Fundraising News!

Our big BBQ week is fast approaching! We trust that as many of our families as possible will be sure to stop by our BBQ stall next Saturday when coming to vote. You will no doubt be pleasantly assaulted by the mouth-watering smells of freshly cooked bacon and egg sandwiches, and the ever popular sausage and onion combo, as you head towards the gym to cast your vote. Make sure you coincide your voting time with breakfast or lunch and stop by our stall where our merry band of volunteers will serve you with a smile!

Prior to the Election BBQ our Bunnings fundraiser BBQ will be happening; all day Wednesday the 29th June at the Modbury store. Once again we ask that as many as possible of our families visit and support our efforts whilst promoting our great school.

We want to acknowledge and thank Murray Valley Beef Producers at Golden Grove and their management team for their extremely generous donation of sausages in support of our fundraising events outlined above. Their very generous donation, a whopping 30 kg of sausages, ensures the majority of our takings are pure profit and will directly benefit the Surrey Downs School Community. Please be sure to stop by the new store (where Cash Converters used to be) adjacent to the Golden Grove Village Shopping Centre. See Andrew McAuley or one of the team and enjoy a browse around the beautiful new store. There are not only beef products, but a huge selection of chicken, pork, veal and lamb and also a great selection of frozen produce and vegetables. I’m sure you will be tempted by the vast array of products available at super special prices!

Term 2 Concludes Friday 8th July at 2pm

Chocolate money is due by Monday 4th July
Extra boxes are available from the Front Office
Pupil Free Day
On Tuesday June 14th all staff were joined by staff members of Banksia Park Primary School to work with Ann Baker around Natural Maths strategies. Year level teachers worked together to plan how Natural Maths can support students in numeracy. Together with Banksia Park staff we collaboratively planned and programmed units of work using Natural Maths strategies.

SSOs and Special Class teachers also attended a session about students with hearing and vision difficulties. This session was run by Jess Whalley from Kilparrin. All staff found the session informative and very useful for working with students who have hearing, vision and sensory difficulties.

For our second session of the day SSOs also joined us to discover specific Mental Computation Strategies. These included Subitizing, Count on, Rainbow Facts (matching numbers to 10. 1-9, 2-8,3-7,4-6,5-5), Doubles, Near Doubles, Friendly Numbers and Bridge Through Ten.

The day was very productive and informative. It has ensured we have a common understanding of numeracy teaching; including strategies and common language.

A key message for the day was the importance that students maintain a positive disposition towards Maths. Practice and perseverance with a positive mindset are essential in all numeracy tasks. No one just has a "Maths brain", the research shows that with positive thinking, determination and planned learning tasks all students can be successful in numeracy.

Parent disposition towards Maths is important too. Encouragement and a positive mindset supports student learning. Ann Baker made some suggestions of ways parents can support students at home in numeracy.

- Use dice games as much as possible from early on. Teach children the number pattern on the die. Do this so that they can recognise the positioning of the dots and the number it represents without having to count them.
- Play dominoes and practise double numbers that way. Then move on to near doubles (one less or plus one)
- Make tally marks to represent good behaviour – instead of a numeral
- Play number games in the car – Rainbow Facts – Doubles
- Play card games like 21 – Shuffle the deck- add the numbers.

Habit of Mind-Striving For Accuracy
The Habit of Mind (HOM) focus for weeks 9 and 10 of Term 2 is “Striving for Accuracy”. It is important to remember with this HOM, that it is not necessarily about always getting things correct; but more about what learning journey you take to get there. It is also about reflecting on the effort we make, the changes and improvements to improve our success. Striving for accuracy requires us to set high standards and goals for ourselves and to continually explore ways to improve.

Some ideas that can assist your child/ren’s development in Striving for Accuracy are:

- Encourage them to set high standards and goals for themselves
- Instead of correcting children, direct them to the nature of their mistakes - let them locate and correct the mistakes (eg, “You have two mistakes on this line/page. Can you find them?”)

A video that shows people Striving for Accuracy can be found at the following link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnluzeVPOE0

Staff Profile – Jane Jones
What role do you have at Surrey Downs?
I have just been appointed the Canteen Manager.

How long have you been at Surrey Downs?
This is my first wee; I started Monday

What are your favourite things about Working in a school?
I am excited to meet the students and parents and learn some names. Also great to be working with the canteen volunteers.

What is your favorite food?
I love a chicken stir fry, when someone else makes it for me.

What are your favourite things to do outside of school?
I like spending time with my husband and 2 boys, aged 11 and 9. I like watching them play squash and having family movie nights at home.

Kids Council
On Wednesday 6th July students are asked to participate in a casual clothes day. Instead of a gold coin donation for this day, we are asking families to donate 1 jar of Vegemite per family to support the Kickstart Program.

