Welcome back everyone

As I begin the first newsletter for the term, I am getting ready to head off to my holiday destination. I am not sure where that will be as Bali is having serious volcanic action and our flights have been cancelled... Ahhhh... I will inform you all of our adventures on my return.

A big welcome to Katrina who is backfilling Glenys while she is taking a term’s long service leave. (At least Glenys’ holiday can’t be cancelled but there could be a tsunami I guess).

Reports were given out on the last day of term. If you did not receive your child’s report or if you have any concerns please contact your child’s classroom teacher via a note in their diary or ring the front office for an appointment.

Uniforms

Well done parents and students. My spies have sent me a message and I have just had to add this in to the newsletter, The majority of students on our first day of term were in school uniform. Thanks to those parents that support the Governing Council with their dress code. It was great news to receive!

Grounds

I am pleased to advise our community that funding for Snowtown Primary School has been approved under the 2014/15 Maintenance Grant Program for roof and box gutters to be repaired/replaced at a cost of $153,000.

Dance workshops

Last year we had a visiting dance teacher, Rebecca Payne conducting weekly dance classes with the whole school. She was such a success that I am pleased to say Rebecca is back and begins the dance program on Tuesday week 3 of this term. This will be great to build up our dance skills ready for the end of year Christmas concert. We have a hard act to follow considering the wonderful performance the Governing Council did last year. It also fits in perfectly with the new ‘The Arts’ Australian Curriculum.

Attendance

Our attendance continues to improve. Congratulations to the 5/6/7 class with their overall improvement with attendance. Well done parents for valuing your child’s education. This term we will award all students at our first assembly for those that received 100% attendance and all students that received above 95% attendance. You gotta be in it to win it.

This term we are again setting a target to reduce the amount of family days students are having during the term. I encourage parents to support your child’s education and keep them at school as much as possible. Consider planning shopping days, family visits and long weekends for after school hours or during school holidays.
Term 3 Programmes
As well as our continual devotion to Literacy, numeracy and learning we have some exciting programmes occurring this term, including a book week excursion to Brinkworth to see a performance by the Splash Theatre Company. Later in the term, each class will participate in a circus workshop and we have our annual Amazing Race - get ready parents. Learning is so much fun at Snowtown Primary.

Term 3 Programmes

- Week 9 award winners
  - Back: Luke Freebairn, Kynan Cocks, Brodie Rice, Kim Pix, Tahlia Ebsary, Kaitlyn Lane, Dre Talbot, Conner Hickman, Sam Cummins, Billy Francis
  - Middle: Jordan-Anne Ellis, John Brock, Bailey Rice, Seth Sorgiovanni, Chloe Freebairn, Cooper Altmann, Deegan Ebsary
  - Front: Noah Michael, Teisha Price, Nicholas Hickman, Elijah Battistello, Ava McCauley

Friday Whole School Assembly
This week’s assembly will be run by our fantastic Student Leadership team.

Snowtown Primary School Term 3 Assemblies Roster.
Friday’s 2:40pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk No</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wk 1</td>
<td>24th July</td>
<td>Student Leadership Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 3</td>
<td>7th August</td>
<td>2/3/4 class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 5</td>
<td>21st August</td>
<td>R/1 class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>4th September</td>
<td>5/6/7 class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>18th September</td>
<td>School Captains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Week 9 award winners
Back: Luke Freebairn, Kynan Cocks, Brodie Rice, Kim Pix, Tahlia Ebsary, Kaitlyn Lane, Dre Talbot, Conner Hickman, Sam Cummins, Billy Francis
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Front: Noah Michael, Teisha Price, Nicholas Hickman, Elijah Battistello, Ava McCauley

There is only 7 Weeks to go!
So please all Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers & friends Support our students to achieve 3 years in a row of a perfect 100% success in The Premier’s READING Challenge! Don’t break Carley’s heart!!!! Every student must participate, and will be eligible to go into the draw for a prize.

Head lice
Are you sick of them? Cos we sure are..... But in saying that we are not giving up...... They are incredibly difficult to be rid of and we are so close to being there. Sharee and Liese will begin the term with head lice checks. I can’t say strongly enough to check your child’s head morning and night and treat their hair if they need it. Thank you for your persistence. With your assistance we will beat the little bugs.
On Thursday in the last week of term 2, we had our Spanish teacher Miriam come to our school. The 5/6/7 class made churros and hot chocolate for the whole school to taste. These are some of their comments......

R/1 Class
I liked them because they tasted like donuts — Saffy

2/3/4 Class
We could have more than one—Brooke

5/6/7 Class
They tasted like cinnamon—Jade

We made the batter and then squeezed it through a special star shaped tube into hot oil.
By Tahlia and Luke
COME AND JOIN US AT
SNOWTOWN SCHOOL COMMUNITY
LIBRARY
ON
WEDNESDAY 5TH AUGUST 2015
FOR OUR VERY FIRST

Baby Bounce

&

Rhyme Time

At 10.30 –11am
Supporting children’s friendship skills
Suggestions for parents and carers

Parents and carers are children’s first and most important teachers when it comes to relationships. The ways you relate to your children and the guidance you provide helps develop children’s social skills. You can help children develop friendship skills and strategies by modelling effective social skills, providing opportunities for children to practise relationship skills and offering support when they go through difficulties. Taking the role of a coach helps children learn the skills they need for themselves.

The following suggestions may be helpful:

- **Make time to play too**
  Parents and carers can improve their children’s social skills by playing with them regularly. Letting children choose and lead the play allows you to be playful with them and encourages them to practise skills for cooperation and negotiation. Making time for play helps strengthen your relationship with them as well as their skills. Avoid criticising and make it fun!

- **Allow your child to try all sorts of different activities**
  Children who have a wide range of interests are more likely to have something in common with others and so find it easier to make friends and get along.

- **Invite children for play dates**
  Having friends over to visit helps children to establish friendships and practise their social skills. It also provides an opportunity for you to provide on-the-spot coaching for children who are still developing their friendship skills. Providing positive guidance and helping to structure activities (without taking over!) can be very important when establishing new friendships.

- **Talk with children about what is happening for them with their friends**
  Find a relaxed time, like the drive home from school or after dinner, to talk about what is happening in your children’s friendship group. By doing this, you let them know that you are interested in their wellbeing, and this can also be an opportunity to share some of your experiences and to help them solve any problems they might have.

- **Encourage positive, relevant strategies**
  Parents and carers can talk about, and encourage, friendly and cooperative strategies that can help their child to develop friendships. For example, encouraging children to negotiate or compromise when trying to solve problems with peers is a strategy that is generally more positively received than aggression or verbal threats.

- **Take a problem-solving approach**
  Parents and carers don’t need to have the answers to all of their children’s problems. You can support your children to think through a problem for themselves by talking with them and asking some useful questions. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child says:</th>
<th>Parent asks:</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>There’s this girl in my class who is really mean to everyone in class, and so we are all mean right back to her.</em></td>
<td><em>Why do you think she is being so mean?</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Maybe she thinks we don’t like her, and so she’s being mean to us?</em></td>
<td><em>That could be one reason. Do you like her?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Well, I like her when she’s not being mean.</em></td>
<td><em>So how could you show her that you do like her, and that there’s no need for her to be mean?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Maybe I could invite her over to play after school?</em></td>
<td><em>Affirms: “That sounds like a great idea to me.”</em></td>
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This resource is part of the KidsMatter trial. The team at KidsMatter welcomes your feedback at www.kidsmatter.edu.au