

From the Principal

What is the Phonics Screening Check and why are we excited about our results?

As I have written about in previous newsletters, Phonics are one of the building blocks of reading for meaning - a very important part. A deep understanding and automaticity of phonics means students can see a letter or combination of letters and recognise the sound they make in written language meaning they can decode text through blending sounds and understanding that the sounds they are making are words. Obviously being able to hear the sounds, Phonemic Awareness, and knowing as many words as possible, Vocabulary, are also crucial steps in the development of Phonics.

The Phonics Screening Check is based on a UK model that proved successful in identifying students who were tracking well on their phonics development and those who needed additional support. This is now part of the Department for Education's regular state-wide data collection strategy. The Phonics Screening Check is delivered to all year 1 students in term 3 each year. Our JP teachers have been

implementing consistent strategies across classes to build a strong foundation of the building blocks of reading. We have been working with experts and researching the best possible evidence-based practices so all students gain sound literacy skills which increase their chances of being successful in all areas of their school life and beyond. There have been significant changes to teachers' practice and a large amount of funding spent on intervention strategies for students needing support. This year's Phonics Screening Check is our first indicator of our approach's success.

Over the last two weeks year 1 teachers have been individually testing each of their students on their phonics sounds. The test is in two parts. The first features real words and the second has nonsense, or made-up words. Students are prepped so they understand some of the words are not real words and these are indicated in the test. The purpose of these is so students truly have to decode the phonics (the letter sound relationship) in order to pronounce it instead of relying on words they see frequently and

may have memorised.

So why are we excited?

Firstly the percentage of students who have reached the Standard of Educational Achievement (SEA) has improved significantly – over 80%.

Secondly a large number of our students who have achieved above the SEA have achieved well beyond the standard – much higher than expected.

Finally many of our students who did not achieve the SEA only just missed it by one or two sounds. These sounds are easily caught up through explicit, direct and intense teaching in small groups or individually.

We are on a mission to ensure we give all of our students the best possible start to their literacy journey and will continue to work hard to do just that.

Kind regards

ALEC TIBBITTS

Diary Dates

14th & 15th September
Bike Ed—Year 5

Friday, 18th September
SVG Pyjama Day

Friday, 25th September
Last day term 3
School finishes at 2.05pm

Term 4
Monday, 12th October
First Day Term 4

Friday, 16th October
District Athletics Day



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Curriculum Corner

As a site we have continued to learn and put into practice guided reading pedagogy. This is an important part of our reading with students.

What is Guided Reading?

Guided Reading is a small instructional group approach, which is used with students at all levels to practise reading skills and strategies in order to gain meaning from the text. The teacher works with a small group of students with similar learning needs and guides and supports them to read the text independently. They read a range of texts that are usually at their instructional level so that they can

access most of the text independently but there is an element of challenge. Guided reading sessions include discussion about comprehension and reflection on the learning and next steps for the students.

Why is Guided Reading important?

Guided reading is the transition point to independence in the gradual release of responsibility. The students are taking over the reading process, with support and guidance from the teacher. The guided approach provides an opportunity for the teacher to observe and notice what students are able to do independently while

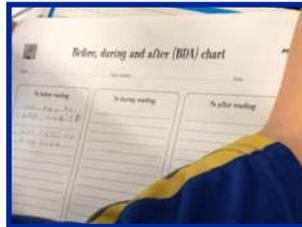
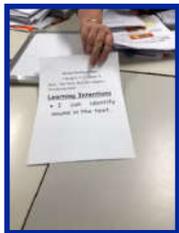
they read and to support them to practise their reading and achieve their goals.

Each group has a different learning intention so that it meets the needs of students.

I personally have used the Guided reading approach for over 20 years and this has been the most successful way to support students with their reading.

Until next time,

Leah Searle
Senior Leader - Curriculum



**M&S 2020 Fees
are now overdue
Please make payment
asap**

Friendly Schools & Online Safety

The next two posters that our students have been introduced to in our Friendly Schools work are supporting the students to develop a bank of strategies that they can use if they are being bullied. These cover both face to face and online bullying.

These strategies aren't only for the school yard. They can be used at school, at home and anywhere in between. They are strategies that can be used by children, teenagers and adults alike. They are lifelong skills that will benefit each and every one of us. If we are lucky, our students will never need to use these skills, but empowering them with strategies for if the situation arises means they are more likely to be able to manage a bullying

situation if it should arise.

Let me know if you'd like a copy of these to have at home.

Online Safety

As many people would be aware, during the week there was some graphic and very disturbing content that was live streamed on Tik Tok. The advice from the eSafety commissioner was to closely monitor and supervise children's access to Tik Tok, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, at least until the content was able to be contained and removed.

Whilst we all know these platforms mentioned above have age restrictions, we are also aware many of our students have access to them, and other platforms that are age appropriate. We acknowledge that families are doing their best to support their children to use social media in a positive manner. The Friendly Schools online bullying strategies will help children to develop strategies if they are bullied online. The eSafety commission has the following recommendations to families about ways to limit your child's exposure to hurtful online content, and also ways to support them

to develop helpful, friendly and safe practices online:

- Engage in your child's online activities – ask what apps, sites and games they're using and make sure they are age appropriate
- Use parental controls on devices to help limit what your child is exposed to
- Help them report and block upsetting content they see on social media sites or apps
- Let them know they can come to you about anything upsetting they see on line (www.esafety.gov.au/report/illegal-harmful-content). Often children apprehensive about sharing this information with their parents / carers as they believe they will have their devices taken away from them.

