DIARY DATES

TERM 4, 2011

Friday 11 November
Pupil Free Day

Wednesday 30 November
10:30am Morning Tea**
11:00am Term 4 Assembly**

Friday 16 December
2:00pm Term 4 ends

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This term we are consolidating and evaluating the curriculum. We ask for feedback from all who receive a service from Kilparrin, families, preschools and school sites, we then collate this data and look for positives to continue to build on and negatives, which we interrogate to find a better approach. We value feedback as it stimulates and directs our planning and priorities.

While Kilparrin’s purpose will not change, that is a state wide educational service for children from birth to end of schooling who have vision impairment and or hearing impairment and additional disabilities; our approach may alter according to the needs of our referred students, their teachers and families.

Within the school and KELC the focus of curriculum planning is reflective of assessment of goals set in the Negotiated Education Plan process and regular curriculum goals in the required areas of study.

For all our learners as they have additional needs, the curriculum must be adapted to maximise opportunities for successful participation. Adaptations and accommodations are made by the teacher for each individual learner at Kilparrin.

Research informs us that effective learning takes place when themes are used as conceptual glue for learners. When themes are chosen that relate to learners’ lives, interest and engagement in the content is ensured. Teachers use the thematic approach effectively when they connect learning with key concepts. When the theme is embraced at school, at home and across the curriculum, with the learner as the central point, the learner is engaged, motivated and receiving new information in a framework of existing knowledge rather than being presented with skills and facts in isolation.

The importance of relating school and home cannot be underestimated. Our learners’ families are central to their lives and are a key to their developing concepts of self, wellbeing and socialisation. Working together with families enables teachers to build an understanding of each learner and to incorporate school with home. With a consistent approach between home and school learning is authentic and related to the individual needs of each learner. A note in the diary about an activity enjoyed during the weekend can be used to engage the learner in literacy activities which are meaningful. Notes from teachers about the learner’s day can be shared at home to connect the experience for the learner. The learner can record their activities to share between home and school as well. “Show and Tell” is a much enjoyed part of the school day. This is when something is brought from home and shared with the class. All of these activities help provide that conceptual glue which helps the learning stick.

We have had an excellent start to the term and welcome back Pam who has returned from her overseas travels to rejoin us and celebrate her birthday as well. Congratulations to Ellen who celebrated her wedding and a birthday over the holidays. Keep in touch.

Alison McWilliams
Principal
ORANGE CIRCLES
I can't believe it is Term 4 already, where has the year gone?

This term we are looking forward to swimming in Weeks 7 and 8, starting to harvest some crops from our garden and finalising the work that we have been working on during the year.

In our literacy lessons at the moment we are focusing on journal writing, switching, sight word recognition and pencil grip.

All of the learners are trying their best and working well together.

Karen, Bruna, Mel & Sarah

PURPLE STARS
Here we are already nearly halfway through Term 4! 2011 is just flying by but we're having fun along the way.

This term's theme is Becoming. This is such a fitting theme for the end of the school year. Looking back at the start of the year we can observe how we have all grown and developed together as a class and what we have 'become'.

The learners have been hard at work in the garden and have planted a variety of seeds which have now sprouted. We have planted cucumber, silver beet, carrots, tomatoes, chives, parsley and coriander. It has been great seeing the learners taking responsibility for digging, raking, watering and planting our seeds.

Throughout the year the learners in the Purple Stars have been focused on becoming literate and exploring the features of a story. The learners have thoroughly enjoyed this and have now put together a class story book.

This term the learners are focusing on writing letters and putting emails together. This is something that they appear to be really enjoying.

Another focus for this term is on becoming SunSmart. The learners are encouraged to wear their hats and apply sunscreen. As our garden is flourishing outside these SunSmart items are a necessity.

Can't wait to see the herbs and vegetables mature in the next few weeks! This term has so much to offer but surely it can't go any faster than it already is!

Beecy, Hayley and Elisha
GREEN TRIANGLES

Welcome back to Term 4 of the school year, a term that is sure to be busy and just flies by!

It was a pleasure to have speech pathologist Jane Farrall spend time in the classroom in Week 1. She has already made some suggestions based on her work with the learners, and we certainly look forward to more input from her in the coming weeks. As well as our literacy block and group time of greetings, name/photo recognition, songs, social games and stories, interactive white board programs, prewriting tasks and brailing, this Term we will be focusing on a letter/sound each week and implementing learning activities/songs/stories to increase phonological awareness. For example, this week we explored a ‘B’ box, containing objects starting with ‘B’ such as bowl, brush and ball. We also thought of other words starting with ‘B’ like Brooke and beach.

The iPad continues to be very engaging and an effective learning tool in the classroom, and with the addition of several new ‘apps’, all of the learners have been able to access it, including cause and effect music, literacy and maths ‘apps’.