The Kickstart Program supports our Breakfast Club by providing nutritious foods for our students.

Barb Page brought to our attention that the Program could no longer support the purchase of Vegemite due to the increase in demand for this product. We thank you in advance for supporting the “Surrey Downs Vegemite Drive”.

SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE
On Friday the 17th of June, room 11 and room 15 went to the Adelaide Zoo. We had lots and lots of amazing fun. Some of the cutest animals were a fennec fox, a meerkat, a serville and a panda. We would also like to thank all of the parents who came to help such as Michelle, Suzanne, Rohan and Alimu. They helped with telling us what the amazing and cute animals were and to help us with our questions in our Adelaide Zoo booklets. Our favourite part of the 4 hour excursion was the amazing, big and cool playground and even all the cute and dangerous animals.

By Abida X and James H

On Friday the 17th of June we went to the Adelaide Zoo. When we went in we saw two hippopotamus and they poked their heads out. After we saw two alligators. It looked like they were sleeping. Then we looked at the sign to see what they were about. Next we saw the pandas in the bamboo forest. We saw Wang Wang and Funi. Our favourite part was the kids zoo, and the giraffe and fairy penguins. Our second favourite was the fennec fox and the pandas. They were so cute.

By Tanisha S and Nathan L

On Friday the 17th of June we went to the Adelaide Zoo. We saw pandas, lions, koalas, giraffes, siamangs and more! We played on the playground, looked in the bird enclosure and had lunch at the rotunda. Our group was with Mrs Fahy and Rohan and Michelle. Michelle was there for a while. Another group saw the sealions getting fed. The cassowary was so big and funny. When we saw the pandas we couldn’t see the difference between them. We learned that the sealion is a mammal because it has hair and all mammals have hair, even us. This is a food chain we learned, grass is eaten by herbivores, herbivore is eaten by carnivore. We had a map of the zoo and followed it with our group. The map was in a booklet. We also had animals to search for. They were the little blue penguins, sealions, koalas, siamangs, echidnas and pandas.

The zoo was awesome!

By Erica McL and Feinyx A

On Friday the 17th, room 11 and room 15 went to the Adelaide Zoo. We saw pandas, lions, koalas, giraffes, siamangs and more! We played on the playground, looked in the bird enclosure and had lunch at the rotunda. Our group was with Mrs Fahy and Rohan and Michelle. Michelle was there for a while. Another group saw the sealions getting fed. The cassowary was so big and funny. When we saw the pandas we couldn’t see the difference between them. We learned that the sealion is a mammal because it has hair and all mammals have hair, even us. This is a food chain we learned, grass is eaten by herbivores, herbivore is eaten by carnivore. We had a map of the zoo and followed it with our group. The map was in a booklet. We also had animals to search for. They were the little blue penguins, sealions, koalas, siamangs, echidnas and pandas.

The zoo was awesome!

By Erica McL and Feinyx A
The following is an excerpt from a poem called “I have Learned” by Omer B Washington. I tried to find out more about the writer of the poem and haven’t been able to. The words are interesting as we consider how best to teach our kids lessons about life.

I’ve learned that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to them. That no matter how much I care, some people just don’t care back. I’ve learned that it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it. That no matter how good a friend is, they’re going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that. That it’s not what you have in your life but who you have in your life that counts. That you should never ruin an apology with an excuse.

I’ve learned that you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After that, you’d better know something. That you shouldn’t compare yourself to the best others can do. That you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life. I’ve learned that it’s taking me a long time to become the person I want to be. I’ve learned that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them. That we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel. That either you control your attitude or it controls you. I’ve learned that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences. That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I’ve learned that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time. That sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you’re down will be the ones to help you get back up. That sometimes when I’m angry I have the right to be angry, but it doesn’t give me the right to be cruel. That true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love. That just because someone doesn’t love you the way you want them to, it doesn’t mean they don’t love you with all they have. I’ve learned that you should never tell a child their dreams are unlikely or outlandish. Few things are more humiliating, and what a tragedy it would be if they believed it.

I’ve learned that it isn’t always enough to be forgiven by others. Sometimes you are to learn to forgive yourself. That no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn’t stop for your grief. That our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become. That a rich person is not the one who has the most, but is one who needs the least.

I’ve learned that just because two people argue, it doesn’t mean they don’t love each other. And just because they don’t argue, it doesn’t mean they do. That we don’t have to change friends if we understand that friends change. I’ve learned that two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different. I’ve learned that no matter how you try to protect your children, they will eventually get hurt and you will hurt in the process. That even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you, you will find the strength to help. I’ve learned that the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon. That it’s hard to determine where to draw the line between being nice and not hurting people’s feelings, and standing up for what you believe. I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, and people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Ps. Thanks again to everyone who supported the Biggest Morning Tea two weeks ago. The end balance raised was $575.