2012 DIARY DATES

Note:
In 2012 there are four 10 week Terms

TERM 4, 2012

Christmas Pageant
Saturday 10 Nov
Swimming Block
(Ambulant Learners Only)
26 Nov -30 Nov
Wednesday 12 December
End of Year Assembly
Friday 14 December
2:00pm Term 4 ends

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have an exciting term of teaching and learning planned. Staff and parents will be assisted in the support of Kilparrin learners through professional development provided by Jane Farrall, Janelle Sampson and Dr Karen Wolffe. This week our Educator in Residence Jane Farrall returned to continue her work with learners and staff. Jane continues to have a very positive impact on the literacy and communication of Kilparrin learners and the professional practice of Kilparrin staff and Carla, the Novita Speech Pathologist who has been included in the professional learning available. One of the first important milestones for early communicators is the ability to say “No”. It is interesting to find that this is not universally accepted as a positive step. Some do not see that it is important for a child to indicate preferences or indeed to have a consistently understood NO response. At school we understand that no one person will be the interpreter of the learner’s communication and we need to assign meaning to a response to develop that response to be consistent. When a choice is offered and the response either YES or NO is accepted and acted upon, the learner is reinforced as a person whose opinions are respected. This is the beginning of the development of a positive self-concept. It is essential for learners to have some control over their environment. For those who will always be dependent on another person for personal care it is equally essential. There is no point trying to establish a means of communication if that communication is not respected. Jane provided me with a blog link which explores the importance of communication is not respected. There is no point trying to establish a means of communication if that communication is not respected.

Last week we held our first PODD training. Apparently when a PODD is first developed for a child the parent is trained by the speech pathologist and then is meant to train the school staff. At Kilparrin we have several learners who have been given a PODD in the past and no training has been offered. PODD stands for Pragmatic, Organise, Dynamic Display. The PODD is a sophisticated support for developing communication. It is a great benefit for learners who may then progress to more compact electronic devices. To enable the best use of a PODD we engaged Janelle Sampson Speech Pathologist to lead us through the use of the PODD. This training was open to staff and parents of PODD users. Janelle is an energetic and engaging expert who provided an excellent workshop.

We look forward to sharing with Dr Karen Wolffe on Thursday and Friday.

Last Friday night the Fundraising Committee of the Governing Council held the first Kilparrin Quiz Night. It was a wonderful night well supported by staff and friends of the organisers. Sallie Willis helped by Kristy Sander did an amazing job; first by securing donations for prizes and items for the silent auction then by planning all questions and information for the night and setting up the room and all the general details of organisation. Naomi O’Grady was of great assistance on the night. Pam Dunnett donated her time and assisted the two organisers. We had decided that the focus of this fundraiser would be to fund Kilparrin learners access Riding for the Disabled (RDA). We have been attempting to secure a place for Kilparrin learners for several years now and we have been successful only this term. We have been able to access three spots for the term and have selected riders to fit the horses available. The first of our sessions was held last week and Brooke, Tyson and Shaun were introduced to the horses and rode for the first time. RDA is a voluntary organisation and although it is supported by volunteers there are significant costs involved. It costs $60.00 per rider per calendar year (no matter when you start) for insurance, plus $12.00 per lesson added to that is the cost of transport. We would like every learner to have this experience and to ensure that finance is not an inhibiting factor, we would like to have each learner fully funded and not have to ask each week for money. Fundraising, spread across Kilparrin and friends’ community, supports this goal. We are fortunate to have such dedicated supporters as those involved in the Quiz night. Please support the listed sponsors.

We have begun the term without Cheryl Elwood Kilparrin Deputy Principal. Cheryl has had to have a surgical procedure in two parts. The first has been successful and the second will take place next week.
with a successful outcome anticipated. In Cheryl’s absence, Rolye Stuart has been appointed acting Deputy Principal. Rolye has had experience in this position before. We wish Cheryl well and know that her work is in good hands with Rolye.

