Principal’s Report

Education...PLUS!
Last Thursday and Friday I went to a conference around getting the PLUS in our Literacy and Numeracy learning. This PLUS needs to appear in all of our learning, not just literacy and numeracy!

HOW DO WE GET THIS PLUS??
One of the first things we can do is to develop the executive functions of each of our students.

What are Executive Functions??

Executive function and self-regulation skills are the mental processes that enable us to plan, focus attention, remember instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully. Just as an air traffic control system at a busy airport safely manages the arrivals and departures of many aircraft on multiple runways, the brain needs this skill set to filter distractions, prioritize tasks, set and achieve goals, and control impulses.

When children have opportunities to develop executive function and self-regulation skills, individuals and society experience lifelong benefits. These skills are crucial for learning and development. They also enable positive behaviour and allow us to make healthy choices for ourselves and our families.

When Do Executive Function Skills Develop?
A range of tests indicate that they begin to develop shortly after birth, with ages 3 to 5 providing an important window of opportunity for dramatic growth in these skills. Growth continues throughout adolescence and early adulthood; proficiency begins to decline later in life.

If you are after some activities you can do at home to improve your child/ren’s Executive Functions please follow the link below. Copy and paste the following link into your web browser.

http://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/tools_and_guides/enhancing_and_practicing_executive_function_skills_with_children/

H12 Yr 4-7 Focus Day
On Tuesday of this week we had Year 4-7 students from Lameroo and Geranium schools visit Pinnaroo for our H12 focus day. The day was a fantastic opportunity for the students from our three schools to socialise and spend some time working together learning. It was great to see them working together through the football, art and orienteering activities. Thanks to the parents who were able to volunteer with the catering for lunch it was a great meal and fundraiser for the Snow Trip planned for 2016.

SAPSASA News
Next week Tilly Nickolls, Emmerson Thiel and Bailey Vogt will be joining the Murray and Mallee SAPSASA Netball team for the state carnival in Adelaide. We wish them well for the week and now that they represent themselves and Pinnaroo positively. Congratulations must also go to Tristan Pearson who on Sunday tried out for the State SAPSASA swimming team and Bailey Vogt who is in the State SAPSASA Girls Cricket Squad continuing trainings for the remainder of the term. Good Luck to you all with your endeavors and efforts.
Thank you and Farewell Miss Fry
At the end of next week (week five) we will say goodbye to Miss Victoria Fry. It feels as though she only just started, as I only just welcomed her in the newsletter two weeks ago! The four weeks has hurried past. The good news for Miss Fry is that she has won a position for the remainder of the year as the R/1 teacher at East Murray Area School, so we will still be seeing her from time to time.

It has been fantastic to see the way Miss Fry has seamlessly managed the students in the transition while Miss Baron has been away. We wish Miss Fry all the best for her transition to East Murray and look forward to seeing her teaching career continue to grow.

‘Aim High’
Sunyl Vogt

SNAPSHOT of PPS, LRCS and GPS students with West Adelaide FC on Focus day earlier this week.

Student Awards

~ Student of the Week ~

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<tr>
<th>Term 2 Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>R/1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Makayla Hyde- speaking confidently.</td>
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<td><strong>2/3</strong></td>
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<td>Lana White- for her extra effort in her homework.</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Tyler- her improved attitude &amp; effort in all areas-neatness, spelling, concentration, time on task &amp; listening.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5/6/7</strong></td>
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<td>Yasmine Houston- good work habits &amp; progress in all subjects.</td>
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<td><strong>Principal</strong></td>
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<td>Alisha Palmer - Her consistent level of good work, focus in class, asking good questions, and her ability to be helpful and thoughtful of others.</td>
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<th>Term 2 Week 3</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>R/1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dallas Summerton- unpacking his bag correctly &amp; listening in group discussions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2/3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jazz Sharrad- for being a fantastic helper and always offering to help others with their work or jobs.</td>
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<td>Nicole Ribbons- for challenging herself with her maths homework.</td>
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<td><strong>5/6/7</strong></td>
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<td>Bailey Vogt- for continuing to think of others, the friendly manner which she helped others in volleyball.</td>
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~ Parent Club Award ~

