



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



The Cyber story continues

During this last week we have been sharing stories with our community about a sharp rise concerning the use of negative cyber conversations that have caused harm to students both at and outside our school. This relatively small group of young people have used the shield of their devices to throw slander and hurtful comments at the other members of groups such as Snapchat. And to add to these worrying faceless acts, the nastiness has at times continued face to face. These "chats and messages" have included put-downs, hurtful personal comments, and even threats of violence toward individuals. The individuals in these groups have often accepted unknown people into these groups, not knowing who they are or what risk they bring. When asked why they accept unknown people or why they do not block hurtful people, the answer is "I don't know" or "I need to know what they are saying about me". These "need to know" statements are mostly ending up with what we would describe as, Broken Rule retaliations. In other words, treating the person on the other end of the device the way you don't want to be treated yourself rather than trying to use the Golden Rule of blocking members, leaving the group, or just not involving yourself in this type of online profile. It sounds so easy, doesn't it? Well we know it's not, especially for children of this age. They are still developing their own self-awareness and self-control as well as understanding the effect that their actions can have on those that they target or get "revenge" on.

As a school we are consistently educating our students on these things, from a school-based level through to inviting people into our school to tell stories about how these behaviours can have devastating outcomes for families.

This has included such things as the story of Carly Ryan www.carlyryanfoundation.com, Maddy's story – Bullied to Broken, www.bigtalksforlittlepeople/posts/debbies-story, Sammy D Foundation www.sammydfoundation.org.au as well as SA Police from a legal and moral point of view. We believe that by understanding what outcomes can occur from these behaviours, both online and face to face, we can raise the empathy of your children to help lessen these incidents.

At Salisbury Downs, we take this seriously and are working hard to do our bit to minimise these incidents from occurring. As significant adults in these children's lives, we need to work together to ensure we know what our children are doing online, what apps are they using, whether they are they ok, and who are they connecting with?

Again, this is not easy because these platforms are constantly changing and our children are good at hiding their profiles, but we all have a responsibility as adults to keep our children safe and accountable for their actions.

Please support you children by teaching them "am I":

- always thinking and checking that what I write or post is polite and respectful
- being kind to my friends and classmates and thinking about how the things I do or say online might make them feel
- not sending mean or bullying messages or forwarding them to other people.
- When I use digital technologies I protect personal information by being aware that my full name, photo, birthday, address and phone number is personal information and is not to be shared online. This means I:
 - protect my friends' information in the same way
 - protect my passwords and don't share them with anyone except my parent
 - only ever join spaces with my parents or teacher's guidance and permission
 - never answer questions online that ask for my personal information

When I use digital technologies I respect myself and others by thinking about what I share online. This means I:

- stop to think about what I post or share online
- use spaces or sites that are appropriate, and if I am not sure I ask a trusted adult or teacher for help
- protect my friends' full names, birthdays, school names, addresses and phone numbers
- because this is their personal information
- speak to a trusted adult/teacher if I see something that makes me feel upset or if I need help
- speak to a trusted adult/teacher if someone is unkind to me or if I know someone else is upset or scared
- don't deliberately search for something rude or violent
- turn off or close the screen if I see something I don't like and tell a trusted adult or teacher
- am careful with the equipment I use.





Book Week 2022

Each year, across Australia, The CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) brings children and books together celebrating Children's Book Week. This years theme was called 'Dreaming with eyes open'. During this time Schools, Libraries, Booksellers, Authors, Illustrators and children celebrate Australian Children's Literature.

Last week Salisbury Downs Primary School participated in Book Week. The nominated books were read and each class worked on an activity about their chosen book. On Friday we had an assembly and we shared the work we had been doing as well as having many staff and students dressing up as their favourite book character. The children voted on their favourite books and the winners were announced.

The Children's Book Council of Australia Early Childhood Book winner is —*Jetty Jumping*

The Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book winner *Iceberg*

The Children's Book Council of Australia Information Book Winner is *Still Alive*

A big thankyou to Mrs Rowe for organising Bookweek for us.

This is not the only time that reading should be encouraged. Did you know that those who read for 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words a year and it has been proven that reading for fun dramatically improves your literacy and language skills. Other benefits of reading include mental stimulation, stress reduction, increased knowledge, improved vocabulary expansion and memory improvement.

So let's get reading.....





SAPSASA

Throughout Term 3 many of our students have enjoyed some enriching and rewarding experiences representing our school in many SAPSASA events.