Alison McWilliams
Principal

CLASSROOM NEWS
End of Year ‘Wrap-up’

ORANGE CIRCLES

Term 4 already! Where has this year disappeared?
We have had a busy start to the term.

We have started Riding for the Disabled with our first ride Thursday Week 2; Brooke, Shaun and Tyson all seemed to enjoy the experience.

Shaun’s pony was called Pixie, Tyson’s pony was called Casper and Brooke’s pony was called Token. We finished the lesson with a thank you hug for our ponies.

In Orange Circles we have also been experimenting with the Skoog that we saw at the Spectronics Conference and have since purchased.

It is a different form of musical instrument that anyone can use to produce music sounds of a variety of different instruments.
We are all looking forward to continuing this busy term on the countdown to Christmas.
Karen, Jess and Marina.

GREEN TRIANGLES

Welcome back to a very active Term 4.
.......It’s all GO! GO! GO! In Green Triangles

Our focus this term is zoo animals, and we have started with the book, “Dear Zoo”. We are continuing to develop our writing skills and working with the flip chart in our guided reading activities.
We now have our movement and music sessions with Orange Circles and a small group from Blue Diamonds.

Our sunflowers are growing taller and taller and our Bottle Gourd plants are starting to spread wider and wider.

COOK! COOK COOK!
Green Triangles are joined by Blue Diamonds to cook up a storm every Monday and Wednesday. We are cooking Cinnamon Scrolls and Scones.

Cooking is about; exploring the kitchen area, finding the tools and feeling the ingredients. And when they are cooked we count the scones and scrolls. They’re yummy too.

Art this term is directed towards our Christmas surprises! We are manipulating and exploring 2 D
shapes as we further develop our math and sensory skills. We are finding ourselves in sticky situations!

Green Triangles continue to go to Gym each week. Blue Diamonds meet us there, and help us play our games and practise our balancing, climbing and stretching.

Giddy UP!
We are members of the horse-riding group that go horse riding every Thursday with Karen.

We are learning to wear a helmet, hold the reins and sit up straight in the saddle. Thanks very much to Lea Thorpe for getting it all organized. It is such a great learning opportunity, and so much fun. We love school!
_Adele and Amanda._

**PURPLE STARS**
Well here we are at the beginning of Term 4!! It is hard to believe that the school year and 2012 is nearly over!!

The learners have settled back into routine nicely and are ready to finish off the year with lots of hard work.
In addition to it being the last term of the year, we also have a new addition to the Purple Stars. We would like to welcome Chloe Poulson to Kilparrin and to the Purple Stars.

Chloe has settled in very well and has already made some new friends in the classroom and the school. She is a bubbly young lady who manages to put a smile on staff and learners’ faces with her wonderful personality, she will make a lovely addition to the Purple Stars!

The Purple Stars learners have also put their budding acting careers on hold for Term 4 to begin major pieces of artwork. We are working in acrylic paints on large canvases and are seeing lovely unique styles emerging. Those learners who have done a similar painting in the past are also showing signs of developing their styles.

The learners are beginning to prepare for the art gallery that will be held in the Purple Stars courtyard on Wednesday of Week 10 (same day as Christmas Assembly).

They have also been preparing their item for the Christmas Assembly, which will involve quite a bit of literacy, art and drama. It is going to be a very exciting term!!!
_Beccey, Elisha and Christina!!_

**YELLOW SQUARES**
Term 4 has begun with a burst of energy and the Yellow Squares class has thrown themselves into its learning! The Year 6 students from Ascot Park Primary School have been back to work with Kilparrin learners and are having a lot of fun making movie trailers on the iPads.

We are seeing some great social skills in the working groups and this will continue throughout the term.

The Yellow Squares learners have also put their budding acting careers on hold for Term 4 to begin major pieces of artwork. We are working in acrylic paints on large canvases and are seeing lovely unique styles emerging. Those learners who have done a similar painting in the past are also showing signs of developing their styles.

