



### CONTACT DETAILS

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~ Established 1906 ~

**Term : 4 Week : 8**

## December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 ~Diary Dates~

### December

3<sup>rd</sup> R-3 Sleepover  
 4<sup>th</sup> Lunch order day  
 11<sup>th</sup> End of Term  
 Special Assembly  
 Volunteers BBO

### January 2016

29<sup>th</sup> Enrolment &  
 Book Collection Day

### February 2016

1<sup>st</sup> Term 1 starts  
 8<sup>th</sup> Acquaintance Night

### TERM DATES-2015

Term 1. ~ 27<sup>th</sup> Jan- 10<sup>th</sup> Apr  
 Term 2. ~ 27<sup>th</sup> Apr - 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
 Term 3. ~ 20<sup>th</sup> July- 25<sup>th</sup> Sept  
 Term 4. ~ 12<sup>th</sup> Oct- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

### TERM DATES-2016

Term 1. ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Feb ~ 15<sup>th</sup> Apr  
 Term 2. ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> May - 8<sup>th</sup> July  
 Term 3. ~ 25<sup>th</sup> July- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept  
 Term 4. ~ 17<sup>th</sup> Oct- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

### Recent Notes

<u>Date</u>	<u>Note</u>
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## Principal's Report

It has come to that time of year again where this is the last newsletter for 2015!!

There have been many highlights throughout the year and I would like to thank everyone that has shared and contributed to the Pinnaroo Primary School over the past 12 months. Without your valuable contributions the students learning would not be as well rounded.

Some of the highlights, activities, events and learning that have taken place have been:

- Outstanding support from parents at Acquaintance Night
- Continued Australian Curriculum Implementation
- Learning improvement in all students
- Sporting Schools Program
- Continued success of student reading and the Literacy Shield
- Continued implementation and success of AL
- Continued excellent Growth in our NAPLAN results
- 5/6/7 Mildura Camp, 4 Narnu Camp, R/1/2 Riverland Excursion
- Great SAPSASA involvement
- Enormous support of Governing Council and Parent Club

Along with these significant events a multitude of other great learning and community events have also taken place.

### Musical Performance

Last Monday we had a special Assembly with the Parent Club celebrating their Annual Life Members' morning tea. Thanks to the Parent Club for organising this event and for Karyn Skewes and all of the music students for the fantastic work they put in to their

great performances. Well Done!

Premiers Reading Challenge awards were also handed out on the day. It was very pleasing to see so many kids being rewarded for their reading efforts. Well Done.

### Transition Day

Yesterday we held a whole school transition, where the current kindy students (next year's receptions) attended school and everyone moved up a year level. This enabled all students to spend some time working with the teacher and students they will be with in 2016 and begin understanding the routines and dynamics of a new classroom. It was especially great to have Ms Sarah O'Driscoll visit as the new 2/3 teacher for 2016.

### Staffing—Farewells and Changes

Along with a number of students leaving Pinnaroo Primary School we are also farewelling a very valuable staff member— Miss Baron (who has chosen to spend some time travelling) will leave us next Friday after providing all students in her care numerous learning opportunities, events and activities. She has been a dedicated, supportive and professional educator over the past 12 months and fitted into the school and community very well!

### Farewells and Presentation of School Pennants

Next Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, a brief assembly will be held at 12.15pm, to farewell a number of students. Our Year 7s who leave Pinnaroo Primary School will be presented with their pennants by the Parent Club. Emmerson Thiel, Casey MacDermott,



Shania Palmer and Will Colwill will also be painting their hand prints on the wall at the end of the upper primary building. All parents and carers are welcome to join us for the celebration. Our Year 7 students will be moving on to high school and I would like to congratulate them on their achievements, and wish them the very best for the future.

In addition Harry Ribbons and Cody Bennier will be leaving us. We wish all students and their families the best with the change of schools.

### **Prevent brain drain during the holidays**

The summer holidays offer a well-deserved break after a long, hard academic year. It would be a shame to let all the learning your children to have done over the year go backwards. Yes it really happens!!

While it is important to allow your child time to relax and play, it is equally important to keep their brain stimulated and prevent regression.

Kids tend to enjoy watching TV because it's a passive activity that often doesn't require much thinking. While it's fine to veg out and switch off a little, a lot of TV time will likely cause students to go backwards. Instead of watching TV for long periods, encourage your child to read a book as reading is cognitively stimulating... and can be just as enjoyable.

### **Last Day of School**

Next Friday 11th December is the last day of term. From 12:15pm we will be conducting our last assembly of the year, followed by our volunteers BBQ and the annual graduation water fight. All parents are invited to attend as a celebration of the end of the year!