In week 3 our students competed against a number of other schools in the Para District Athletics Day. All students pursued their personal best and performed exceptionally well in their chosen events. Some highlights to mention are, Maddi Alan performed outstandingly winning both the Discus and Long Jump as well as placing 3rd in the 100m Final. Zac Renshaw also performed brilliantly, winning the Shot Put and narrowly missing out on winning the Discus for his age group. Based on their performances both students along with Mahleaha Buckskin have been selected to represent the Para Districts team at Bridgestone Arena in a few weeks time. Special mention to the following students who placed in their events also -

Mahleah Buckskin 2nd x 100m 11yr girls Final & 3rd x 800m

Christina Ly 3rd x 200m 10yr girls Final

Lilly Lewis 2nd x 800m

Daniel Bawi 3rd x Discus

Jasmin Kypreos 2nd x Discus

Jack Creek 3rd x Discus

Last Friday another cohort of students had the opportunity to compete at the SAPSASA, Girls AFL Football and Boys Soccer Carnival.

Our girls team performed brilliantly on the day to win the Division 2 shield. Originally the team struggled for numbers and almost did not have a team to compete on the day. 14 girls (including three yr4 students) displayed many of our school values including Courage and Persistence, along with lots of bravery and grew from the experience. From the first game the girls grew in confidence, they went from not wanting to play certain positions to all of them wanting to give every position a try. The real win for the girls on the day was the growth in their confidence and their enthusiasm to have a go.

Our boys were very gallant in their efforts and finished an impressive second in their competitive pool. The boys proudly displayed their courage in some tough games, they were the only team to defeat the eventual champions and won over half the games they played. The highlight of the day was a goal scored in the last 10 seconds of a match to clinch a heart stopping 2-1 victory, after the opposition had scored an equaliser a minute before the final whistle was blown.

Congratulations to all of our students who represented Salisbury Downs so well at these events and a huge thank to Mr Princi for all your hard work in the organising of these teams and events.



Gratitude is Contagious

In the last newsletter I spoke about some generous acts toward our school that have made a big difference to our community.

Once again we have 3 acts of kindness that have had the same affect.

Matthew Oxford has contacted the school wanting to donate 10 significant trees to help on our journey to make SDPS a more pleasant place to look at. We will be meeting with Matthew in the near future to plan exactly where these trees will go in line with other landscaping ideas we have.

Wendy Benton, our Aboriginal Community Education Officer (ACEO) work with some of our Aboriginal students to measure and then write persuasive letters to paving companies so that we can revamp our fire pit outside the Blue Unit. Bruno and Graham from PGH Bricks & Pavers have contacted us and are supplying all of the pavers we need to create and "Aboriginal Flag" in pavers around this area. This will mean that we can get rid of the scoria and weeds that are currently in this bed.

Wheel&Barrow is a unique Australian owned homewares retailer who has kindly donated 365 bottles of hand sanitizer to our school. With the increase in colds, flu and other nasties this product will be used regularly by both staff and students across the school.

The pandemic has made us weary, and while we might want to make a list of all we've lost, expressing gratitude is actually a better idea.

Gratitude is a powerful positive force. Far from a fluffy or frivolous concept, it has real impact on physical health, emotional wellbeing, motivation, engagement and belonging. As we say to our students, "When you do good, you feel good".

Once again thank you to everyone who has thought about us and help us to be a continuously improving school.



DENTAL FOR SCHOOLS

We are scheduled to visit in:

Term 3 Week 8 2022, Sept 12-13

We will be visiting Salisbury Downs Primary School to provide check-ups & onsite treatment. Simply fill in our dental consent form for your child to be a part of this worthwhile experience!



Check-up & Clean

Have your child's teeth shining bright again! We will provide a check-up & professional clean. Here we will let you know if they need any further work.



Goodie Bags

All participants receive a gift bag with essentials and some extra goodies. To say thank you! You will also have a take home oral health report to follow throughout the year



Visit with friends

Take the stress out of your child's dental visit while they visit with their friends and classmates. Our vehicles are fitted with movies to watch while they wait.



E. info@dentalforschools W. dentalforschools.com.au P. (08) 7225 8142

SAFETY CONCERNS

There are an increasing number of parents walking with their children or allowing their children to walk through the staff carpark.

Our staff carpark and all carparks, should be considered a road.

Please remind your children to keep to the paths when leaving the school grounds.

Many children are of a height that drivers cannot easily see them and, although our carpark at the front of the school is for staff only parking and we encourage parents not to use the staff carpark, we can have trades and couriers on site at end of school time.

Coming Events

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

DENTAL FOR SCHOOLS VISIT - 12th & 13th SEPTEMBER

PGHS YEAR 6 TRANSITION VISIT - FRIDAY 16th SEPTEMBER

RUN4FUN SLIME RUN - FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER

LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2:30pm FINISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Meeting - Monday

5th September

3:30 - 4:00pm



Salisbury Downs Primary School
@SalisburyDownsPrimary



Find us on
Facebook



Salisbury Downs Primary School Autism Awareness
Closed group · 9 members