



Salisbury Downs Primary School

Courage Good Manners Friendliness Compassion Persistence Tolerance



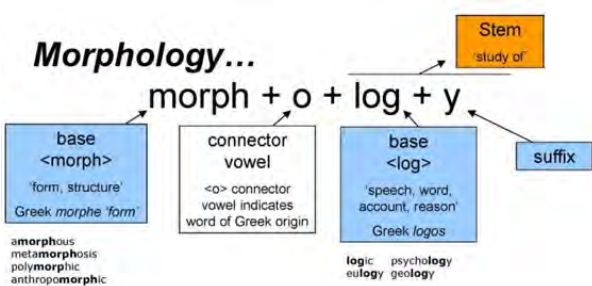
Newsletter No. 6 Term 2 Week 10

Date of Issue: Friday 7th July 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hi everyone,

It is hard to believe but we have reached the end of semester one, the middle of the school year and what a huge one it has been. This semester has possibly been the one with the biggest changes for our staff and students with the way we teach and learn, particularly when it comes to the way we teach reading and the English curriculum. As an example, we have introduced Instructional Routines for every class across the school when teaching phonics and spelling. An instructional phonics routine is a structured and systematic approach to teaching phonics skills in the classroom. Phonics is the method of teaching the relationship between sounds and their corresponding letters or letter patterns. It helps students develop decoding skills and improve their reading and spelling abilities. This approach also helps our students to look more deeply into the way words are formed, for example, through morphology. Morphology is the study of words, how they're formed and their relationship with other words in the same language. Morphology analysis the structure of words, such as stems, root words, prefixes, and suffixes, and parts of words.



The study of morphology supports us with our vocabulary development, spelling, reading and writing.

The routine has clear and predictable parts that include both new learning and revision of concepts already taught and builds on to the learning from the previous day.

We have been able to see that the instructional routines are helping student's learning through our new way of collecting, tracking and assessing student data. This data helps us to make sure that our students are on track with

their learning, need some extra support with particular aspects and to share their learning journey with staff, students and families.

Another benefit of teaching methods such as the instructional routine is that when there is a change of teacher, for example, through sickness, the guest teacher in the room can present the exact lesson content that would occur if the regular teacher was in the room. This has been of great benefit this year as all schools have been hard hit with sickness that has affected both school staff and the temporary relief teachers we have been trying to employ. In fact as I am writing this we have 9 staff absent from school and we are unable to find all of the temporary staff we need to replace everybody. Teachers, like any other professionals, fall sick or may have to attend to personal emergencies, such as family matters or medical appointments but we work hard to find replacement staff who know our school, our students and the way we go about teaching and learning.

Another great achievement for us has been continuing our journey of improving the functionality and look of our school. We started the year unveiling the new entrance to the school with a widened concrete pathway and new welcome signage. New aluminium doors replaced the old wooden sliding doors in the Red and Blue Units. This was followed by our wonderful metal art tree and bench for the veranda area, complemented by the relocation of the values pencils and the upgrade of the

garden areas and new trees. And as this newsletter is being distributed, the new air-conditioning is being commissioned and our Orange Unit is returning to the library and staff/meeting room.

Special thanks need to go to a number of people for their donations, support and hard work.

Thank you to the Renshaw family for the donation of the metal art tree, Virginia nursery and Fitzy's Native Plants for helping to upgrade our gardens. To Matthew Oxford and his family for the donation of all the new trees around our grounds. To Karen Bentley and Travis Renshaw for the extra grounds and bobcat works that we have done.

There are a number of other projects that we are investigating, so watch this space.



Aboriginal Cultural Day 2023

We are delighted to share with you the success of Aboriginal Cultural Day and the invaluable role it plays in fostering cultural understanding and appreciation within our school community. Aboriginal Cultural Day is a significant annual event we hold just before NAIDOC Week, to celebrate the history, culture, and ongoing achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.



At our school, Aboriginal Cultural Day holds particular significance as we recognise the need to embed Indigenous perspectives and teachings into our curriculum and day-to-day interactions. This celebration is an opportunity to enhance our understanding of the traditional custodians of this land and their profound connection to country. Students had the opportunity to engage in many different learning stations, with a strong focus on storytelling, art and traditional skills, which have been passed on through generations.





Our Aboriginal Education team, and in particular our incredible ACEO Wendy, put in a huge amount of passion, work and time to help make this event a huge success. We were very lucky to have Jack Buckskin with us for the entire day, sharing with students spear and boomerang throwing, games and dances. Robert Taylor also joined us to end the day with an engaging dance workshop with the whole school. The students really connected with Jack and Robert, and learnt so much about language, skills and culture. Students were also treated to a kangaroo sausage, generously donated by Clayton from Macro Meats.



Aboriginal Cultural Day offers an opportunity for cross-cultural collaboration and relationship-building. By actively involving our Indigenous students and their families in the planning and delivery of events, we demonstrate our commitment to fostering a sense of belonging and cultural pride. It was amazing to see students and staff come together, listen, learn, and celebrate Aboriginal Cultural Day, honouring the rich and ancient cultural heritage of Australia's First Nations Peoples.



Kelly Blandford
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Travis Renshaw
WELLBEING LEADER

Swimming Week 2023

Green & Yellow Units

SWIMMING HAPPENS
IN WEEK 1 OF TERM 3
FOR OUR STUDENTS IN
THESE UNITS!



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This means that you can now quickly place canteen orders online through the Flexischools app!



Download the *Flexischools* app to get started today!



JOIN THE FUN!

Salisbury FC (All-Girls Centre)

Orange Ave, Salisbury SA 5108

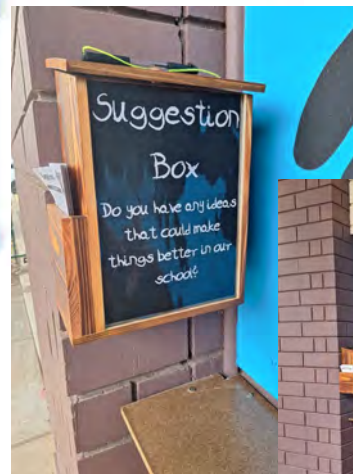
Starts Monday 24th July at 4:30pm

Luke Drewtt - luke.drewtt@fedex.com

This Centre is for GIRLS ONLY

For Girls of All Ages

play.afl/auskick



At a recent Governing Council meeting, there was a decision to provide a suggestion box for our school community, so that everyone has an easy way of having a voice about things about our school. We have positioned the box next to the canteen, just inside the main gate at the front of the school. Please feel free to add suggestions to the box along with the many students who have already done so.

COMING EVENTS

TERM 3 BEGINS MONDAY 24TH JULY

Swimming Week Yellow & Green Units - Tuesday 25th-Friday 28th July

Governing Council - Tuesday 8th August

SAPSASA Athletics - Friday 11th August



Salisbury Downs
Primary School



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Salisbury Downs Primary
School Autism Awareness
Closed group · 9 members