Parent/Teacher /Student Interviews

I trust everyone enjoyed a safe and relaxing Easter long weekend.

With only two weeks until the school holidays we are busy with Parent/Student/Teacher interviews and planning for next term. We appreciate the time you take to meet with your child’s teacher/s and trust you will find the experience valuable in terms of sharing progress to date and setting goals for continual improvement.

2016 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards

The SA Excellence in Public Education Awards recognises and reward the outstanding contributions made by educators across the state. Teachers, education leaders and support staff (SSO’s) working in DECD schools, preschools and early childhood settings are all eligible. Nominations close in three weeks so please feel free to nominate any of our staff you feel should be recognized by visiting the website http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards/pages/default/home/

SPORTS DAY

Once again the green “Crocs” team took out the winner’s trophy but all teams need to be commended for their enthusiasm, participation and team spirit. The weather was kind and the threatened showers didn’t eventuate so all events went ahead as planned. It was fabulous to have so many families and friends stay for the day and support their children and cheer on other students in their team. Special thanks to the hardworking Fundraising Committee for their support with the sausage sizzle and team colour jellies and icies. Also thanks go to Belinda and her helpers in the canteen for providing hot drinks, snacks and meals throughout the day. I am always very proud to be a part of Surrey Downs and community events such as sports day always reinforce this for me.

Sports Day Award Winners:

Room 1 – Bostyn A & Mikayla M  Room 4 – Corey S & Hope R
Room 5 – Jyden H & Bella S  Room 6 – Ibrahim X & Emily C
Room 7 – Matthew W & Amelia L  Room 8 – James W & Mikayla H
Room 11 – Luke D & Kara S  Room 15 – Jaidyn H & Charlotte D
Room 18 – Josh S & Madison L  Room 21 – Seth B & Lilly R

Congratulations to all our award winners who were recognized for sportsmanship, cooperation and effort.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to the whole community for supporting the raffle this year which raised $1,124.50 from the ticket sales! Congratulations to the 10 winning ticket holders.

Habits of Mind and Growth Mindset

This next week at assembly we will recognize those students who have been selected by their teacher for demonstrating ‘Persistence’. The next Habit of Mind we will introduce is ‘Managing Impulsivity’. Children will be asked to plan, reflect and practice wait time; often a very difficult thing to do, especially when they are eager to share or can quickly work out an answer. Children who need more time to organize their thoughts or plan what to say often miss out on sharing their valuable contributions. Try managing your impulses too….it really takes thoughtful effort!
**Garden upgrade**

A very special thank you goes to our amazing Grounds person Jon for his tireless efforts in keeping our yard tidy and safe for the students. Jon has created some lovely little garden areas around the pathways he has built, as well as maintaining and upgrading our existing garden beds. Soon you will see some more of Jon’s creative additions inside the safe fenced play area.

**St Patrick’s Day**

Congratulations to Erica McLachlan, one of our year 3 students, who was selected as one of several Irish Dancers from Adelaide Academy of Irish Dancing, to entertain and showcase their talents at various retirement facilities on St Patrick’s Day. The residents and staff at the Italian Village ‘Bene’ at Ridgehaven were certainly treated to a very special Irish experience and an absolute overload of cuteness from our Erica!!!

**Entertainment Books**

Entertainment Books will be available at the school from Monday, May 2nd, the first day of Term Two. If you wish to pre order before then, you will receive some extra vouchers. The book or Digital membership cost $65 and are full of amazing savings plus the school receives a percentage of the cost towards fund raising. You can make a purchase either at the front office or online.

**Tea Tree Gully Council – Traffic management**

On Wednesday March 23rd two members of staff from Tea Tree Gully Council visited our school to observe the traffic at the end of the day. This visit occurred in response to several parent complaints about traffic management around our school and children’s safety. Simone Pedlar, Governing Council Chairperson and I walked around the school with the traffic management staff and discussed many ideas for ways of making our students safer at drop off and pickup times. The council workers have agreed to repaint the lines and have the signs in the area made clearer. They will be doing some more traffic management around our school in the coming weeks. Please ensure you adhere to the parking regulations around our school. Also adhere to the speed zones around the school.

A reminder that only school staff can use the car park at the front of the school. It cannot be used as a drop off or pick up spot for your children as this creates a safety hazard. Nor can parents park in this car park. Please use the car park at the top of the school or park on the surrounding streets.

We will be encouraging all students to use the gates at either end of the staff car park and not the one in the middle. Students should not be walking through the staff car park to get to their parents. This is unsafe as we have had some very close calls with vehicles reversing out and being unable to see students behind them.

All of these measures are to ensure your children stay safe within their school environment.

**Fundraising News**

**Please Note**

Mother’s Day Stall will be in Week 1 Term 2
Tucker Turtle is a terrific turtle. He likes to play with his friends at Wet Lake School.

But sometimes things happen that can make Tucker really mad.

When Tucker got mad, he used to hit, kick, or yell at his friends. His friends would get mad or upset when he hit, kicked, or yelled at them.

Tucker now knows a new way to “think like a turtle” when he gets mad. He can stop and keep his hands, body, and yelling to himself! He can tuck inside his shell and take 3 deep breaths to calm down. Tucker can then think of a solution or a way to make it better or he can ask a teacher to help him.

Tucker’s friends are happy when he plays nicely and keeps his body to himself. His friends also like it when Tucker uses nice words or has a teacher help him when he is upset. Tucker has been learning about managing impulsivity.

csefel.vanderbilt.edu/scriptedstories/tuckerturtle.ppt