an enhanced role for teachers as they become evaluators of their own teaching. According to John Hattie Visible Learning and Teaching occurs when teachers see learning through the eyes of students and help them become their own teachers."* ([visible-learning.org](http://visible-learning.org))

**The single biggest predictor of high academic achievement is reading to children. Not flash cards, not workbooks, not fancy preschools, not blinking toys or computers, but mum or dad taking the time every day or night (or both!) to sit and read them wonderful books.**

Our Visible Learning work linked all three of the previous Review Team's recommendations and we provided robust evidence to the current reviewers that the strategies were making a positive impact on student growth. Visible Learning remains strong in our school with new staff supported to incorporate these strategies into their own practice.

We look forward to the report from our latest review and we will share this with families when it arrives.

Our school values apply to all communication in our School; adults and children

**RESPECT** ♦ **INTEGRITY** ♦ **RESPONSIBILITY** ♦ **THRIVE**

## There must be a better way!



'Here is Edward Bear,  
coming downstairs now,  
bump, bump, bump,  
on the back of his head,  
behind Christopher Robin.  
It is, as far as ...

It is, as far as he knows,  
the only way of coming downstairs,  
but sometimes he feels that there  
really is another way,  
if only he could stop bumping for a  
moment and think of it!"

~ A.A. Milne ~

### THRIVE...

As educators we routinely reflect on our work. It is critical for us to stop and think, alone and together, to ensure we are working mindfully and productively; putting aside the daily press and, like Edward Bear, thinking of better ways.

Some of our important thinking is how to support children to **Thrive** by getting better at:

- ◆ rising to challenges
- ◆ building better relationships
- ◆ developing empathy.

Some of the questions teachers ask themselves as we continually improve this work...

- ◆ Are children learning to live a sustainable life?
- ◆ Do they understand that great relationships make for good lives? Can they make good choices about friendships? Can they take advantage of learning opportunities when working with new people? What do they need to learn and practice in order to have better relationships?
- ◆ Do they chase equity? Do they understand what it takes to be an ethical, democratic, global citizens? Is their learning program (and life) participative, authentic and meaningful?
- ◆ Are they learning how to learn? The General Capabilities in the Australian Curriculum are as important as the Content Strands. In what ways are they making good decisions about their own learning, relationships and achievement?

(Search for **General capabilities | The Australian Curriculum** for more information, or click on the [here](#) if viewing electronically).

### TERM 1 DIARY DATES

#### WEEK 8 - Harmony Week

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Mon 15/3 | School Photo Day<br>Family envelopes <b>MUST</b><br>be returned to front<br>office |
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|                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mon 15/3<br>- Thur 1/4 | Student Wellbeing<br>Survey * |
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| Tue 16/3 | Cyber Safety Parent<br>Workshop 6:00-8:30pm |
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#### WEEK 9

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| Mon 22/3 | S1/S2/S3/S4/S9<br>Badminton |
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|          |                    |
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| Wed 24/3 | 2 Way Chat Evening |
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|           |                         |
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| Thur 25/3 | Bridgely Kindy visiting |
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#### WEEK 10

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Wed 31/3 | Photo Envelopes must<br>be returned to front<br>office |
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|          |               |
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| Thur 1/4 | BE ACTIVE DAY |
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|         |                                      |
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| Fri 2/4 | <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b><br>Good Friday |
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#### WEEK 11

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| Mon 5/4 | <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b><br>Easter Monday |
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| Wed 7/4 | Oakbank Athletics Day |
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|          |   |
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| Thur 8/4 | Daggy Day - Wear casual<br>clothes for school clean-<br>up (no fancy dress) |
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| Fri 9/4 | Early Dismissal 2:15pm |
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### TERM 2 Advance Notice

#### WEEK 7

|          |   |
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| Fri 11/6 | <b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b><br>OSHC will be available if<br>sufficient bookings |
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- ◆ Are our children learning to **Thrive** in a world that is transforming and unpredictable; one that requires a different set of skills, knowledge and understandings than previous generations?

We want educators to ask good questions about their own work. We also want children to ask great questions about their own learning as they shape their preferred future.

Some great questions for you to ask your child at the end of each day might include;

What was the best question you asked today? What made you wonder? Who did you help? What sparked your imagination today? What did you investigate? What was the hardest thing you did? How did you fix it? What are you most proud of? What challenge did you push through? How? How much effort did you put in today? Did you learn someone's name today? What feedback did you get today? How will you use that feedback to be a better learner? What learning strategy did you use? What made you laugh? Did you mediate any kid-sized problems today? How did the teacher help you today? Did you play with someone different today? What was the coolest thing you learnt? What questions could you answer today? What strategy did you use to be more confident in Maths? How did you use stuff you already knew? What questions couldn't you answer today? How did you challenge someone's thinking today? What mistakes did you make? What did you read? What was read to you? What did you write about? What songs did you sing? What games did you play? Did you work with someone you don't usually work with?

