



School Resumes Monday, 2 May

Beep Test

Our first beep test will be held **Thursday, 5 May at 8:30am** on the courts. Parents, students and staff are all encouraged to participate.

Early Dismissal Friday, 15 April 2:05pm



For information regarding Vacation Care
please contact Connie or Steve on 8294 1990

From the Leadership Team

Thank you to the St Leonards community for what has been an amazing term. We have had so many successes this year in what has been an extremely busy term.

Some of our highlights have included:

- Student run Assemblies
- Acquaintance Night
- School Photo Day
- Beach Volleyball
- Masters BBQ Fundraiser
- SAPSASA Swimming
- Canteen special lunches
- Children's University Launch for 2016
- Easter Assembly, Raffle and Easter Bonnet Parade
- Reception to Year 5 Swimming Week
- Year 6/7 Clipsal 500 Excursion and Challenge Hill team building day
- School Banking Account Opening Day
- Harmony Day
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- SRC Elections
- Minecraft Club
- Class Parent Representatives
- SAPSASA Softball
- Chess Club

Diary Dates



School Café



Friday 15 April

Open 8:00am and again from 9:30am

Coffee machine and freshly baked muffins.

*A Parent Representative initiative.
All proceeds to the canteen and school.*

9:00am Assembly in the Hall

Term 2

Week 1

Monday, 4 May

- SAPSASA Soccer Carnival

Friday, 6 May

- Living Safely with Pets

OSHC News

Wishing everyone (especially our hard working teachers) a safe and fun holiday. Our April Program has proved very popular, with numerous days fully booked. Families placed on waiting lists will be immediately informed should vacancies become available. Phone: 8294 1990

OSHC team



NAPLAN

If you wish to have your child withdrawn from NAPLAN, please make an appointment to see Barry or Dave.

Term 1 Feedback Survey

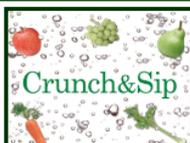
Our Term 1 feedback survey is online and can be accessed by following this link.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLPSTerm1>

We look forward to your feedback.

Dave Henty-Smith, Principal
Barry Stewart, Deputy Principal

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Principal: Dave Henty-Smith
Deputy: Barry Stewart
Website: www.sleonrdsp.ssa.edu.au
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Leonards-Primary-School/643629105782299>



Telephone: 8294 9811 Fax: 8295 2568
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Canteen: 8294 7893 OSHC: 8294 1990
Email: dl.0391.admin@schools.sa.edu.au
Next Newsletter: Friday, 6 May, 2016

Developing World Class Learners

Over the last year and a half, leaders in sites across the Holdfast partnership have been meeting and discussing how we are able to collectively work together, to develop students who have the attitudes and beliefs that they are able to learn and be successful. We have been exploring research from around the world, reading articles and literature from respected researchers and they all come to the same conclusion- students need to be curious, creative, critical thinkers who are able to turn ideas into actions and communicate effectively.



Often when we think of the curriculum and learning at school, we think of the subjects and the content or “stuff” that children and students should know and be fluent in. However our world is changing rapidly; just think of what

has changed in your life over the last 5 years and the way we now communicate – social media (Facebook, Twitter, texts, emails) has changed the way we operate. Access to global learning via the internet has changed the way we seek information.

What do you do when you want to know something? Do you “Google it”?

The Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians, adopted by the Ministerial Council in December 2008 identified 2 goals that our education system needed to strive for.

These goals are:

- Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence.
- All young Australians become – successful learners, confident and creative individuals, active and informed citizens.

To achieve these goals we need a collective responsibility with schools, families and the wider community.

While there are still skills that our students need to be fluent in, we increasingly need to ensure that our students are able to problem solve, reason and show a depth of understanding of concepts that cross learning areas. That is, they need to be critical and creative thinkers who can identify problems and think them through successfully.

A new initiative by the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD), Literacy and Numeracy plus, focuses on developing these skills and dispositions in both literacy and numeracy. The initiative supports the tracking and monitoring of students to ensure that they are appropriately challenged and that the way our educators engage with students, promotes students ability to be, resilient, confident, problem solvers who believe they are able to grow and learn, can apply learning to unfamiliar situations and welcome challenge.

As part of our learning and work developing Literacy and Numeracy + skills in our students, we have been working with educators to develop a range of strategies. You may have noticed that your child’s educator is encouraging students to work collaboratively, share and explain their thinking and providing unusual problems to solve and discuss. Fluency is critical but we need to ensure that with

this fluency is a deep understanding, developed through sharing of thinking.

Recent research by Professor Guy Claxton and shared at the combined Governing council meeting, left us as educators and parents, with the following questions.

Are children and young people being challenged and encouraged to:

- ask interesting questions?
- think on their feet?
- design their own learning with guidance?
- develop strategies to use when they are stuck?
- use their imaginations and creativity?
- be bold and try new things?
- see mistakes as opportunities?
- persist with difficult tasks?
- bounce back fast?
- check and continually improve their own work?
- seek and value feedback?
- work well with others?



The Early Years Learning Framework promotes learning dispositions that all children need to develop to be successful, such as, **curiosity, cooperation, creativity, persistence and enthusiasm**. In the Australian curriculum these skills and dispositions are identified through the seven **General Capabilities; Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Personal and Social, Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical Behaviour and Intercultural Understanding**.