This term in maths we are looking at the Clarke Road Money program with learners completing most of their initial assessment and ready to move on to learning the skills that will be necessary for them to begin to handle money with confidence.
BLUE DIAMONDS

Welcome back to Blue Diamonds in Term 4. We make special welcome to Hudson (and his family) who has joined us and has settled in comfortably to the school environment.

This term will see a strong focus on developing physical skills, including continuing to implement the MOVE (Movement Opportunities Via Education) program, developing physical skills and independence when taking part in the curriculum and regular routines. As the weather improves, we will be making the most of opportunities to be outside also.

The garden, PE in the gym, cooking and design and technology make up the rest of our program and we look forward to another swimming block in Week 8 of term. We sure are going to be busy as we warm up for a fantastic summer!

Jess, Sarah & Karly.

The class will be spending time working with the Green Triangles class this term, implementing literacy programs, maths, cooking and science. Some learners have already been involved in cooking cinnamon scrolls, which were delicious!

Our other class focuses will include working with technology, sensory play, active learning and social awareness. It will certainly be a busy term!

Just a reminder to please label your child’s belongings such as lunch containers, drinks bottles etc to avoid any confusion. As the weather is getting warmer, we ask that families please apply sunscreen to your child prior to them arriving at school, and we will apply at school in accordance with their Sun Care Plan. Thankyou!

Rachel, Lyn, Sophia, Kay and Jess.
**Swimming Block**

While swimming continues throughout the school year for non-ambulant students, Week 8 (26-30 Nov) will see swimming resume for the rest of the school. Swimming will be at Marion pool and students will walk to and from the pool dependent upon weather. This term Kilparrin has been offered longer lessons later in the day which will mean that it is much warmer for many of our smaller students who feel the cold.

**MUSIC**

Once again this year we will take part in a nationwide program *Music Count Us In*. This year’s song is “Different People (stand together)” co-written by four high school students Bromley, Chelva, Kim and Pyke from across Australia. Kilparrin students have already begun learning this song, which will be performed at the same time across Australia as nearly a thousand schools in the nation’s biggest music gig on Thursday 1 November (Week 4).

This term in group music sessions we are concentrating on songs and activities related to the theme *Move* and *Christmas*.

We have introduced a song “Clouds”. This song has especially been created for use with a colourful parachute. The lyrics encourage playful movements with the parachute that ‘changes’ into clouds that: float, zip, billow, rumble, flutter, move up/down and left/right. The irresistible conclusion of the song is that the parachute becomes an umbrella that everyone hides under seeking protection from clouds as they rain.

With some learners we are using ribbons and experiment with creative movement to a piece of music called “Rolling” by Janet Channon.

Soon we will also begin to practise new Christmas songs.

Krystyna
Music Teacher

**Curriculum News**

Kilparrin is fortunate to have secured 3 places for learners to have riding lessons with Riding for the Disabled at Jennibrook farm at Woodcroft. The learners will ride each Thursday weather permitting!!

Last Thursday was their first ride and all of the staff reported that the learners displayed their ability in following instructions from the coach, wore their helmets, managed to hold the reins and stay on the horse!! Each learner thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Riding for the Disabled or RDA has many benefits, for example it;
- helps build confidence, helps to develop muscle strength and coordination, helps the learners understand spatial concepts such as left and right, size, up and down, helps to develop expressive language such as the commands they need to use ‘walk on’ and the name of the pony, and provides the learners with a sense of freedom and most importantly they learn to build a friendship and a connection with the pony or horse they are riding.

The RDA motto is;

**Riding Develops Abilities**

and we will certainly see the benefits that horse riding will provide each of the learners. We hope in the future that more Kilparrin learners will have the opportunity to ride and enjoy the wonderful opportunity and experience which horse riding provides. At this time we are limited to three riders and due to the size of the horses they must be small in stature.