If your child has been impacted, you can contact Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800. Phone support is available all day, every day. Online support is available from 8am – midnight every day.

Anne Baldwin
Student Wellbeing Leader



PE News with Mr Asher

Sports Day Run-Offs

Sports Day will be taking place early next term—date to be advised. Sports Day run-offs will be happening next week from Tuesday-Friday in Lesson 1. Students will be running off in their year level colour groups to be selected for the Championship Sprint races on Sports Day. It will look a little different this year with the girls and boys combining from each year level colour to form a relay team to run off against the other teams.

The times are listed below:

Tuesday – Reception and Year 1

Wednesday – Year 2 and Year 3

Thursday – Year 4,5,6,7

SAPSASA News

Congratulations to Kirby from Room 4 who was selected in the Gawler & District SAPSASA Hockey team that participated in the State Championships held at West Beach in Week 6. Kirby's team finished 7th and showed great improvement over the week. Well done on your selection and being a great representative for our school!

Jake Asher
PE Teacher



Student Voice Group

A huge thankyou to one of our student voice action teams who saw the need to get our handball courts repainted. They showed great leadership by seeking permission from Mr Tibbitts and then approaching our groundsman, John, to complete the job. They look fantastic and are being well used by the students. Keep up the great work student voice group. Thanks for making our school yard a fun and active place to be!



Lost Property in the Library

The library has a lot of items in the lost property cupboard. Please come on in if you're missing a jumper or a water bottle. These are the things that haven't been labelled with a name:

Jumpers	Tops	1 x pair size 5/6 shorts
1 x size 4	1 x size 4	
2 x size 3/4	1 x size 5	1 umbrella
1 x size 5	1 x size 7	
6 x size 5/6	1 x size 8	1 x headband
3 x size 6		
1 x size 7		1 beanie
2 x size 7/8		
7 x size 8		<u>Lots</u> of water bottles
8 size 10		
6 x size 12		
1 x size 14		
1 x small		

Reminder

SVG Pyjama Day

Friday, 18th September

Gold coin donation—raising money for Backpacks for SA Kids

School Crossing

Week 9

Morning

Emily Hill
Cameron Smith
Mariah Anderson

Afternoon

Brock Boyle
Lucy Jenkins
Jack Jolly

Week 10

Morning

Brooklyn Groch
Cooper Stoker
Khloe Claxton

Afternoon

Kiara Macdonald
Lily Gooley
Blake Riches



Our new Playpals space

\$500 to help with education costs for you or your children

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for education costs.

Contact
Stacey Hall
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator
Phone
0417 048 689
Email
Stacey.Hall@thesmithfamily.com.au
Web
www.saverplus.org.au

- laptops & tablets
- uniforms & shoes
- vocational education
- lessons & activities

To join Saver Plus you must meet all of the below criteria:

- have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- be at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner)
- have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



Saver Plus is an initiative of Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society, and The Smith Family, and other local community agencies. The Program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.saverplus.org.au for more information.

YOUTH SPACE

Connecting young people to opportunities

OCTOBER HOLIDAY

FUN STUFF & SKILL DEVELOPMENT

LEARN TO DRAW SEA CREATURES! WITH LUKE HALFORD FROM 10 AM TO 11 PM AGES 8-12 ON TUESDAY 29th OF SEPTEMBER SEP 29 8-12 YEAR OLDS	BARISTA COURSE LEVEL 1 BASICS SEP 30 14-25 YEAR OLDS
HOW TO ADULT GETTING A JOB This one day course will take you through the recruitment process for the industry you want a job in! SEP 30 14-25 YEAR OLDS	Write a Song WITH CRAFFT OCT 1 12-17 YEAR OLDS
Polymer Clay Lanyard Making OCT 6 8-17 YEAR OLDS	BARISTA COURSE LEVEL 1 BASICS OCT 7 14-25 YEAR OLDS
Record a Song WITH CRAFFT OCT 8 12-17 YEAR OLDS	FOR ALL COURSE COSTS, LOCATIONS, REGISTRATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION youth.gawler.sa.gov.au or call 8522 9295 Strictly limited numbers due to COVID-19 restrictions BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

GAWLER CIVIC CENTRE
89-91 MURRAY STREET, GAWLER

Gawler

Medication at School

Any medication required to be given at school must be notified via the Front Office. A Medication Agreement form will be provided and must be completed by a GP or Specialist. Staff are not able to administer medication unless this form is provided to us. Medication must be provided in original pharmacy packaging—clearly labelled. **Forms available on our website or Skoolbag.** Asthma Care Plans must be provided even if students keep their Ventolin for use themselves. Asthma medication will be kept in the class room by the Teacher if required (under supervision). School Ventolin is available for students at recess or lunch time if required (an Asthma Care Plan is needed). If your child has a Non-specific health condition that requires additional care then a time must be made with the Principal to discuss the needs of the student and forms completed.

'With Love' formal wear is a non-profit charity organisation that dresses students who may be experiencing financial hardship at no cost for Year 12 Formals and Year 7 Graduations.

Located at 1506 Main North Road Salisbury South.

Join their Facebook Community for Pop-Up Boutique dates and times.
<https://www.facebook.com/withloveformalwear/>

2020 With Love Formal Wear has been nominated for a Westfield Local Hero which is a recognition program that celebrates individuals who make a positive impact to their local community. Find out more at:
<https://www.westfield.com.au/teatreeplaza>

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