Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Recently the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) released a discussion paper titled:

Every Chance For Every Child

This discussion paper and the feedback that it will receive has the promise of shaping our Education and Health system in South Australia for years to come. Grace Portesi (Minister for Education and Child Development) let us know that over 19,000 babies are born in South Australia every year and that one of the purposes and biggest challenges for governments is to increase the health and well being of everyone. She also states:

Vigorous, creative and confident children build a strong, resilient and productive community now and into the future.

The early years are exceptionally important in the development of any child and to the growth of individuals into healthy, happy and community minded adults. It is important that schools work in partnership with families and their communities. Schools can play a vital role in supporting parents in raising confident and successful children who will become our next generation of South Australians.

Nurture

It is important to note that research into brain developments show that every aspect of a child’s early years shapes the way a child learns and grows. This means that early experiences determines how children see themselves, build relationships and interact with others, acquire language, learn new skills and respond to challenges, risks and opportunities in life.

The discussion paper argues that it is important to consider the “whole child” and invest resources and support in the early years to make better connections between families, services, schools and communities. Negative, unhealthy early life experiences can mean that children might not be able to become the best that they can be and worse still grow into adults who are unable to live a productive and happy life in our society.

Learn

The discussion paper states: “Parents understand the link between health and their child’s capacity to learn”, and promises for the government to become more “child friendly” with the intention of exploring ways to better:

- create services and professional help around children and families
- connect services and professional help around communities
- allow children and families to access services without the need to be able to adapt to new challenges
- provide services and community hubs with schools in the centre
- encourage community hubs with schools in the centre
- encourage everyone to accept responsibility for the health and happiness of every child
- support non-government organisation (sport, recreation and counselling services) to actively engage children in the community

Achieve

The discussion paper outlines that the 21st Century requires young people in SA to be:

- innovative and creative
- able to adapt to new challenges
- developing higher-level skills both in academic and trade-related fields
- contributing to the community
- inclusive of a diversity of people
- confident resilient and living in healthy relationships

To achieve this goal schools, services and communities need to include children and young people in building a strong, vibrant community and that respects and values every child.

So what does this mean for the children and schools in Port Pirie and more importantly Risdon Park Primary School? Every Chance For Every Child outlines the South Australian Government intentions of ensuring that every child in public education gets what he or she needs, when he or she needs it, so that they can grow into strong healthy adults and who will be the best that they can be! By going onto the YourSay website, reading the discussion paper and providing your feedback, you will have influenced government plans and policy regarding the future structure and funding of resources in schools, services and in our local community. The website address is as follows: www.everychild.sa.gov.au

If you are interested in having a copy of the discussion paper, but do not have access to the internet please come into the front office to receive a paper copy.

Regards,
Carolyn Clinton

---

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Monday 20th August</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S Jebb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V Guymert</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Boothby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Sawyer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Dienhoff, O Fisher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Monday 25th August</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D Staehr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Oehms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L Pomery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Gray</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29th August</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S Jebb, T Curnow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Week 6 Aug Book Week | 20 |
| Week 6 Friday Kindy Transition | 24 |
| Week 7 Aug School Photos | 28 |
| Choir Performances 7.30pm | 29/30 |
| Kindy Transition | 31 |
| Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes | 5 |
| Finance Governing Council Meeting | 7 |
| Kindy Transition | |
| Week 9 Sept Sports Day Thurs Pupil Free Fri | 13/14 |

---

A Learning Community that Values: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Honesty, Caring
THE WONKY DONKEY

On Monday 13th August reception to year 3 classes were treated with a visit from Craig Smith the author of ‘The Wonky Donkey’. Students were actively involved singing and dancing. He played a guitar and a harmonica, read a story and talked about his life experiences. Inspiration for many of his songs comes from his mother and childhood experiences. Students from St Joseph’s Gladstone were also present. Thank you to Margy Arnold (Meg’s Book Shop) and Trenna for arranging the inspiring visit.

Pictured at left is Craig Smith playing his harmonica.
Below students interacting with Craig and right .

SCHOOL PHOTOS MPS Photography

Photo day is 28th August. Students are expected to be in school uniform.
Family photo envelopes are available from the front office.
Send your order with money enclosed only on photo day.

GREEN & GOLD DAY

On the 3rd August to help celebrate the Olympics and raise money for a major fundraiser (Mary MacKillop) we had Green & Gold Day. Lots of students came dressed up in green and yellow or as their favourite sports star. There were activity sessions on the oval run by the Sports House Captains giving all students an opportunity to try Olympics events like high jump, discus, javelin (not real ones) and the hurdles. Well done to our school community who raised $345.

Pictured: Olympic sports activity and the choir singing at assembly.

Choir Performances

The Pirie District Primary Schools Choir will be performing on Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th August at 7:30pm at the Keith Michell Theatre. General Public tickets go on sale Monday 20th August.

Choir students have been given preferential booking vouchers for their family to purchase tickets. Choir students also have important notices to return in preparation for arrangements for dress rehearsals and performance schedules. Parents please ensure the health information and travel arrangement forms are returned by the end of next week.

Could all choir students bring their choir tops for school photo day Tuesday 28th August.

A Learning Community that Values: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Honesty, Caring
Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Beginning next Monday your child/ren will be involved in the Premiers ‘Be Active Challenge’ as a part of a whole school initiative which is aimed at improving the amount of physical activity that students undertake on a daily basis.

