



# Laura Primary School



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and Child Development

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Newsletter No 14

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Dear Parents,

## National Volunteers Week

This week is National Volunteers Week and an opportunity to thank all our wonderful volunteers. Volunteers are the icing on the cake in schools and in some instances, schools would struggle to survive without them. This is particularly important for country schools where communities rely on volunteers to keep the community running. In the school setting, parents are involved on the Governing Council, fundraising, grounds and education. Every family makes a contribution when we have major fundraisers like the folk fair. At Laura Primary School, there are so many families that are willing to help and make a wonderful contribution to the richness of the school community. THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS.

## Hitting Wall

The hitting wall has been temporarily out of action since last year. There was a concern about the cracking in the wall. This year, the Governing Council had an objective to get the wall back to being functional and safe. An independent assessment conducted by Mace Engineering found the wall to be safe to use. The Grounds Committee will continue to monitor the wall but the good news is that the students are giving the wall a fair work out on a daily basis.

## NAPLAN Tests

The NAPLAN tests are now complete for 2014 and overall the students seem to have done pretty well. There are some students that thrive in doing these tests and there are others not cut out for these kinds of tests, who simply shut down at the thought of doing the test. Parents know their children and know how they respond in certain situations and environments.

## Café Laura

Café Laura is open on Tuesdays (3pm) on the even weeks during terms 2 and 3. Last week was my first visit to Café Laura and was most impressed. I look forward to meeting more parents and grandparents in the weeks to come.

Mark Shadiac  
Principal



### WANTED

If anyone has strawberry plants (runners) and would like to dig them up and donate them to the school, they would be gratefully appreciated.  
Thankyou  
Helen Wurst

## Calendar Dates

- Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> May – Computer Competition
- Fri. 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Walk Safely to School Day
- Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> June – Science Competition
- Fri. 6<sup>th</sup> June – Student Free Day
- Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> June – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> June – Writing Competition
- Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> June – Spelling Competition
- Fri. 4<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term – early dismissal

STUDENT OF THE WEEK  
Week 1  
Week 2

### Chelsea Tobin

received this award for outstanding role modelling, a willingness to help others and excellent initiative.

**Well done Chelsea!**

### Kohen Ross

received this award for working independently and doing his very best all week.

**Well done Kohen!**

# Recognition Awards

## Week 1

Tom Winter – for being a helpful class member.  
Lillie Shepherdson – for being an excellent and responsible role model.  
Tate Nettle – for putting thought and care into his ANZAC work.  
Max Smith – for an improved attitude towards English tasks.  
Joel Zanker – for an improvement in spelling.  
Hannah Watson – for encouraging and including others in all learning areas.  
Beatriz Termure – for excellent learning of English

## Week 2

Joshua Moreton – for excellent recording in science.  
Elijah Byron – for helping others learn about fractions.  
Connor Hoskin – for neat and thorough bookwork in General Studies.  
Jasper Hansen – for trying hard to write his narrative.  
Lara Zanker – for trying hard in Science.  
Kyesha Perry – for working well with others in Design & Technology  
Thomas Smith – for improvement in writing.  
Hannah Zanker – for improvement in reading, writing and spelling.

Thankyou to everybody who supported our fundraiser for Cancer Council today. The children enjoyed their cupcakes at recess and staff had a soup lunch and morning tea which has raised approx. \$300.

## MAY IS NATIONAL READING MONTH

At Laura Primary School, to encourage reading, the Reception Class have been reading aloud to a student from the 4-7 Class on Monday afternoons. This has been a successful learning opportunity for all students involved. The 4-7 students have had to learn to give feedback to those Reception students on their progress. We have noticed an improvement in their fluency.

Congratulations to Connor Hoskin for his winning entry in the **Newspower** Colouring Competition. Also to Jed Griffin for second prize (Highly Commended). Connor's entry has been entered in the State Competition. Good luck Connor.

Thankyou to **Robert and Cheryll Hanley of the Laura Newsagency** for organising this competition and the great prizes.



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

This week marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Volunteer Week, a time set aside to celebrate our volunteers and highlight the incredibly valuable work they do.

The Department for Education and Child Development is fortunate to have 25,000 volunteers who make life easier in our schools, preschools, children's centres and child protection settings.

Today, I recognise and thank those volunteers - parents, grandparents, family and friends - all giving their time to ensure children are safe, supported and free to learn.

You listen to children read, join Governing Councils, fundraise, put your hand up for excursions, sports day and canteen duty, you ensure schools run smoothly and staff can focus on teaching. You provide the transport – some times over long distances - so children in care can make appointments and keep in contact with grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Our Ethnic Schools could not operate without the services of dedicated teachers who are volunteers. They give their time simply for the reward of sharing their knowledge, culture and heritage.

Thank you to all our volunteers who generously give their time, their skills and their enthusiasm to helping others. I assure you your contribution does not go unnoticed.

I hope, in amongst your volunteering, you find time this week to enjoy one of the many activities on offer, including special lunches and morning teas held by workplaces.

Thank you to all our volunteers for your patience, for listening, for caring, and for making the life of a child better.

**Jennifer Rankine**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

## Bedwetting

A DVD based program, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr. Mark Condon, and Physiotherapist, Margaret O'Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children.

For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website:

[www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au](http://www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au)

or phone 1300 135 796 – 12pm to 6pm

## NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

### SUPPORT AN EXCEPTIONAL TEACHER TODAY

A Day Made Better gives you the opportunity to recognise a teacher who goes above and beyond in their classroom. Nominate one today to give them the recognition they deserve. If chosen as one of 10 winners, they'll receive \$2,000 worth of supplies and an Apple iPad for their classroom.

Go to [ADAYMADEBETTER.COM.AU](http://ADAYMADEBETTER.COM.AU)



Government of South Australia  
SA Health

Healthy Smile  Healthy Life

### SA Dental Service

The **Port Pirie West School Dental Clinic** is currently closed while the building is being refurbished.

Routine care during this period will be reduced. If you require Emergency care during the usual clinic hours please contact the Port Pirie Community Dental Clinic on 08 8638 4426.

The Staff apologise for any delay in treatment or inconvenience during this closure period. We anticipate the clinic will reopen in early August 2014.