Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Another exciting year of learning at Risdon Park has come to an end. It is definitely time to celebrate and look back to the year that was. Let’s start with the highlights for term 4 and they include:

**Term 4**

- 2 Pupil Free Days for teacher learning, planning and assessment. Major foci on whole school data and Australian Curriculum
- Daily intervention programs in Literacy & Numeracy
- Declan Kennedy winning local Council award with his poster depicting Port Pirie. His enormous banner hung in Port Pirie & King William Street in Adelaide
- Interschool sports day – with Risdon Park winning the sprint shield
- Extensive transition program for Kindy children to come to Risdon Park PS and year 7 to transition into secondary school, leaving all other students to have an experience in the next year level for 2016
- KidsCo weekly meetings
- World Teachers’ Day Celebrations
- Risdon Got Talent – heats and finals, with the winners being announced at the end of term assembly
- Rooms 22 & 23 Excursion around Port Pirie with a focus on topics learned in Geography, History and Civics & Citizenship, plus their Dance Performance for parents and other family members
- Breakfast Club every Wednesday and Thursday, run by Matt Welch, assisted by Naomi Connor and a reliable team of volunteers
- 2 Aboriginal Voice Parent Meeting, also the beginning of planning for the Aboriginal Mural that will be painted by students in term 1, 2016, under the guidance of Judy Crosby
- 3 student led assemblies
- Year 7 Graduation Volunteers Morning tea with 51 volunteers attending
- End of year celebrations and class parties
- School Captains and Vice Captains, House captains & vice Captains process finalised with successful applications presented to whole school at end of term assembly

**Term 3**

- NAIDOC Celebrations
- Sporting Clinics & SAPSASA events
- 2 Pupil Free Days, focusing on becoming familiar with the Arts Curriculum area in the Australian Curriculum, Kid’s Matters (mental health for students)
- Year 7 Taste of Science @ JPSS program
- Choir performances at Keith Michell Theatre
- Numeracy Open Morning & parent workshop
- SSO recognition week celebrations
- Unit 2’s cardboard challenge – technology & problem solving program
- Kids Co fundraiser, Footy Colours Day, funds raised going to Cancer Council

**Dates to Remember:**

**Early Dismissal**

**Friday 11th Dec**

**2.15PM**

**Term 1 2016**

**Monday 1st Feb**

**RPPS 2015 Overall Attendance Rate**

**90%**
Term 2
- Unit 3 Camp at Illawonga Camp on the Murray River
- Anzac Day commemorative services
- Footstep dance program
- NAPLAN for students in years 3, 5 and 7
- Mothers’ Day celebration with flowers grown in our own Garden
- Reconciliation Activities & Celebrations
- Reception students’ excursion to the Adelaide Zoo

Term 1
- Numeracy & Mathematics Learning for staff with Maths consultant Rosslyn Shepherd
- Acquaintance Night
- Whole school swimming program
- Sporting clinics & SAPSASA events
- Year 4/5 Camp
- Harmony Day Celebrations
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Muso Magic

What a wonderful year, it has been! I would like to thank all staff for their commitment to the students and their families of Risdon Park PS. I particularly thank and acknowledge the work of those teachers leaving Risdon Park PS and they are:

Deb Turner
Rebecca Oaklands
Annette Burgan
Magdy Jagiello
Karen Waterman
Amy Grant
Henry Spurling

Thank you to all volunteers for their support in numerous programs at Risdon Park PS. A special congratulations to Margie Whithers who received the Rowan Ramsey award this year for her exceptional number of years to the Risdon Park PS out of school Netball program.

Accompanying this newsletter you will receive your child’s written report and 2016 class placement. Your child has already visited their classroom for 2016 and in some instances met their teachers. We have a number of new teachers coming to Risdon Park PS next year and if your child is in one of their classes then they will meet them next year.

Until next year, I would like to wish all staff, students and their families a very happy Christmas and summer holiday.

Regards
Carolyn Clinton
On Friday the 13th November the students from Risdon Park held a casual clothes day to raise funds for some of our Sporting Champions. Four of our students have successfully made South Australian State teams and are travelling to play in the coming months. The money raised was shared between the students to help cover some of their costs.

We would like to congratulate the following students on their achievement:

* Neve Adams - State Softball playing in Adelaide
* Tiah Peek - State Basketball playing in Albury, NSW.
* Zali Adams - State Softball playing in Queensland.
* Kynan Crouch - State Soccer playing in Fiji.

Regards
Damien Mellow
Deputy Principal

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
See you again in 2016
UPCOMING SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN AND ACTIVITIES

School Holiday’s
DISCO POOL PARTY

TUESDAY 15th Dec
6.30pm to 8.30pm
8yrs to 16yrs
Port Pirie Swimming Pool
$5 ENTRY

“Gymnastics ‘Drop and Shop’

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

Kindergym
LAUNCHPAD
Wednesday 16th Dec
Ages 12mths-4yrs
$10 per session
parent participation essential

GymFun
LAUNCHPAD
Monday 14th Dec
$20 - 3 hour session

Commencing on the 4th of January and concluding on the 12th of January 2016 (excluding weekends)

Enrol now at the Port Pirie Swimming Pool or online at www.vacswimsa.com.au

Online enrolments close on the 18th of December

Please contact me on 0407505544 with any enquires

Amber Hayes - Instructor in charge Port Pirie

Healing Hearts & Minds
Triptych Workshops
Port Pirie Regional Gallery

Saturday 16 Jan 2016
9am - 4pm
Ages 7-14

Sunday 17 Jan 2016
9am - 5pm
Ages 15+

Cost: Free
Contact Port Pirie Regional Gallery
9 Mary Elle St, Port Pirie SA 5540
(08) 8693 0681

Candlelight Community Carols
Sunday 13th December
Memorial Park, Port Pirie

Lions BBQ at 6pm
Community Concert at 6:45pm

Merry Christmas