Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Tuesday 24th November was a challenging day for all at Risdon Park Primary School, with the electricity down throughout the school, caused by a transformer breaking down. ETSA worked solidly until 9pm on Tuesday night to get a new transformer up from Adelaide and installed it so we could start our school day on Wednesday. This was very important as Wednesday was our first day of whole school transition. Thank you so very much to all parents who responded quickly to the Skoolbag notice and also assisted us in informing other parents through Facebook or other devices.

On the brighter side, it is rewarding to see that a communication program such as Skoolbag is highly effective in communicating information to parents. If you have not downloaded the free app, please look to information in the newsletter for details. There is a lot more information on the app, such as school and classroom newsletters. Please take time to have a look.

Transition

Even in a small rural centre such as Port Pirie, it is important that we have smooth transition from kindy to school and year 7 to secondary school. Moving from one site to another, from one educational experience to another can cause anxiety and apprehension with children and students and their families. Transition helps children and students to become accustomed to a new setting which includes the yard and class areas, as well as teachers and support staff.

For DECD sites in Port Pirie including Napperby Primary School, we have a whole town approach to transition. The transition program begins early in term 4 supporting students with special needs to transition into John Pirie Secondary School over many weeks. Kindy to school transition begins with 2 sessions, one until recess time in week 5, and one other morning until lunchtime in week 6. This week in week 7, we have two full days on Wednesday and Thursday for kindy children to have a school experience in a reception class and for year 7 to have their first full days experience at John Pirie Secondary school. These two days also allow every student in the school to experience learning in different classes with different teachers. This is done in whole year level settings and not in the fixed classes that they will be in in 2016.

Year 7 students who will be moving onto St Marks will have their transition day on Monday 30th November.

On Wednesday 9th December your child will also be bringing home their second semester report which will include notification of their 2016 class. On Thursday, in week 9, students will spend 45 minutes with their new teacher (where possible) in their new classroom for 2016.

As the term draws to a close students can feel excited about what is to come, but also a little apprehensive about the changes that they are about to face. Encourage discussions on how these changes might feel and look like and let them know that everyone will be okay and there will always be someone there to help and support them.

If you have any questions and/or concerns about transition and moving into the 2016 school year please give me a ring to have a chat or make a time to meet.

Regards,
Carolyn Clinton

Carolyn Clinton (Principal) & Kym Conley (Chair of Governing Council) will be at school from 6:30 – 6:50pm next Wednesday for parents who have any questions in regards to 2016 Services and Material charges $229.00
On Wednesday the entire school was getting ready for 2016 with transition in full swing. Everyone was placed into a class in their year level to get a taste of what’s in store being another year older. There were also lots of fun activities taking place and it was great to see students getting along and participating. We wish these students all the best for 2016.

Next Wednesday is the big day of Risdon’s Got Talent Grand Final! There are 3 acts from reception to year 3, and four acts from year 4-7. These students have been working extremely hard and there are a great range of acts from magic to dancing for out entertainment.

Thank you in advance to all the Kids Co reps who have offered to help out with the Christmas activities organised by Ashleigh. They will be running Friday week 8 and Wednesday week 9 at recess and lunch. There will be the option to make a Christmas card or tree decorations.
**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**TERM 4 WEEK 8**
- Monday 30th Nov
  - K. Conley
- Tuesday 1st Dec
  - H. Davidson
- Wednesday 2nd Dec
  - H. Davidson
- Thursday 3rd Dec
  - M. Brown
- Friday 4th Dec
  - M. Dienhoff

**TERM 4 WEEK 9**
- Monday 7th Dec
  - K. Conley
- Tuesday 8th Dec
  - S. Jebb
- Wednesday 9th Dec
  - H. Davidson
- Thursday 10th Dec
  - D. Crossman
- Friday 11th Dec
  - M. Dienhoff
  - H. Davidson

Please contact the school on 8632 2226 if you are unable to do your canteen duty.

**CANTEEN SPECIAL**

**FRIDAY SPECIAL 27th NOV**

Squash Dog with Cheese & Sauce +Fruitbox

Full Serve $5.50
1/2 Serve $4.50

NO CHICKEN WEDGES/MEATBALLS FRIDAYS

**Community Notices**

**Private Music Lessons**

Wendy Palmer is now taking enrolments for Guitar, Piano & Singing lessons for 2016. For further information: Contact Wendy on 8632 2659 or 0439 164 899

**AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS**

The Information Night is being held at 614 Squadron, Port Pirie Multi-User Depot, 141 Warnertown Road, Port Pirie.

- School Holidays Session 1: FRIDAY 29th January at 3:00pm
- School Holidays Session 2: FRIDAY 29th January at 6:00pm
- School Term Session 1: FRIDAY 5th February at 7:15pm

Enquiries: contact the Executive Officer, Stefanie Schmidt via Email xo.614sqn@aafc.org.au or phone 0412 169 047

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**REMINDERS**

Please ensure that if your child has a Health Care Plan, in particular an Asthma Care Plan, that our office has an updated copy before swimming lessons begin in 2016.

All Health Care Plans **MUST** be updated every year.

Please be aware that if the weather is forecast at 38 degrees or above, the students stay inside in air conditioned comfort at lunchtime.

Please return your parent survey that was sent out with our week 3 newsletter.

If you have already returned your parent survey we thankyou!

**Parent Survey 2015**—It would be greatly appreciated if you could return your parent survey that was sent out with our week 3 newsletter.

Respect  Responsibility  Persistence  Confidence

Quality Education Empowering Community Minded Learners—**Helping each other to succeed.**
Week 5 Mural Project for 2016

We have an exciting opportunity to promote Aboriginal awareness to the whole community and to share with the community that we value the Aboriginal community and students who Risdon Park Primary School.

The mural will be facing the front of the school and will have a welcoming design for all Aboriginal People whether you are a Desert, River, Sea or Hill People and that the school is a safe place for all to come together as ONE and learn together as ONE.

We will also add the school values to mural.

We are only in the beginning stages of the mural project. The design is in progress with input from the students and our HPI Judy Crosby, who is also an ACEO at Gladstone High and HPI worker at JPSS.

On Friday 13th November some students had the opportunity to work with Judy and Naomi (AET) around the design.

This is a very exciting project to be working on as the students will have input in the design planning, painting and learning. They will value the mural as it’s their design and work.

Thank you, Melissa Hands ACEO