Some general information from the RDA website: [www.rdasd.asa.org.au](http://www.rdasd.asa.org.au/)

**Mission Statement**

“RDA enables people with disabilities and volunteers throughout Australia to experience enjoyment, challenge and a sense of achievement through participation in equestrian activities, resulting in the development of life skills, improved quality of life and attainment of personal goals.

We are dedicated to providing these services through an organisation that is Relevant, Innovative, Effective and Rewarding. Operated by trained and caring people committed to our aims now and in the future, RDA is recognised as having active involvement within the equestrian and general communities.”

Riding for the Disabled was first incorporated in South Australia in 1972, when horse-riding therapy was still in its infancy in Australia.

A thought by Andy Adams

There are friends and faces that may be forgotten, but there are horses that never will.

Lea Thorpe
Curriculum and Pedagogy

**Variety ‘Show of Hearts’ Scholarship Fund**

Variety, the Children’s Charity, has called for nominations from South Australians under 18 who are sick, disadvantaged or who have special
needs and possess a developing skill or talent in music, sport education or the arts. Scholarships can run for up to three years.
If you would like more information call Stephen on 8293 8744.
Applications close November 30.

Child Protection

Included in your newsletter are two booklets for parents and carers around the subject of child abuse. As you are aware, children with disability are more reliant on parents, carers and service providers for their safety and wellbeing. This means we all play a greater role in the care and support of children with disability. The booklets raise awareness about the safety and wellbeing of children with disability and highlight where parents and carers can go for advice. They include information on why children with disability are more vulnerable to abuse and neglect and practical help about what parents and carers can do to protect their child.

Have your Say

Have your Say: new Numeracy and Literacy Strategy – Birth to 18

You are invited to have your say about a new Numeracy and Literacy Strategy – Birth to 18 for South Australian public preschool and school communities. The proposed strategy is outlined in a new paper to support community discussion released by the Minister for Education and Child Development, Grace Portolesi. Parents and families understand and value the importance of children developing numeracy and literacy skills. Being able to read, talk, write and spell and to understand and use maths knowledge and skills are essential for active participation in our society. The strategy will build on the many successful achievements and programs that work in our preschool and school communities.

Encouraging parents and educators to work together to develop these important foundational skills for children is central to the proposed strategy. Based on research, the discussion paper includes six key drivers:
1. All children benefit from a great start
2. Families and communities play a key role
3. Supporting every child to be successful
4. Teachers make a difference
5. A focus on numeracy and literacy leadership
6. Achieving high numeracy and literacy standards

These drivers work together to renew our combined efforts and resources to improve these skills for children and young people in our school/preschool community. The new strategy will be introduced from the 2013 school/preschool year.
You are invited to visit http://saplan.org.au/yoursay before 30 November or email DECD.NumeracyandLiteracy@sa.gov.au to contribute your views and ideas or email numeracyandliteracy@sa.gov.au.
For copies of the paper visit www.DECD.sa.gov.au.

Healthy Snacks for the Summer Holidays

Fruity Ice Treats

5 minutes preparation
6 serves of fruit in this recipe
6 disposable plastic cups
6 pop sticks

STRAWBERRY & KIWI
1 punnet strawberries, hulled and chopped,
2 kiwi fruit, peeled and chopped,
1½ cups orange juice.
Drop strawberries and kiwi fruit into each disposable cup. Pour orange juice over fruit, add a pop stick to each cup and freeze until set. Run under hot water to remove from the cup. Makes 6 cups.

TROPICAL ICE TREATS
1 fresh mango, peeled and chopped or 425g can mango,
1½ cups orange juice,
410g can apricots in natural juice, drained and chopped.
Puree mango in a blender and add orange juice. Divide apricots between plastic cups. Pour mango and orange juice over fruit, add a pop stick to each cup and freeze until set. Run under hot water to remove from the cup. Makes 6 cups.
Below are the banners created to thank the lovely donations provided by sponsors for our Governing Council’s Quiz Night. We would also like to thank Faye Willis for her kind donation.