The aim of the challenge is for students to be active for at least 60 minutes a day for at least five days of the week, for the next four weeks. At school students undertake activities that include Specialist Physical Education lessons, class games, participating in Sports Day activities and activities they might do during break times. If your child is absent, they can make up a day 60 minutes activity.

In addition to these activities students can also count activity towards their 60 minutes.

There is an approved list of activities set by the Premier towards their 60 minutes each day. This list is on the reverse side of this letter. Class teachers have been asked to allocate time each day to record students physical activity.

As a school we would encourage parents/caregivers to support their child in completing this challenge as all students that successfully complete the challenge are rewarded with a medal or alternative prize from the Premier.

If you have any concerns, questions or queries about what your child is doing in regards to this challenge then please speak to your child’s class teacher.

If you have any further questions

CHILDREN’S BOOK WEEK 2012
“CHAMPIONS READ”

Definition
Next week our Risdon Park Primary School students will be participating in a variety of activities to celebrate Book Week.
1. Each class will participate in a Book Week Activity with Mrs Kretschmer or Ms McMahon in the Resource Centre.
2. A Colouring Competition will be held. Entries available from the Resource Centre. Winners will be announced Friday 24th August at the assembly
3. Shared Reading on Wednesday 22nd Aug. at 2:45pm with each class joining their buddy class. Parents/Grandparents/Caregivers are invited to join us to read with your child/children.
4. Make a Champion Reader Gold Medal in class to display at the Book Week Parade.
5. A Champion Reader Parade will be held at 12:20pm on Friday 24th August. The theme is to dress up as a Champion, eg a sporting champion or someone who you think is a champion.
6. Week 7 Junior Primary classes will visit the public library for a book week activity.
7. We look forward to an exciting Book Week.

To support this on Monday 6th August Splash Theatre Company were at school to perform Book Week Plays for the whole school.

Trenna Kretschmer, Damien Mellow
Was your child born in 2008 / 2009? Do you know when they are due to start Kindergarten?

There are new changes to school starting dates due to Same First Day of school commencing Jan 2014. This means there will only be one intake to schools, and when your child starts depends on their date of birth. Therefore this affects kindy next year (2013).

If you have not already enrolled your child at a preschool. Please register your interest at the Kindergarten you intend to send your child to, and find out exactly when they will begin their preschool education.

The date your child is due to start will depend on whether you will be asked to complete a detailed Enrolment form or a Registered Interest-waiting list form. This Waiting List form will be sufficient until it gets closer to your child beginning kindy as it has all the details we require until the child actually begins attending preschool. These details will be entered into the Early Years Database system that all preschools are required to use and this will ensure your information is safe and will not be overlooked or misplaced. As it gets closer to the date your child starts kindy, we will ask you to complete the detailed enrolment form. This way will ensure all details such as addresses, contact numbers, medical history, etc are up-to-date; not a year or 2 old.

2013 is the Same First Day Transition year for preschools and this means some children will begin kindy in Term 2 and complete their 600 hours of preschool over 3 terms not 4. Please rest assured they will still get the same amount of time at kindy as the children who complete 4 terms, it will just mean they will attend extra days at kindy later in the year. The chart below shows when children are due to start preschool and school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Start Preschool</th>
<th>Start School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before 29th January 2009</td>
<td>Term 1, 2013</td>
<td>Term 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th Jan 2009 - 30th April 2009</td>
<td>Term 2, 2013</td>
<td>Term 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st May 2009 - 30th April 2010</td>
<td>Term 1, 2014</td>
<td>Term 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please register your interest at your intended kindergarten ASAP so we can workout staffing. Please see your local kindy today 😊

Risdon Park South Kindergarten

Other local Port Pirie kindy’s include:

- 10 Hannan Street
  Port Pirie Community Kindergarten - Halliday St Tel: 8632 1291

- Port Pirie
  Ellendale Kindergarten - First St  Tel: 8633 0077

- Tel: 8632 2576
  Solomontown Kindergarten - Three Chain Road  Tel: 8632 3800

email: kindy.director@risdonkgn.sa.edu.au

Railway Junior Tennis registration day

Wednesday 22nd August 6pm-7pm at the Tennis Centre.
For further information Ph Trish Lloyd on 0438826833 after 4:30pm. New players welcome. Forms available from the school office.

SPORTS DAY is Thursday September 13th

We would like some volunteers to assist with judging and setting up on the day. If you are free and able to assist us, please contact Damien Mellow our Deputy Principal at the front office. Remember the following day Friday 14th Sept is a pupil free day.

CANTEEN SPECIAL FOR FRIDAY 17TH AUGUST ONLY

Hot chicken & gravy roll + Fruit Box
Full serve $4.50, save $1.20
1/2 serve $3.50 save 70c
No chicken wedges available Fridays
No Slushies available in winter

Music Tuition

Wendy Palmer has vacancies for piano guitar and singing lessons. Ph 86322659 for further information.

CENTRAL/RISDON NETBALL CLUB

Bottle green jumpers are unavailable from suppliers so we will wait for next season.
Sorry Guys

Presentation Thursday 13th Sept
(Please add to your diary)

HEADLICE continues to harass our children. Please be vigilant in making weekly checks of your children’s hair.

Emergency Asthma Kits

All students requiring asthmas puffers are required to have their own medication and equipment and a health care plan at school.
At Risdon we have an emergency kit and will use this in an emergency. However new recommendations form Asthma Australia recommends single use spacers. Hence if students need to use the school kit because their medication and equipment is not at school parents may be charged $6 for the disposable spacer.

Regards, Carolyn Clinton

A Learning Community that Values: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Honesty, Caring