

Mallala Primary School



From the Principal

Around the Grounds

Over the next few terms there will be some big things happening to the school grounds. Some of these will provide improved and alternative learning and play spaces for our children, while others will also improve the look of our school.

Work on the first stage of the pre-school has been completed and looks amazing. The tender has now closed for the upgrade to the outside nature play area. The preparation for this, which includes taking down the old play equipment, will begin at the end of this term so that a large amount of work can be completed during the school holidays. It will be an exciting time seeing the transformation in the play area for our pre-school children and the connection with the nature play in the school. We are aiming to provide opportunities for pre-school and school children to be involved in the process and be able to watch the change unfold.

Our chook shed is completed and waiting for our newly hatched chickens to be old enough to move into their new home. See the photos in this newsletter of the baby chicks that have hatched and are living in Room 3. They are extremely cute

to watch as they find their feet and quickly become independent.

Our Groundsman, John is busy preparing our new whicking boxes that will replace our old vegie gardens. These will be placed near the chook shed. Fruit trees and an outdoor classroom are further additions to this area.

On March 26th we are having our first Working Bee for the year. The focus for this one is at the front and side of the Office, removing old fences, planter boxes and tidying trees and bushes. This will be in preparation for increased planting, mulching and seating at the front and along the side which will complement the new entrance that will eventually happen. More information on this as plans unfold so watch this space!

Attendance

Last week information was included regarding the impact that absence from school has on children and how easily a day here or there adds up. DECD sets a target for attendance at 95%. Last year our attendance was very low sitting at 89%. One significant way to improve results for our children and increase their wellbeing at school is to improve attendance. Let's

do this together! Each newsletter there will be a target in the form of a pie graph showing where our attendance is for that week. Our aim is to hit 95% and stay there – or improve on that! Get your children involved by letting them know that every time they are absent from school this impacts on our percentage. We know that illness and unavoidable circumstances happen and understand this which is why our target is not 100%. Keep a look out for the targets and see them improve!

Pupil Free Day

Next Tuesday is the first of 4 Pupil Free Days allocated to schools for staff professional development. On Tuesday staff will be involved in a session on Autism aimed to improve our understanding and the approaches we use to better support our children identified with autism. We will also begin work on Mathematical Mindsets that will assist staff to use teaching approaches that will develop a growth mindset in our children with a particular focus on mathematics.

I hope you all have a fantastic long weekend with your families, doing something that makes you smile. Enjoy and be safe!
Sharon

Diary Dates

Monday 13th March

Adelaide Cup Day
Public Holiday

Tuesday 14th March

Pupil Free Day
Students do not attend school

Monday 20th ~ Friday 24th

Swimming Lessons

Tuesday 21st March

AGM
7pm

Thursday 23rd March

Assembly
Hosted by Room 2

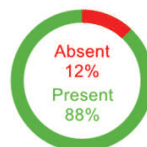
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Attendance rate so far



Last Week



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development

Assembly Awards

- Eboney Kenyon
- Brandon Garland
- Paddy Tiller
- Abbey Fagan
- Ella Russell
- Safin Clark
- Dusty Kelsh
- Jai Walker
- Alex Diegmann
- Piper Kennison
- Henry Neilson
- Tameika West
- Hugo Brown
- Anthony Naulty
- Bailey Gejas



Open Morning



School Value Awards

Inclusion Award

- Cooper Wright
- Deegan Davis



Our Visit From Ben Felton and Kevin Magee



Last week we were fortunate to have a visit from the very inspiring Australian Motorcycle racer Ben Felten, his wife Karin and his navigator, former Grand Prix road racer Kevin Magee (Magoo). Ben is no ordinary motorbike rider. He is the man behind "The Blind Speed Team". Though Ben went completely blind 12 years ago, his love of riding motorcycles never left him; in fact, it is stronger than ever. Ben and his navigator are attempting to break the world land speed record of the fastest motorbike ridden blindfolded at Dry Lakes when he attempts 265.33km/h.

Room 3 and the Baby Chickens



Room 3 have some tiny new additions to the class. We are currently hatching and caring for baby chickens. The chickens will be in our classroom for another week. They will then be moved into the courtyard area between room 3 and 4 so we can continue to care for them. Once they are big enough they will move into the new chicken coop and provide eggs for the kitchen garden program. This experience is teaching the children about the needs of other living creatures, as well as providing valuable links to sustainability and the environment. If you wish to come in and visit our cute little babies feel free to pop in before the bell in the morning and say hi.

Respect, Excellence, Perseverance, Diversity

Contact Details

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Gawler & District
Netball Association
Winter season
starts April 2017!

GAMES ARE PLAYED AT CENTRAL LOCATION
JUNIOR AND SENIOR GRADES
ACCESSIBLE VENUE WITH PARKING
LOW GATE ENTRY FEES
CANTEEN FACILITIES

NEW CLUBS &
INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS WELCOME

VISIT - GDNA.SA.NETBALL.COM.AU
E-MAIL - SECRETARY@GAWLERNETBALL.COM.AU
PHONE - 0438 801 557

Lost Property

Parents/Caregivers

Our lost property box is again overflowing with jumpers, jackets, containers and drink bottles.

Please call into the library and check the lost property box, your child's jumpers, etc. may be amongst the collection.

If an item is unnamed and fits your child consider it yours.



Tuesday 14th March

Pupil Free Day

Students do not attend

School or Preschool

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

**Minor Change to
School Times**

**New start time of
8:55am in effect from
Monday 27th February**

MALLALA

FOOTBALL CLUB

JUNIOR TRAININGS WILL COMMENCE AS FOLLOWS.

UNDER 14S ~ TUESDAY 28TH MARCH 5PM

AUSKICK & UNDER 11S ~ THURSDAY 6TH APRIL 4.30PM