Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Once again another term has slipped on by. Lots of events have taken place and there has been many highlights including:

- Welcoming 5 new staff members
- Two parent workshops – Jolly Phonics and Stephan Graham - Reading At Home With Your Child.
- 4 staff members involved in a Reading Research project with professor Deslae Konza and Edith Cowin University in WA
- A staff day of Learning with Stephan Graham focussed on Guided Reading and another day observing Stephan working with students in the guided reading process
- A highly successful Acquaintance afternoon and sausage sizzle – an opportunity for families to visit classrooms, for parents to meet their child’s new teacher and to share a sausage or two with us out on the front lawn.
- SAPSASA – Come and Try – Soft Ball, Tennis, Cricket
- Nyrstar Swimming Carnival and our teams winning!
- Students chosen to represent Pirie in Adelaide for SAPSASA in softball and in the state swimming event
- Harmony Day Celebration - with a whole school game on the oval
- Breakfast Club taking place every Wednesday morning with the help of parent volunteers
- Beginning of the Premier’s Reading Challenge
- 59 students enrolling in the RPPS choir - practice began for the Pirie Combine Performances to be held at the Keith Michelle Theatre in term 3
- Young Leaders Day for our school captains
- Two Students winning a position in the state wide German competition
- Port Power Visit
- Guided Inquiry learning taking place with

It has been a busy term, but an exciting one! I would like to thank all staff for their dedication and commitment to the programs and our students at Risdon Park PS. We say a temporary goodbye to Amy Tiller in room 25, as Ashley Belton will be returning from Long Service leave in term 2. Amy will be returning to work in Shellee’s year 1/2 class (room 12) every Tuesday as Trenna Kretschmer will be taking 5 weeks long service leave. A big change for the beginning of term 2 will be the installation of SMART Boards in every classroom across the school. When RPPS was built just less than 60 years ago, SMART boards would have been an idea from science fiction. Our buildings were never built with SMART board technology taken into account. This means that teachers now need to get their rooms ready for this up to date digital technology and could mean some disruption in week 10 as they clean and ready areas for their installation in the holidays.

I wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday and long Easter weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 23rd April.

Kindest Regards,
Carolyn Clinton

DECD

Risdon Park News
Newsletter Date 29/3/12

From the Principal……..

<table>
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<th>Dates to Remember</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday March</td>
<td>Reception transition</td>
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<td>Wednesday April</td>
<td>Breakfast Club</td>
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<td>Rm 21.25 excursion Choir</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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<td>Thursday April</td>
<td>Early dismissal 2:15pm</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>First day of Term 2</td>
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<td>Monday April</td>
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<td>Wednesday April Anzac</td>
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<td>Friday May</td>
<td>Soccer carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday May</td>
<td>Student Free Day (Smart Board Training)</td>
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<td>Monday May</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day whole district Aust Curriculum</td>
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Canteen Roster
- Monday 2nd April
  R Giles
- Tuesday 3rd April
  C Oehms
- Wednesday 4th April
  L Pomery
- Thursday 5th April
  K Gray, L Reimann
- Friday 6th April
  Good Friday

Term 2
- Monday 23rd April
  D Staehr
- Tuesday 24th April
  C Oehms
- Wednesday 25th March
  ANZAC Day Holiday
- Thursday 26th April
  D Crossman, J Baldwin
- Friday 27th April
  G Bagott, T Curnow

A History focus
- Ronan Sheldrick receiving his prize from last year’s fundraiser of a ride to school in a fire engine
- AGM – with the presentation of 2011 Annual Report
- Parent Teacher Interviews and First Impression Report

A big change for the beginning of term 2 will be the installation of SMART Boards in every classroom across the school. When RPPS was built just less than 60 years ago, SMART boards would have been an idea from science fiction. Our buildings were never built with SMART board technology taken into account. This means that teachers now need to get their rooms ready for this up to date digital technology and could mean some disruption in week 10 as they clean and ready areas for their installation in the holidays.

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Kindest Regards,
Carolyn Clinton

A Learning Community that Values: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Honesty, Caring
From the Deputy......Damien Mellow

We celebrated Harmony Day with lots of activities in the classroom and in the yard. It was a great day to help our students and community understand and recognise cultural diversity.

A quick snapshot of activities included:

- Whole school game on oval – 400 students playing the 1 game
- Lessons in classroom
- Sharing of different foods from different countries
- Dressing up in orange
- Orange food in the canteen
- Face painting and colouring-in at lunch

We are already looking forward to next year!!
RPPS Annual General Meeting
On Wednesday 21\textsuperscript{st} March RPPS AGM was held in our new resource Centre. The 2011 Annual Report was presented at this meeting and please find a copy of a 4 page summary with this newsletter. If you would like a copy of the full 2011 Annual report please inquire at the front office.

We would like to thank the following retiring members who have given up their own family time to spend two evenings a term to discuss the Risdon Park PS policies and procedures.