**Reminder that school will be finishing at the earlier time of 2.20pm.**

In closing I would sincerely like to thank all staff for their dedication and support in 2015, as well as all the parents, the community and their contributions that make Pinnaroo Primary a fantastic learning environment. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Christmas, New Year and holiday break. See you in 2016!

"Aim High"  
Sunyl Vogt

## **A word from your PCW**

Dear Parents,

Well the school year has finally come to the close and we're thinking of you all as you celebrate with family and friends over this Christmas period. Whether that be family get togethers, or celebrating Jesus' birth, may it be a wonderful time. May you also be able to take this time to have some enjoyable and well deserved breaks, with family fun and quiet times.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with your children over the past year and I look forward to catching up with you when I return in March. I have been blessed to be able to have the first six weeks that school starts to be over with my family in Chile getting to know a different way of life and culture.

Wishing Trisha and Ahmad all the best for the safe arrival of their new baby early next year.

A farewell also to Tessa. It's been a pleasure working with you and I hope you enjoy your working holiday in England.

Wishing you well, blessings to you all.  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
Your PCW, Dianne Nuske

## **Governing Council**



Next Governing Council Meeting  
Tuesday 8th December  
Working Bee, beginning at 5.00pm  
Followed by BBQ Tea and final meeting of the year.  
Finance Meeting at 7.45pm  
Governing Council Meeting 8.00pm  
All apologies please contact the school 8577 8176

# Student Awards

## ~ Student of the Week ~

### Term 4 Week 7

- R/1 Alana Oster** - reading with fluency and always helping
- 2/3 Lana White** – for creating a detailed information report on gliders.
- 4 Zac White** - for consistently presenting work of a high standard and showing good work habits.
- 5/6/7 Abbey Thiel** - for her powerpoint presentation in science
- Principal Emmerson Thiel**—Consistently high standard of work; Patience, attention to detail and always doing her best to improve. Living up to the school motto of 'Aim high'.

## ~ Parent Club Award ~

### Term 4 Week 7

- R/1 Maddison Gum** - her extra effort in writing her information report.
- 2/3 Lauren Angel** - for always trying her best.
- 4 Nathalia Mountford** - for showing some really deep thinking in maths and science this week.
- 5/6/7 Jaylen Vogt** - for his persistence with his art project.

## 2016 Enrolment & Book Collection Day

Friday 29th January 2016  
10.00am—3.30pm



### Last day of school

Students will be sent home with their 2015 school books on the last day of school. If you are able to send a large plastic bag in with your child it would be greatly appreciated.

### Summer Dress Orders

Orders can be made for summer school dresses at the front office on 85778176.

These are made to order by the Mt Barker Uniform Shop and range in price from \$60-\$65 depending on size.

### Private Music Lessons in 2016

Spaces will be available next year for students wishing to learn either piano, guitar, drums or singing with Karen Skewes. Lessons are held Mondays during school time. In the music room. If you have a child interested please contact Karen directly on 0414 253 956.

### Uniform sale

There are a number of blue long sleeve polo shirts available on sale. Originally \$25, these shirts have been marked down to just \$18.

Assorted sizes available. If you would like to purchase, please see one of our friendly staff in the front office. Be quick to grab a bargain!

### SA State School Term Dates

All school terms – break up 1 hour early on last day of term for school holidays

### Term Dates for 2015

Term 4 12 October – 11 December

### Term Dates for 2016

Term 1 1 February – 15 April  
Term 2 2 May – 8 July  
Term 3 25 July – 30 September  
Term 4 17 October – 16 December

### Public Holidays 2016

Australia Day – Tuesday 26 January (during school holidays)  
Adelaide Cup – Monday 14 March  
Good Friday – Friday 25 March  
Easter Monday 0 Monday 28 March  
Anzac Day – Monday 25 April (during school holidays)  
Queen's Birthday – Monday 13 June  
Labour Day – Monday 3 October (during school holidays)

# WORKING MEMORY

Working Memory is the mental workspace where we hold and manipulate information in our mind. This is the information we need in real time as we are engaged in thinking, learning, planning and behavioural self control. Working Memory is managed by the frontal area of our brain.

When it comes to **behaviour**, Working Memory is where we hold the information necessary to 'think before acting'. In this way we are able to remember rules and consider consequences, so that we can make the best decisions about how we want to behave.

In order to pay **attention**, Working Memory is necessary for us to remember what we are paying attention to. When distractions come along, we need to be able to process those distractions, yet remember what we should be focusing on.

In the **classroom**, the types of information held in working memory may be a series of instructions given by the teacher, or the words of a sentence a child is planning to write, whilst thinking about the spelling and punctuation of the words they are actually writing. <http://cd.net.au/workingmemory>

New studies show that the level of Working Memory that children have is an important indicator of how well they will achieve in life.

