



# PORT AUGUSTA SPECIAL SCHOOL

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Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and Child Development

## Newsletter - May 2017 - Issue 6

### News from the Principal...

#### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

We have commenced the annual nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability.

This will involve the collection of:

- the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students;
- the level of adjustment provided to students; and where known, the student's type of disability.

Under the Collection model the definition of disability is broad and includes learning difficulties, health and mental health conditions.

If your child is identified for inclusion in the Collection, the required information about your child will be included in this year's data collection.

If you have any questions about the data collection, please contact Sarah French on 8641 0882. Further information about the Collection can be found at:

<http://www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>.

#### Art Project

We are excited to introduce a community based art project with a youth participation framework at our school. An eye catching 17m X 1M aboriginal themed painting on tiles on the island at the entrance to our school along with a beautiful mural and ceramic covered benches.

The artwork is to be designed by our students in partnership with invited Aboriginal artists and advisers from Adelaide and Port Augusta. We are lucky to have the support of Sophie Rose of White Lion (Youth Outreach Worker, South Australian Stride Program Coordinator) White Lion are renowned for relationship based programs in art, dance, and sport that encourage social, physical and emotional health for youth.

This activity has special significance to the school and The Aboriginal community. Our school has a complement of 42% Aboriginal enrolment. The school and the staff are committed to 'Closing the Gap' strategies. We look forward to updating you on the progression of this project.

*Sarah*

Principal



*Cam*

Deputy Principal

### DATES TO REMEMBER

17 May	Football Clinic Braddock Park
24 May	Governing Council Meeting
9 June	Student Free Day
12 June	Public Holiday
21 June	Governing Council Meeting
7 July	Last Day of Term Early Dismissal

### TOILET TIME!



A free information session on toilet training - particularly for children with developmental delays

Free sessions run by our occupational therapist!

- Are you unsure of how to start toilet training your child?
- Have you started toilet training but are having difficulties?
- Are you interested in learning and exploring different ideas for toilet training?
- Do you want to share your ideas and experiences with other parents/ carers?

June 8, 15, 22 ~ 1.00 - 2.30pm

RSVP / Bookings to EYPC 8648 5910



Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services



Early Years Parenting Centre - 1 Stirling Road, Port Augusta

# What's happening in class

## **Room 8**

The senior students in Room 8 have been working well. Part of our literacy program involves students creating a book based on their interests which they will get an opportunity to share with others at a later date. So far the students have produced some great work. Once all the books have been completed we will be having a book launch, where parents and carers will be invited to attend to view the books that have been created. I am expecting this will be some time in term three.

Our numeracy program is focusing on both time and money this semester. As part of this unit students are planning a meal, shopping for the required ingredients and working out the most economical way of purchasing them, then preparing the meal.

We have also started a design and technology unit. The class is split into two groups on Tuesday mornings, while one group shops and cooks, the other is involved in designing and creating something. This semester the students are focusing on hydraulics. We are excited to see what amazing things they are going to produce.

Simone Anderson  
Senior Teacher

## **Room 4**

Room 4 has had a very productive and interesting learning journey since the beginning of 2017. The students in my class are very conscious of the fact that they are part of a group and have formed interpersonal bonds. My SSO's and I have tried to encourage a feeling of belonging and confidence within the class. Memphis will often come up to talk to Uzeema. Chaynae and Rosalyn sometimes have a conversation and will laugh like tweens at some private joke!

Spa routines for both Anthony and Uzeema last term were helpful in building up their strength. The spa has been under repair since the beginning of this term and we hope to be able to use its services in the coming weeks.

With the cancellation of Kindergym, we are now going to the Children's Park in the Arid Lands garden for the students to learn the requisite skills like balance and a sense of adventure. We are alternating these visits with trips to the Port Augusta Public Library to engage them in Literacy activities and to help foster a sense of community.

I am confident that our learning journey will only get better through the year.

Bhupinder Lateef  
Teacher



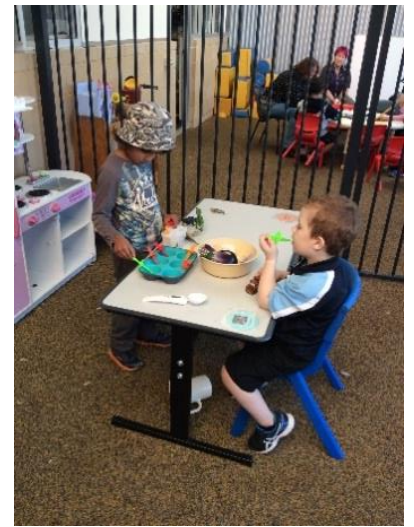
# Room 3



This term Room 3 has launched a play-based program called Investigations.

Each day after lunch we have been engaging with stations set up in our learning space, each with a clear learning intention. These have included a train set, toy cars, animals, blocks, a kitchen, craft table, play dough and drawing.

The students are thoroughly enjoying spending time creating and exploring, while at the same time developing skills in turn-taking and fine motor movement. As well as using their imagination, building oral language and expanding their vocabulary.







## Room 2

The children at room 2 have made a wonderful start of the term. They are excited about their learning, and are beginning to form new friendships.

Students start their day with practicing fine motor and handwriting skills after the bell, it's our group time. The main focus of our group time is to extend their oral language skills. On Monday's, we do oral recount about our weekend. They look at pictures and talk about their weekend activity by answering questions. We finish our morning session with music and dance.

After recess, we have our literacy block. Students have moved from learning sounds to blending sounds and are taking small steps towards making short words. Our literacy block is divided into jolly phonics, magic 100 words, blending CVC words and story boxes.

After lunch, we have our numeracy block, which is mainly through hands on activities. We are looking at forming numbers in different ways. Other areas of focus are Patterns and Shapes in this term.

We are fortunate to have Andrea and Keith join Deanna and I this term and give 1:1 support to the students whenever needed.