As we are getting more consistent warmer weather, we are encouraging the learners to wear hats when outside, and are ourselves modeling this SunSmart practice, and we ask that you please ensure you have provided a named hat and sunscreen for your child if you haven’t already.

We will be planning some excursions over the term, including a trip on the tram to Glenelg and to the beach, and to the Variety Club Xmas Party. More information will be provided over the coming weeks.

All of the NEP reviews have now been completed, and it was great to catch up with parents and share information about the learners, and to celebrate their learning.

We have had some great success in this beautiful weather, and the Yellow Squares garden bed currently has the tallest plants in the whole garden, our broad beans! We have also tasted our radishes, and have rocket, fennel and various herbs springing up.

As we hurtle toward the close of another school year, the Yellow Squares are not yet winding down their learning! We are seeing some amazing growth in literacy skills at the
We love to go around and look at what is growing in the other classes’ gardens as well.

In art this term we are making things from clay. We are teaming up with the Green Triangles to produce a singing and signing song that will hopefully make it to assembly. Cooking lunches for the staff on Wednesdays continues with our theme of Sensational Salads and we are becoming more independent in the grocery store. In PE we continue to work on cooperative activities, stretching and trying new things. All this and a swimming block coming up too! We’d better get back to it, we have so much to do!

Jess and Marina

KILPARRIN EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Becoming literate at Kilparrin Early Learning Centre is based around children having consistent opportunities to learn through the use of their senses. During large and small group times at Forbes Children’s Centre, one of our literacy activities involves sharing books that are supported by ‘props’ related to the story content. In this way, the stories gradually become recognizable and more meaningful to each child.

Motivation is also a critical element of learning for everyone, and we engage each child through:

- offering experiences that are meaningful
- using rhythm and songs to cue the children to the activity
- encouraging curiosity

- giving each child plenty of processing time – not rushing through story sessions and enrichment activities
- sharing stories and related activities with others in a social context
- repetition - revisiting stories in quiet 1:1 sessions
- Invoking senses of touch, hearing, vision, smell & whole body movement
- engaging children’s (& staff’s) emotions through animated, personal involvement with storybooks.

Each child shows their enjoyment in different ways, perhaps by stilling to listen, reaching out to touch story props, laughing at familiar or surprising parts of the story, or feeling the pages of the book. In these ways, we aim to stimulate the sensory system and promote alertness – this helps cue children into the activity and prepares them for learning and becoming literate.

Jenny and Kay

MUSIC

This term in music we are concentrating on songs and activities related to the Term 4 school theme Becoming and preparing for the end of year Christmas concert. Our main focus is to become better singers, remembering the words and playing the instruments at the right time and in time to music. We need to listen carefully to the songs to be able to pick up, play and put the instruments down at the right time. Some songs are new and some we already know but we need more practise to be able to perform at our End of Year Assembly in Week 7.

The weather reminds us to be SunSmart again with hats, sunscreen and shade, so we have included in our program The Cancer Council song which was introduced last year called Slip, Stop, Slap, Seek and Slide. The song goes like this:

Slip, slap, seek and slide,
Have fun outside, but don’t get fried.
Slip on a shirt,
Slap on sunscreen,
Slap on a hat
Seek shade,
Slide on sunnies,
Simple as that
Slip, slap, seek and slide!

We have incorporated a range of actions and when we hear the instrumental version of the song we pretend that we are putting sunscreen on different parts of our bodies!

We would like to welcome Christina Gutteridge as the School Services Officer who will be assisting our learners during the afternoon music group sessions while Kristel is on leave.

Krystyna Misiara
Music Teacher
Taxi Transport
Important Information for Families

All messages for school staff must be either written in the diary or telephoned through to the front office (82775999).

Taxi drivers are not able to take verbal messages for the school.

Office hours are from 8:00am until 4:30pm. The answering machine is on after hours and is always cleared at the beginning of the school day.

An updated Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities: Information for Parents and Carers brochure is attached to this Newsletter. Please read it carefully.

In response to some concerns that have been raised by taxi drivers would families please note the following in relation to the provision of transport for students with disabilities;

Responsibilities of Parent/carers

“You are responsible for:

• providing accurate information to the preschool or school by completing the appropriate form (ED029A or ED039B)
• providing emergency contact numbers to the preschool or school
• notifying the taxi/bus company if your child is not attending preschool or school on a particular day
• ensuring your child is ready to meet the transport at the specified time and place
• assisting or lifting your child in and out of the vehicle
• being present or organising for a responsible person to supervise your child at the pick-up/drop-off point
• providing appropriate seating, if necessary, e.g. booster seat or car seat
• contacting the director or principal, immediately about any transport issues that concern you.” (Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities: Information for Parents and Carers, Special Education Resource Unit, DECS pamphlet, Column 5)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Thank You from all the Kilparrin learners

Becoming SunSmart

‘SunSmart hats protect the neck, ears, temples and sides of the face. Broad brimmed, bucket and legionnaire hats all offer very good protection to these vulnerable areas. Baseball caps and sun visors do not provide adequate protection to these areas which are common sites for skin cancer.’ (Cancer Council SA Teaching resources)

For more information go to www.cancersa.org.au.