The more you ask these kinds of questions, the more likely you are to help retrain your child's attention on positive aspects of their choices and focus at school; this builds **neural pathways that are super highways to positive thinking and powerful learning behaviours.**



General capabilities in the Australian Curriculum

| PARENT WORKSHOPS AT BPS 2021 |  |             |
|------------------------------|--|-------------|
| <b>TERM 1</b>                |  |             |
| Tue 16/3                     | Cyber Safety   | 6:00-8:30pm |
| <b>TERM 2</b>                |  |             |
| Thur 13/5                    | My Child & Me - Part 1                                       | 6:00-8:00pm |
| Thur 20/5                    | My Child & Me - Part 2                                       | 6:00-8:00pm |
| Thur 27/5                    | My Child & Me - Part 3                                       | 6:00-8:00pm |
| Tue 1/6                      | Overexposed & Under Prepared<br>Cyber Safety and Pornography | 7:00pm      |
| Wed 9/6                      | Coping Skills - Part 1                                       | 6:00-8:00pm |
| Wed 16/6                     | Coping Skills - Part 2                                       | 6:00-8:00pm |
| <b>TERM 3</b>                |  |             |
| Tue 3/8                      | Living with Young People - Part 1                            | 6:00-8:30pm |
| Tue 10/8                     | Living with Young People - Part 2                            | 6:00-8:30pm |
| TBC                          | Growing & Learning in the family                             | TBC         |

Please consider coming along to some of the **Parent Workshops** we are offering this year. **Teaching is one of the most interesting jobs on Planet Earth and we would love to share our insights with yours as we work in Partnership to grow confident and capable learners.**

**\* STUDENT WELLBEING SURVEY \***

**Monday 15th March to Thursday 1st April**

If you'd like more info about the **Wellbeing and Engagement Collection survey**, or would like to withdraw your child, please contact the school. Further information can be found at [www.education.sa.gov.au](http://www.education.sa.gov.au) (search:wec) or can be collected from the school.

For questions or concerns, or to view the questions, please email

[Education.WECSA@sa.gov.au](mailto:Education.WECSA@sa.gov.au) .



## REMINDER - SCHOOL PHOTO DAY - NEXT MONDAY 15TH MARCH 2021



**FAMILY ENVELOPES** - Available at the front office. Must be returned on or before next Monday 15/3/21.

**INDIVIDUAL ENVELOPES** - Will be sent home with each child on Monday for you to complete and return to the front office by Wednesday 31/3/21.

### Advanced Notice - Be Active Day

The excitement will be building over coming weeks for our **Be Active Day** on Thursday **April 1<sup>st</sup>**, from 9:00am to 1:00pm and you're invited! This is the Thursday before Good Friday so attending families may want to sign their children out with their Studio teacher and head off early for your Easter break. Your children will all be in the same team, so you can ask them to teach you the team chant.

Our teams:

- **Yulfi Wirra – Stringy Bark Forest – GREEN**
- **Kakirra- Moon – YELLOW**
- **Tarra – Land that rises up – BLUE**
- **Watta – Land or Country – RED**



The Be Active Team will set up and safely supervise a range of fun activities including: Air Gym, Trampolining, Cannon Ball, Commando Relay, Kicking, Hitting, Throwing, Catching, Obstacle Course, Sprints, Relays, High Jump, Long Jump and the famous Health Hustles and Chants.

**This year we need signed permission for your child/ren to participate in Be Active Day. Please complete the enclosed consent form (feel free to put all your children's names on the same form) and return to the front office asap to ensure they don't miss out of the fun!**

All events will be on the oval for Covid safety. This will not be a ticketed event, but all adults will need to sign or scan in on arrival at the oval. Social distancing requirements need to be strictly adhered to and people not following this requirement will be asked to leave. Please make sure you follow these requirements so we can continue to welcome parents at school events.

Parents may want to wear their running shoes in case there is an impromptu, spontaneous, totally spur of the moment, not planned at all .... **Parent Foot Race.**

Our 'Seniors' will be training and doing time trails as part of their Physical Education lessons and lead up team selection for the big event, **Oakbank Athletics Day** on the **7<sup>th</sup> April.**

### - 2-WAY CHATS -

Reporting this term will take the form of a 15-minute parent/teacher chat in the next few weeks. Teachers will share information about your child's learning and progress. This is also an opportunity to exchange information about your child that will help us to best support their learning. If you have already met with your child's teacher you may not feel the need to meet again this term. These meetings are for parents and teachers, not children.

In the coming days a note will be coming home with your child asking you to nominate some times of your choice. Teachers will book you in for a session and send a confirmation slip home. There will be one late night of 2-WayChats on Wednesday 24th March (from 3.30 – 6:45pm) as well as a selection of alternate times available around this date. To ensure you get a time which suits you, please return the booking sheet to the appropriate teacher promptly. We will be running strictly to time for your convenience. If you need to continue the conversation beyond the 15 minute time slot, please let the teacher know you would like to catch up again in the near future. If you are running late your session time will be reduced to ensure the schedule runs smoothly.