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<tr>
<td><strong>R/1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>James Wallis- extra effort in the maths challenge.</td>
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<td><strong>2/3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Hyde- for always thinking positively and trying her best.</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitch Kingston- trying hard to concentrate &amp; stay on task this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5/6/7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Casey MacDermott- good effort helping with lunch orders.</td>
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<th>Term 2 Week 3</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>R/1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper Biggs- having a go in writing and his weather diary.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2/3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridie Gum- being supportive.</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhane Bell -f or putting in extra effort in his writing.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5/6/7</strong></td>
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<td>Zac White- for his narrative writing ‘showing’ rather than ‘telling’ about the characters and setting in the orientation.</td>
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<td><strong>Ryan Angel</strong></td>
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<td>the way he approached the challenges this week.</td>
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Governing Council

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!!
Next Governing Council Meeting Monday 1st June
Finance Meeting at 7.15pm
Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
All Apologies Please contact the school
8577 8176

Library Update

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME
Wednesday 27 May 2015

A whole school event @
The Pinnaroo School Community Library
From 10.20am
Hi to the whole school community,

It's so easy to be busy all the time. Too busy to stop and listen to others, even our partners and children. Do we often have on our mind the next job or can we enjoy the present moment. Did you know it has been National Families Week? May 15th-21st 2015.

Missed it! Don't worry every day is a day to celebrate life with the people in your family. Your family is so important and helps to make this a great community in which we live. Do you want to touch base more with your partner and children. Focus on the family are encouraging getting back to the table as a simple solution where families can, enjoying a meal together on a regular basis, listen and find out what's going on in each other's lives; discovering unconditional love, support and understanding. You're all on the same team, wanting the same things! Look up video clips to encourage you. [www.backtothetable.org.au](http://www.backtothetable.org.au)

The younger children have experienced making pastry and preparing vegetables for cocktail pasties this week. Thanks to Marika Thiel for helping for both those sessions. Some students also enjoyed making biscuits this week too. Thanks to Casey, Isobella, Estella and Angel for helping the young ones with cooking. I also want to thank Javen, Angus and Georgie for coming back to help clean up. You did a great job!

This week a sick galah was found on the oval. Mark and Jasmine Perry were very kind to come and pick it up and care for it so we just wanted to say a big thankyou to you both. Feel free to pop in and see me or you can make an appointment if you would like to.

Enjoy life! Blessings to you all from your Pastoral Care Worker.

Di Nuske.

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**PCW Update**

Alana, Casey and Isobella holding turnips picked on SRC day last week, from the school garden.

*It was a bountiful crop as you can see from the photo. The largest one weighed in at 1.336kg!*

*The students have already begun cooking pasties with these, and will be making soup today.*

*If you have any turnip recipes please let the school know!*
**Literacy**

We have finished all of our Jolly Phonic letter sounds and have really liked learning the letter and actions. For Accelerated Literacy we have been looking at the story Big Rain Coming by Katrina Germein. This story allows us to look at weather and seasons, days of the week, our need for water, and how we can help look after water.

**Cooking**

On Wednesdays we have been learning how to cook. This week we made pasties. We learnt how to knead and roll out dough. We watched the machine cut up the vegetables. The pasties tasted delicious! Thank you Mrs Nuske and Mrs Thiel for helping us cook!

From the R/1 Class

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**Focus Day**

On Tuesday some West Adelaide football players came to our school. We learnt and practiced how to kick and handball. I liked handballing.

From Bridie

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**Science**

In science we have been learning about the four seasons and the weather. We have been keeping a diary of the weather by drawing pictures and writing about what the weather is. We learnt that the leaves fall down in autumn and leaves have veins.