Ways to improve children's Working Memory:

- Instructions - start off giving multi-step instructions and then move onto multi-tasks with multi-step instructions.
- Board Games – games like Chess, Othello, Ludo, 4 in a row, Mah-jong, Mastermind – games that don't rely heavily on chance, but need the child to think, plan ahead, and strategise. There are online and App versions for most board games.
- Jigsaw Puzzles – especially puzzles where there are a lot of similar pieces, so the child has to hold a few pieces of information, like the shape and colour of a piece as they look.
- Concentration – where you have pairs of cards face down and you have to find the pairs. There are many online sites where you can print off card sets.
- Verbal Games – “I went shopping and I bought...” and you have to go around and remember all the items the people before you have said, and then add on. There are many versions: “I went to the Zoo and saw...”
- “I went to the Farm and I heard...”
- categories – “person, place, thing”
- list of things in alphabetical order (animals, countries, names)
- Playing musical instruments, reciting poetry, making up puppet plays, are all ways where the brain is exercised in using Working Memory.
- Books like “Where's Wally” and other find the “hunt the picture” books, online games and apps.

Hear are some online sites that offer games and activities:

## UPPER PRIMARY

<http://www.mindgames.com/brain-games.php>

<http://www.pomindcake.com/>

<http://www.archimedes-lab.org/mastermind.html>

## MIDDLE & JUNIOR PRIMARY

<http://www.nick.com/games/brain-surge-brain-training.html>

<http://www.funbrain.com/>

<http://www.memory-improvement-tips.com/brain-games.html>

<http://www.kidsmemory.com/>



## EARLY LEARNING

<http://www.tvokids.com/games/ribbitfrogribbit>

<http://www.tvokids.com/games/hopfroghop>

If you want some professional help there is the COGMED programme that runs out of Learning Keys in Adelaide. Cogmed Working Memory Training is an evidence-based program for helping children, adolescents, and adults sustainably improve attention by training their working memory.

The program is based on strong scientific research and it is done in the convenience of your own home under the supervision of a qualified Cogmed Coach.

The complete program includes:

- Initial interview
- Start-up session
- Five weeks of training with weekly coach calls
- Wrap-up meeting
- Six month follow-up interview
- Access to the Cogmed Training Web
- Cogmed Extension Training (12 months).

Cogmed is computer-based training, using a PC at home. No need for office visits after the initial interview. The software adjusts complexity level for each exercise, in real time, for maximised training effect. The 25 training sessions of 30-40 minutes each, are done over 5 weeks. These are supported by a Cogmed Coach who leads the training, tracks results, and gives support and motivation.

Cogmed Training Web gives all users online access to their own training results and progress status. Additionally, Cogmed Extension Training allows the user to further sharpen the acquired capacity and to verify how the results hold over time.

Cogmed Working Memory Training is built around three easy-to-use and age-specific software applications:

- Cogmed JM – Pre-school. Younger children use their working memory for a number of things, such as focusing on and following instructions, and remaining seated to complete independent activities
- Cogmed RM – School age. Working memory is crucial for children and adolescents in school and socially. Reading, solving math problems, planning, and following a conversation all rely on working memory
- Cogmed QM – Adult. Working memory in adult and professional life is critical for challenges such as planning, focusing, resisting distraction, and meeting deadlines.

<http://www.learningkeys.com.au/programs/cogmed.html>

**Foodbank SA Christmas Food Hampers available in the Mallee!**

*Hampers include a wide range of staple foods, plus premium Christmas goodies like canned leg ham, mince pies, Christmas cake and pudding.*

**By order only, for mid December delivery**

(Delivering to Lameroo, Pinnaroo, Parilla, Murrayville).

Please order by calling Paul 0407715189 by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Payment must be received prior to delivery

**\$45 (\$90 retail value)**

- Leg Ham 450g can
- Christmas Fruit Cake 650g
- Fruit Mince Pies 6 pack
- Christmas Fruit Pudding 400g
- UHT Custard 1ltr
- Tuna 425g can
- Pasta Sauce 575g
- Pasta - Spaghetti 500g pkt
- Rice 1kg pkt
- Pea/Carrot Vegetable Mix 420g
- Corn 420g can
- Fruit 825g can
- Cereal 2x750g pkts
- Baked Beans 2x425g cans
- Savoury biscuits 2 pkts
- Confectionery 2 pkts
- Snack 150g - 200g
- Jam 250g
- Jelly 1pkt
- Soft Drink 1.25 ltr
- Tea Bag 50 pack
- And a special little surprise!

