



PORT AUGUSTA SPECIAL SCHOOL

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Newsletter - April 2016 - Issue 4

News from the Principal...

As the term draws to a close I would like to acknowledge the work of the staff throughout the school in supporting the learning of the students. NEP's have been completed and teachers are sending them home for final signoff. Because we have introduced a new goal setting structure it has taken a little longer to complete the process but the end result in defining achievement will be more transparent.

Last Friday all staff participated in a full day "KEYWORD Signing" workshop. Staff learned to be better communication partners with the students by adding sign to verbal and visual conversations and directions. Giving the student a sign adds information and potentially provides that snippet of information that will support success with learning or behaviour. Staff will be implementing KEYWORD sign across the school and encouraging students to learn to sign as well. For our older students it can be a way to enhance communication with younger students.

Support from the community is always appreciated our thanks go to Cathy Mayhew and Heather Hancock from the Pt Augusta Quilters Guild for the cosy quilts donated to the school.

The staff wish all families and students a safe and happy holiday and look forward to continuing successful learning in term 2.

Regards,

Anne



DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday April 15th

End of Term - 2pm dismissal



Monday May 2nd

Start of Term 2

Tuesday May 10th

School Photos

Wednesday May 25th

Governing Council Meeting

Monday June 13th

Public Holiday: Queen's Birthday

Wednesday June 22nd

Governing Council Meeting

Tuesday June 28th

School Assembly

Friday July 8th

End of Term 2



Monday July 25th

Start of Term 3

Child Curriculum Protection (CPC)

Please read the DECD "Keeping Safe" pamphlet sent out with this Newsletter. All our students are learning to keep themselves safe and tell a trusted adult if they need help. Teachers are covering Child Protection Curriculum in their daily programs. Please feel free to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions about this.



News from the Classroom!



Room 2

What a busy first term! Our Health and Physical Education activities have included swimming lessons as well as weekly Kindergym sessions and cooking. During Art we have made Easter decorations, dressed up in costumes and played musical instruments. A big thankyou to Mr Smith who visited our class and played the guitar for us.

The 'People Who Help Us' learning focused on fire fighters. This concluded with a visit to the fire station where we were able to sit in the truck, use the water hose, hear the loud siren and wear some of the safety jackets and boots. It was a great day. Thankyou to Kylee McNamee for showing us how important fire safety is in our community.

Room 3

This term in Room 3 we have 6 new students. They have all settled in really well. The students and Teachers have been learning a lot about one another and are ready for Term 2. Well done Room 3!

Room 4

Term 1 2016 has come to a close. Room 4 had a very productive term with their literacy and numeracy learning programs. We had an excursion to the Fire Station for the children to experience how the theme 'People Who Help Us' impacts their lives. Advances were made in the students socialisation skills and in their abilities to follow routines. They have become quite a team and we have come to a stage where we have to tell Memphis to keep quiet! Thank you to my SSOs for their help and support.

Room 5

Room 5 had a very busy term 1, there has been lots of learning and hands on activities in the class. The major focus had been on learning to use visuals for morning and afternoon routines and also for literacy and numeracy activities. The students have very individualised and personalised learning plans. In Literacy students have been learning about phonics and we did letters Aa and Ss. In phonics students have been learning about alphabet letters and sounds which help them to read and write. In Maths students have been learning how to recognise and add numbers. For our thematic topic students have been learning about 'People Who Help Us'. The students have been learning to recognise who the helpers in our community are and how they help us. On the last week of the term students are going on an excursion to see people who help us in Port Augusta. Wish all the students have a relaxing two weeks break and come back fresh for term 2.

Room 6

Room 6 comprises seven students. This term we have been working on the theme 'People Who Help Us'. Students learnt about emergency services. We integrated the theme with other learning area. Posters were made, students chose a profession and prepared costume for themselves. They made their word bank based on the theme. Children were engaged in Numeracy working numbers. The students are going on excursion and this correlates to the theme. Thanks to the parents, guardians and carers for making Teacher/parent interview evenings a successful one. Anticipating your continued support and cooperation to achieve success for the betterment of our students.