From Maddison and Alana

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**Dancing**

On Fridays we have been learning some bush dancing with Mrs Schiller. Thank you Mrs Schiller for teaching us, it is fun! We will be preforming at the open day, hope to see you there.

From Rachel and Angus
School Announcements

**PPS OPEN DAY**
The Pinnaroo Primary School Open Day will be held this term, on Friday 26th June. Past, prospective and present families, parents, grandparents and friends are all invited to attend what we are looking forward to being a great day. There will be a band, bush dancing by the students (visitors you may like to join in!) and food and displays throughout.

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT SUSAN CLOSE**

As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, I take this opportunity to recognise and thank all of you who donate your time and energy to volunteering.

We are fortunate to have around 25,000 South Australians – parents, carers, grandparents and other community members - who put their hand up to help out in our preschools, children's centres, schools and child protection settings.

When I visit schools and sites, I often see or hear about volunteers’ contributions. You take on many different roles – from helping in classrooms, coaching afternoon or weekend sports, staffing canteens, organising events, accompanying students on excursions, serving on committees or governing councils, to transporting children in care so they can maintain contact with relatives, or teaching languages in our ethnic schools so children can know their heritage.

Each role provides incredibly valuable support to children and their communities.

Not only do you help schools and sites to run more smoothly, you also help children and young people to develop skills, confidence and self-esteem. By donating your time and effort, you convey the message to children that they – and their education - are important.

Those of you who volunteer at your child’s preschool, children’s centre or school are also helping to set them up for success in their studies. Research tells us that children whose parents are involved in their education are more likely to stay in school longer and do better. And, as many of you have discovered, helping out in the classroom is a great way to find out what your children are learning and to get to know their teachers better.

This week, I join with your schools and sites in saying “thank you” to all our volunteers. Thank you for giving generously to your community and for being mentors and role models in children’s lives. I wish you all a wonderful week celebrating your efforts.

The Hon Susan Close

Minister for Education and Child Development
WE’RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 22 MAY 2015

Well it’s that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn’t realistic for many of us, it’s quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family’s daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:
- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 22 May 2015!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

PPS OPEN DAY - BUSHDANCING

At this year’s open day PPS will be hosting Me’ N Me Mates, a SA based trio who perform songs, stories and bush ballads to celebrate Australia’s distinctive language and humour in the tradition of Henry Lawson, Banjo Patterson and Slim Dusty. They play guitar, banjo, harmonica and percussion during their performance. They have performed at festivals and all other kinds of venues across SA, Vic, NSW & NT. Me’ N Me Mates provide the perfect accompaniment for our students who will be performing bush dancing they have been learning with Parent Club volunteer Mrs Lelle Schiller.

Me’ N Me Mates has been generously funded by the Mallee Sustainable Farming – Strengthening Communities project.
Mallee Arts have quite a few forthcoming workshops.
Bookings & payments to be made at either Lameroo or Pinnaroo Council Office.
For up-to-the-minute details check our Facebook page “Mallee Arts”.

40-Minute Fridays
Art/craft mini-workshops in the Pinnaroo Victoria Building.
22nd May – Make Your Own Buttons (10am; $5)
5th June – Ink & Pencil Mandalas (10am; $2)
19th June – Hand Printed Miniature Art Doll (10am; $5)
On each of the above Fridays the room will be open from 11am to 3pm to anyone who would like to come and work on, start or finish off any craft or art activity.

Card Making @ Parilla
Tuesday June 16th with Barb Ireland
Beginners to Advanced (no experience necessary).
Session: 12:30-3:00pm
Places limited to 10 people. Cost $20 per session.
All materials and equipment will be supplied.

Photography – Turning Your Photos Into Gold
Photo editing made easy and how to make easy short films using smartphone or tablet.
Bring: laptop, phone or tablet, and your photo collection.
Date: Sunday May 24th
Venue: Lameroo CWA. Cost $5.

STAY TUNED for SPROUT Cooking workshops in June/July, which have been graciously funded by