**\$35 (\$70 retail value)**

- Christmas fruit cake 650gm
- Christmas fruit pudding 400gm
- UHT custard 1lt
- Tuna 425gm
- Pasta sauce 575gm
- Pasta 2x500gm
- Rice 1kg
- Peas/carrot 420gm
- Corn 420gm
- Fruit 825gm
- Savoury biscuit 2pkts
- Confectionery 2pkts
- UHT milk 1lt
- Jelly 1pkt
- Soft drink 1,25lt
- Tea bag 1x50 pk
- And a special little surprise!



**\$10**



**COOK BOOK**

All proceeds go towards the 2016 Ski trip

**ON SALE NOW**

# Community Notices

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

Friday 18th December 2015

LEAVING 7.00pm at South Oval

BE THERE BY 6.30pm

Start now organizing your floats for the street parade

Children can have photo taken with

Father Christmas for \$5.00

Decorate anything on wheels

Cash Prizes

Christmas lights judged on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Lions BBQ available from 6.30pm

Donations towards the event for the Children can be sent to

PO Box 27 Pinnaroo or at the Pinnaroo Newsagency

Contact Sharon Phelps Street Parade Committee

Mobile 0428 581 485

Supported by Pinnaroo Lions Club



VACSWIM 2016  
PINNAROO SWIMMING POOL

Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday January 8<sup>th</sup>

Swimming, water safety & basic rescue skills for School children.

7 sessions (40 min) over 5 days

Cost: \$31.50 + daily pool entry (for non-season ticket holders)

Enrol online ([www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim](http://www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim)) by

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Instructor In-Charge: Joanna Summerton



WONDER (9-36months) & COURAGE (3-4yrs) SESSIONS  
PINNAROO SWIMMING POOL

Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> - Saturday January 9<sup>th</sup>

5 sessions x 30 min (January 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> + one on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>)

Cost: \$31.50 + daily pool entry

**Wonder** - water familiarisation program for children & parents, uses songs, games & activities to teach children a variety of skills.

(Note: parent/carer participation in class is essential - no pool entry charge for this adult).

**Courage** - water confidence program for children, seeks to build water confidence and develop water skills. Small class sizes.

Enrol online ([www.royallifesavingsa.com.au](http://www.royallifesavingsa.com.au); Holiday Swim)

by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Instructor In-charge: Debbie Colwill



PINNAROO  
NETBALL  
CLUB

## Coaches Required

Now seeking expressions of interest in all Senior and Junior Grades for the 2016 Season



Please email expression of interest to [pinnaroosecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pinnaroosecretary@gmail.com) by the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016



UNDER 5 SESSIONS AT PINNAROO SWIMMING POOL  
(Coinciding with Vacswim 2016)

January 4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> 2016

5 sessions x 30 mins

(Mon 4<sup>th</sup>, Wed 6<sup>th</sup>, Fri 8<sup>th</sup>, Sat 9<sup>th</sup> + one of Tues 5<sup>th</sup> or Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>)

Cost: \$31.50 + daily pool entry

**Wonder (9-36m)** - water familiarisation program for children & parents, uses songs, games & activities to teach children a variety of skills.  
(Note: parent/carer participation in class is essential.)

**Courage (3-4yr)** - water confidence program for children, seeks to build water confidence and develop water skills. Small class sizes.

Enrol online ([www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim](http://www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim)) or by calling RLSSA on 08 8210 4500.

For further information please contact Debbie Colwill (8577 4063 or 0429 678 666).

BRONZE STAR, MEDALLION & CROSSAWARDS @  
PINNAROO SWIMMING POOL  
(Coinciding with Vacswim 2016)

January 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2016

Enrol online ([www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim](http://www.royallifesavingsa.com.au/vacswim)) or by calling RLSSA on 08 8210 4500 by FRIDAY DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>.

# Premier's Reading Challenge 2015



## Tennis Coaching and Tournament

**8s and 10s Development Day December 6th in Loxton....Theme. Perception and Reception Skills.**

8s from 9.00-10.30

10s from 10.30-12.00

This is a must for children who want to improve their tennis. The drills and activities are best practice and will assist your child in tracking and receiving the ball, which are prerequisite skills for sending the ball. A lot of time has been spent in the past on sending the ball or technique, but unless children can track the ball and move into good position then a lot of this is wasted. The drills used can be taken back to your club and used to develop your club juniors' tennis.

**Riverland Junior Development Series Tournament..... Sunday December 13th in Berri.**

This is another opportunity for children to improve their tennis. Children get plenty of matches with modified balls and scoring. They are fun and well suited to children who are just starting out as well as children who have been playing for some time.

There will be some hard copies available on Saturday but Georgia Tzanavaras [Tournament Director] has stressed that children enter online which is the way almost all tournaments are entered these days.

This is the link for entering online.

<http://tournaments.tennis.com.au/sport/tournament.aspx?id=20A1FFC8-FCB9-44D4-A0EA-D62343C840A6>

For more information contact Craig Gum - 0448 775 322