Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In the RPPS first newsletter of 2012, I wrote about our Literacy Reading priority. I would like to thank all parents, who attended our Jolly Phonics Workshop last Tuesday. The workshop was exceptionally well attended with over 50 parents and even a few grandparents attending to listen to Shellee Harradine, our Literacy Coordinator introduce the Jolly Phonics program and explaining the related home practice program. If you were not able to attend the workshop and you would like information on the Jolly Phonics program, please contact Shellee for a chat or to arrange information to be sent home.

Next Monday 20th February we are having a pupil free day at which a Literacy expert will be working with staff on improving our knowledge and skills in reading, using a Guided Reading approach. Guided Reading is a teaching methodology which provides students with explicit learning experiences about texts and the processes of reading. Teachers work with students in small groups to explicitly teach the knowledge and skills involved in the reading process.

On Tuesday 21st February Stephan Graham will be modelling the Guided Reading processes to staff members working with small groups of students.

On Monday 20th February afternoon, after our pupil free day, Stephan Graham will be conducting a parent information session on how you can help your child to read at home. This workshop will go for approximately 2 hours and will take place in our new resource centre.

Two early years teachers, an SSO and our student intervention manager will be participating in a year long research project with Edith Cowin University in WA. Associate Professor Konza will be working with our nominated staff along with nominated staff from 12 other schools in our region focussing on teaching students to read in the early years. If your child is in Pat Greg’s or Vanessa’s Biedrzycki’s class then you will probably be hearing about the “Big 6” in Reading in the next few months as they begin their training.

Acquaintance afternoon
Next Tuesday 21st February, we will be holding an Acquaintance afternoon at Risdon Park Primary School. Last year’s event was extremely popular and well attended by families, and we are hoping that this years event will be just the same.

Classrooms will be open from 4pm to 4:45pm for families to walk around and meet heir child’s teachers, for children to show their family their learning. The German room and our new resource centre will also be open for you to have a look around.

From 5 pm – 6pm a sausage sizzle will be conducted out on the front lawn with all family members welcome. You would have received a personalised invitation home from your child and it is important that you let us know how many are coming so that we can purchase enough food.

Whole School Swimming Program
Whole school swimming program begins next Tuesday 21st February and runs through to the following Friday 24th. Please refer to the notes that have been sent home for details concerning your child’s class.

Risdon Park Primary School – Annual General Meeting
This year our AGM will be held on Wednesday 21st March at 7pm in our new Resource Centre. Governing Council is a governing body of parents who work collaboratively with leadership and staff representatives to make decision regarding policy and whole school procedures. If you are interested in becoming a Governing Council member please fill in the nomination sheet in this newsletter and return to school. If you would like more information about being
From the Principal......continued

Parent Teacher Interview
We will be holding parent / teacher interviews in week 8 (from Monday 19th) and 9 (through to Friday 30th march) of this term. Parent / teacher interviews provides parents and teachers (and students they attend) opportunity to talk about their learning goals, progress against their goals and achievements.

After swimming you will receive information home about interviews and will be invited to make a time to discuss your child’s learning with their teacher. Please keep a look out for this information in about 2 weeks time.

As you can see we have a busy term planned. Please refer to the term planner enclosed in this newsletter for further information about other events that will be taking place this term.

I look forward to seeing and talking with you at one or more of the RPPS event taking place in the next few weeks of term.

Kindest regards,
Carolyn Clinton

From the Deputy...........

On Wednesday 15th February Port Power visited Risdon to talk to the students about healthy eating and physical fitness. David Rodan, Matthew Broadbent, Mitchell Banner and Daniel Stewart talked about their football careers and how they have to watch what they eat but also keep a balance from the 5 food groups. The students asked some great questions and were able to grab some signatures at the end of the session.

Swimming starts Tuesday (21st Feb). Please ensure you have paid and returned your health forms. Don’t forget to take your emergency medication with you every swimming day. Students who have not paid or do not have their emergency medication will not be able to attend the lessons.

Students are still required to wear school uniform including suitable shoes at school. For swimming students will need:-
- Bathers
- Towel
- t-shirt
- sunscreen
- Emergency medication if applicable (eg puffer, epipen)
- thongs/sandals (to & from pool only)
- Bag to protect wet gear from school books

Don’t forget underwear if wearing bathers under school uniform.

Damien Mellow
Canteen Special for Friday
17th February only
"Try our New Pizza’s"
Hawaiian (Ham & Pineapple)
Margarita (cheese)

1 pizza + Fruit Box $4.50

Coming soon BBQ Chicken Pizza
No chicken wedges available Friday’s

Blue Light Disco Pool Party
When: Friday 17th February 7-9:30pm
Where: Pt Pirie Swimming Pool
Mary Elie St, Pt Pirie
8-16 years $5 each.
Loads of prizes and giveaways. Food & Drink available
No Passouts!

TAFE SA Training
Opportunity to study a fully funded Certificate III in Children’s Services through TAFE SA
If you have an interesting in working with children, are not currently employed and would like to gain nationally recognised qualification please contact Yvonne on 8638 1854 or Assunta on 8638 4204 by Tue 14 Feb
Classes starting 21 Feb in Port Pirie or option to study externally available. Limited places only

Centrals/RISDON Netball Club Training-Registration
Thursday 23rd February we are training from 5-6pm for ALL grades.
Treasurer available from 5:30-6
$20 deposit Due NOW to secure a place in a team
If unavailable to attend please ring,
Teresa 86326678 ah or
Anne 86325812 ah
Season starts April 28th

School Dental Service
All school students, aged under 18 years, are eligible for oral health care with the School Dental service. All dental care is free for preschool children who are dependants of holders of the following concessions are eligible to receive free dental care.
- Centrelink Concession Card
- Department of Veterans’ Affairs Pensioner
- Concession Card
- School Card
For primary and secondary school children who are not dependant of holders of the above concession, a fee will apply for each course of general dental care.
Please contact the Port Pirie West School Dental Clinic, phone 8632 1926 to access care. The clinic is open Monday - Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.
For Emergency advise after hours please contact 1800 022 222.

GOVERNING COUNCIL nomination Form
I nominate __________________________ for Governing Council membership at the election to be held on Wednesday 21st March, 2012.
Nominated by: __________________________
Signed: __________________________
Seconded by: __________________________
Signed: __________________________ OR
I __________________________am interested in being on the
__________________________ sub committee
(Finance, Canteen, Fundraising)

PIANO TUTION
Anne Hansen has vacancies for piano tuition.
Please phone 86363123 for further details.

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