Thank You from all the Kilparrin learners

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

As part of the 2011 Coles Sports for Schools program the Kilparrin community collected 11,585 dockets (7,735 more than in 2010!).

This has enabled us to receive the following sports equipment for our learners;

• senior primary throw and catch kit
• agility ball (large)
• agility ball (small)
• bell ball
• bean bag
• foam ten pin bowling set
• standard mesh sack
• SPYDA ball (pack of 4)
• FEARNLEY medium basic cricket kit.

Thank You from all the Kilparrin learners

Variety Request

As part of the 2011 Woolworths Earn and Learn program the Kilparrin community collected 2,366 points.

This has enabled us to receive the following resources for our learners;

• junior engineer zoo set (103 pieces)
• nuts and bolts game
• soft-grip kids scissors (blunt tip)
• stationery scissors (left handed)
• preschool spring-action scissors

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

As part of the 2011 Variety Children’s Christmas Party Volunteer Request

For the past 20 years Variety has invited special needs students from South Australian schools and organisations to join our Annual Children’s Christmas Party at Adelaide Event & Exhibition Centre at the Showground.
Variety would like to invite you to join us for this event to help us serve food and drinks. This is an opportunity to become involved with the benefactors of all the fundraising we undertake alongside other Variety groups.

No one stands taller than when stooping to help a child

Variety Children’s Christmas Party
Wednesday 7 December 2011
Goyder Pavilion, Adelaide Showground (enter via Rose Terrace)
9.30am – 2.30pm (approximately)

We ask that you please register as a volunteer for the event to ensure we have sufficient assistance.

For more information and to register as a volunteer go to www.ladiesofvarietysa.com.au

2011 CREDIT UNION CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The organisers of the 2011 Credit Union Christmas Pageant have provided Kilparrin families with some pageant information and post cards. These are included in your ‘Newsletter Pack’

SA Water VACSWIM

VACSWIM 2012
4th to 12th January 2012

ONLINE ENROLMENTS NOW AVAILABLE
www.vacswimsa.com

On-line enrolments
Close Friday 2 December 2011

Enrolment Days
All locations:
Saturday 31 Dec. 10-12 noon
Large locations:
Saturday 10 Dec. 10-12 noon

Please check location listing for more information on dates and fees specific to each venue and continually check the website for any changes to location information

What is SA Water VACSWIM?
SA Water VACSWIM is a South Australian Government funded program for school aged children from 5 years and up.

Aim
The aim is for SA Water VACSWIM to provide opportunities for participants to be involved in activities that will develop:
• water safety knowledge in, on and around water
• confidence and competence in and around aquatic environments
• personal survival skills
• emergency procedures, safe self-rescue and the rescue of others and
• swimming strokes and skills.

Outcomes
SA Water VACSWIM:
• provides opportunities for participants to enjoy the recreational aspect of involvement in water related activities
• provides participants with an opportunity to experience, and develop skills in, a variety of water safety, swimming and aquatic based activities
• provides instruction for participants to develop skills in accepted swimming strokes
• provides instruction and training to enable skills to be developed to ensure for personal safety and the safety of others in aquatic environments
• encourages participants with special needs to use water as a form of recreation and therapy.

Santa FUN RUN

Register now for the Variety Santa Fun Run & the first 25 people will receive a double pass to a special preview screening of Arthur Christmas in 3D at 11am on Sunday November 20!

This heart warming animated comedy from the makers of WALLACE & GROMIT and CHICKEN RUN, at last reveals the incredible, never-before seen answer to every child’s question: ‘How does Santa deliver all those presents in one night?’ The answer: Santa's exhilarating, ultra-high-tech operation manned by a million elves and hidden beneath the North Pole.

In the end, a human touch will make all the difference, even if it involves our unlikely hero Arthur, who must urgently find a way to deliver one last gift before Christmas morning dawns. Only at the Movies! November 24.


Change a child’s life this Christmas - Join the Variety Santa Fun Run now!
www.varietysantafunrun.com.au

Event details:
Sunday 27 November
4km or 2.75km walk or run
Official start time 10.00am
Riverbank Lawns outside the Adelaide Convention Centre Registration includes your Santa Suit (kids receive a Santa hat)
PLUS your chance to win a $30,000 Adrenalin Give Away, 1st prize PRIVATE ISLAND ESCAPE for 4 people!!

We hope to see you all on Sunday 27 November along with your friends and family!