



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education  
and Child Development



# Murray Bridge North School NEWSLETTER

Issue 6  
April  
Term 1 2017

## *From the Principal ...*

### Changes for Term 2, 2017

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

There are a number of changes which will occur in Term 2 in our school.

#### **Additional Leadership and Student Support:**

We have employed a Speech Pathologist to work with teachers and with students. We welcome **Amanda Archer** to the school staff. Amanda will provide additional support to our students implementing a Boost Program initially in the Junior Primary classes – to boost student language skills.

We will also have an **Intervention Co-ordinator**, at Leadership Level. Their role will be to directly help students and teachers meet the needs of students who require additional support in Mathematics and Literacy.

#### **Classroom Teachers:**

Unfortunately both **Mrs Jolly** and **Mrs Miegel** continue to be unwell, and we wish them both a speedy recovery.

#### **Disruption in Term 2:**

The staff and I are trying desperately to reduce the disruption to students, however, there are a number of things beyond our control.

1. **Staffing:**

- a. We would like to thank **Mrs McGrath** who has worked in 6.8 all of this term. Staff, students and parents will be sad to see her leave us. From the start of Term 2, **Mrs Olivia Strother** will teach in 6.8. Olivia has worked at our school over a number of years and we welcome Olivia back to North School.
- b. **Mr Rob Hardy**, who has been teaching in 6.5 will be teaching in another section of the school supporting our Student Support Program.

2. **Building:** During Term 2 there will be a number of building projects occurring around our school. The disruption to learning should be minimal however; the benefits to us in the future will be significant.

- a. **The Kitchen:** At last the Kitchen and Eating Area will be built during the term. This may occur late in the term but will provide us with a fantastic teaching and learning area. The Kitchen will be a teaching area and most classes will learn cooking.
- b. **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics): As you may know we are a STEM School. Work is expected to begin shortly on the \$1,000,000 STEM refurbishment. Initially a wall will be 'moved' in Building 2 affecting rooms 2.10, 2.9 and Science. This refurbishment will continue for some time, but the outcomes will be a huge benefit to our school.

**Along with the new STEM teaching area, we will be upgrading the technology to support future learning.**

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We acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri people as the traditional owners of this land on which we meet and work. We respect and acknowledge their spiritual connection as the custodians of this land and that their cultural heritage beliefs are still important to the living people today.

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## **Attendance at School**

It is very pleasing that in Term 1 this year we had nearly 300 students who attended school every day, that's 100% attendance!

## **Reading**

Students at our school are expected to **read aloud to an adult every day**. Ideally this should be done in the evening, at home and with a parent or caregiver. I would like to congratulate the huge number of students, parents and caregivers who are improving their reading.

Sorry to say, but we have some students who are not reading regularly. This needs to change. In education there is a relationship between 'time on task' and the results achieved! That is, the more time you spend practicing your reading, the better you become at it.

## **Mathematics**

The whole school is moving forward with Mathematics.

By the end of Year 3 all students should know their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables from 1x1 to 12x10 and back. By the end of Year 4 ALL students should know ALL of their times tables from 1x1 to 12x12, and back.

If you have a child in Year 4, or higher, and they don't know their times tables, this could be a valuable holiday job. Yes, if your child does not know their times tables, they are disadvantaged as Mathematics becomes more demanding.

## **Sport's Day**

It was outstanding to see so many people at school on Sport's Day, and the students did exceptionally well. It was a great day!

But ... we catered for a big crowd and a huge crowd came along. Thank you to the members of the Parent Club who ran the BBQ and thank you to Teresa and the crew who volunteered in the canteen. But ... yes in catering we did run out of a lot and yes, we have learnt our lesson for next time.

## **Behaviour**

Parents, Caregivers and Community Members are always welcome at school. Coming to school to support the children sends a valuable message to the students and the staff and I appreciate this. But ... when you arrive at school, please remember that **Murray Bridge North School is a Safe Language Zone**. As such we cannot and will not accept offensive language, from anyone.

## **Reminder**

Last Day of School is Thursday 13/4/2017, Remember Early Dismissal 2:10pm.

Enjoy your Easter Break.

Kevin Lee