Thanks you to:
Jason Stringer (has been a member on RPPS Governing Council for 6 years)
Amy Tiller

We would also like to Welcome 2 new councillors:
Susan Gates and Kathryn Gregory

Thank you to the following councillors who have taken on executive roles;
Kelly Smith Chairperson
Mel Maywald Secretary
Rick Olsen Treasurer

We still have a few places left on Governing Council so if you are interested in becoming a council member, please contact me.

Interviews
Thank you to all the parents who have made a time to meet with your child’s teacher for an interview. If you have missed out, you can still contact your child’s teacher to make a time, which may now need to take place early in term 2.

In the last newsletter I wrote about the importance of Interviews as an opportunity for parents to gain information about their child’s learning progress and achievement. Interviews are also an opportunity for teachers to learn more from parents about your child so that they can best meet the needs of their learning.

You will find in this newsletter an A4 Feedback sheet. Please fill in and return to school as we genuinely value your comments which help us review our practices so that we communicate to you your child’s learning achievement and challenges in the best way that we can.

Thanks you!
Carolyn Clinton

“Literacy is everyone’s business”- On your marks, get set, READ!

When your child has read to you, consider a few of the following:

- ask a few simple questions based on the characters in the text or the setting of the book.
- Focus on a picture and ask your child to retell what is happening within the picture. Ask your child, what happened before this? And what happened after this?
- Ask your child to retell the story.
- Encourage your child to talk about any similar experiences that are relevant to the book.
- Ask your child to locate words that begin with or end with a particular sound. Identify words that are repeated throughout the book.

The practise of reading is most important in ensuring your child continues to gather reading strategies. Revisiting a book over a couple of nights can be very beneficial in developing reading confidence and consolidating reading strategies.

Shellee Harradine, Literacy Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Allyson Diggens, Chloe Olsen, Leah Funke and Samantha Simpson on being selected as soloists for the Pirie District Combined Choir.
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLC)

Are you interested in building your capacity in Australian Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment? Professional Learning Communities are designed so that educators can:

- Be a part of a collaborative culture of learning
- Engage in collective inquiry
- Commit to continuous improvement

Pirie & Environs Thursday 29th March (today), Solomontown Primary School 4pm.

If you are unable to attend but are interested in being a member of a PLC, or you have any questions, please email Brenda Potter, Australian Curriculum and Pedagogy Facilitator—brenda.potter@sa.gov.au with details or your areas of interest and days after school available to meet.

RISDON HOCKEY CLUB

Do you want to play hockey?

Risdon Hockey Club is seeking players for U14 Boys and U12 & U14 Girls

(U14 or U12 on 1/1/12 to be eligible)

Training is Monday 4.30-5.30pm at the hockey complex.

Contact Tracy 0400 931 338 or Johnno 0417 844 868 for more information.

If you require further information, please give me a call on 0400 931 338

Tracy Northcott, or Lyn Marwick on 0428839006

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES APRIL 2012

PORT AUGUSTA AQUATIC & OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTRE

Tues 10th—Thurs 12th
Tues 17th—Thurs 19th

Kayaking, sailing, canoeing, snorkelling, windsurfing, cycling, orienteering and team games.

Payment by 5/4/12

Application forms available from the school office.

All 1/2 day sessions $25 each

Further information available by phoning 0427722450 or 86422699

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE

Will be visiting Pt Pirie from 16th—20th April

Savoy Soccer Club, 93 Main Road Pt Pirie

Every week we need at least 2,500 blood donations from South Australians.

Please consider donating blood, every donation can help save three lives.

Ph 131495 for further information.

CANTEEN SPECIAL FOR FRIDAY

Squash Dog with Cheese & Sauce + Fruit Box

Full serve $4.50 save $1

1/2 serve $3.50 save 70c

No chicken wedges available Fridays

LIONS SPORTING & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Training for under 9, 11, and 13’s will commence at the Pt Pirie West Primary School Oval from 4pm on Thursday 29th March.

Under 15’s have commenced on Monday afternoons from 4:30pm at John Pirie Secondary School oval.

Registration and family day is on Sunday 1st April at the Lions Football Club, Mary-Elie St, commencing 11:30am. Lunch will be provided. Feel free to bring any pre-loved Lions football attire, boots, shorts or socks that could be used by other junior footballers.

For further information please contact either:

Matt Giles 0422892146 or Bryan Jansen 0409837637

Railway Junior Tennis Presentation

Wed 4th April, 6pm BBQ at the Tennis Centre

Presentations 7:15pm

Airdale Kids Club

Easter Holiday Program available from school office

CANTEEN SPECIAL FOR FRIDAY

Squash Dog with Cheese & Sauce + Fruit Box

Full serve $4.50 save $1

1/2 serve $3.50 save 70c

No chicken wedges available Fridays

SOCCER FOR 6 YEAR OLDS AND UNDER

Every Saturday from 5th May at 10:30am there will be a coaching clinic for children not eligible for team sport at the Senate Rd complex.

Please register your child’s interest for organisational purposes at the school office, or contact Greg Cox for further details.