These dispositions and capabilities demonstrate that we want our children to:

- Inquire, explore, generate ideas, pose questions and possible solutions, reflect, analyse and evaluate.
- Understand themselves as learners and people, their strengths, areas for development, emotional responses and be able to self-manage these in appropriate ways.
- Be aware of others and appreciate other points of view.
- Work collaboratively, negotiate and resolve conflict.
- Understand that with rights comes responsibility.
- Treat others with respect and behave in ethical ways.

As parents and families how do you support these skills in your children? What messages are you giving your children about learning, school, literacy and numeracy, either directly or indirectly? We have all heard or been told that “ “someone” wasn’t good at Maths / reading / spelling so I guess you are like that too.” What message does this really give?

We need to ensure that our students believe they are able to change and learn. It is our collective responsibility to provide children with the opportunities to build these skills.



Holdfast Partnership

Snap to It!



Over the next few months we will be having a St Leonards School Photography Challenge.

We currently have a number of posters around our school encouraging us to have a positive outlook upon life. Each poster includes an image describing the attribute being promoted.

These posters are great ... **but what if** ... we could have our own photos illustrating them?

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to take a photograph (which best describes the theme word) and email it, along with your name and room number, to Graeme.smith149@schools.sa.edu.au

One photo will be selected from those submitted and included in the newsletter. It will also be made into a poster to be displayed in school. Each child may submit only one photograph.



The first theme is **CURIOSITY**

Get snapping and good luck.

Children's University passport holders can use this activity for a two hour stamp.

Graeme Smith, Wellbeing Coordinator

Canteen Update

Thank you for supporting the canteen this term. Our two lunch specials were massive. We had 252 students order the Easter Lunch Special and 263 ordered the showdown donuts, two big days and a great fundraiser. It wouldn't be possible to have these days without the parent helpers either. Thanks to the team of busy mums who help with these days.



The school employs two managers to run the canteen so it is open daily. I am a Chef by trade and volunteered for 10 years in the canteen before being employed here. Deryl also volunteered for all those years in the canteen. The Canteen is part of the school but has to support itself financially. We rely on parent helpers. Any profit remains within the school and it is the aim this year to renovate the canteen. The upgrade would make it more suitable to cater for the increasing number of lunch orders provided. The daily takings are closely monitored by the governing council and we need to remain financially viable to keep the canteen up and running for our school.



Please do not ask for credit or send a lunch order with no money. If for some reason your child has lunch provided by the canteen, a note is sent home and we would appreciate that you pay by the next canteen day.

Please note a few changes to the daily specials for Term 2. Have a great holiday.

Katrina and Deryl, Canteen Managers

Children's University

School holidays are a great time to find some fun Children's University activities. The notice board has been updated and you can check the Children's University website for lots of fun things to do these holidays.



If you participate in any non Children's University activities you may be able to receive a stamp if you fill out a learning journal and bring it to school next term. If unsure please speak to Heather.

Visit the website at: www.childrensuniversity.com.au

Natalie Baggio and Heather Pronk
Children's University

Fundraising

Don't forget to preorder your \$20 cheese platter!

Tickets on sale now

A Night out in June
A GIRLS NIGHT OUT & INDOOR MARKET EVENT.
Local, boutique & handcrafted jewellery, artwork, homewares, massage, beauty, fashion, lingerie, flowers, gifts, makeup, food & more.

Tickets just \$10 from St Leonards Primary School office
(includes a complimentary drink on arrival)

Pre-purchase a ticket to go into the draw to win a \$50 voucher to spend on the night.
Buy a book of 5 or more and you could win the bookseller's prize.

Friday 24 June 2016

ST LEONARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
St Leonards Primary School Hall | 7pm to 9.30pm

Up Cycle, Up Style

Are you planning on spring cleaning your wardrobe these holidays? Do you have any good quality dresses, gowns, cocktail attire, men's or women's suits, coats, jackets, ties, shoes, handbags, costume jewellery, hats etc that you need to let go of? St Leonards is manning an Up Cycle, Up Style stall at this year's **Night Out In June**.



All proceeds will go directly back into our school. Any unsold items will be donated to a local charity. The collection point will be outside the library 8:30am-9:00am and 2:45pm-3:15pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Week 1 and Week 2 of Term 2.

Fundraising Team

NAPLAN

Why the fuss over National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy?

South Australian principals and teachers believe in high academic standards and the routine collection of evidence regarding the learning outcomes of students in key areas of the curriculum such as literacy and numeracy. They also support the responsible release of information about the performance of their students through various screening processes, parent/teacher interviews, written reports, informal conversations and NAPLAN. One of the most powerful mechanisms of assessing student progress is through teacher professional judgement. In the vast majority of cases, the NAPLAN results do not provide new information for the teachers – the teachers already know how their students are progressing in literacy and numeracy.



What are the benefits of NAPLAN?

Parents receive detailed information about their Year 3, 5, 7 or 9 children's NAPLAN results. Education system authorities can monitor the NAPLAN performance of schools and provide support where needed. School leaders value the NAPLAN school report because they outline the overall strengths of the school's curriculum delivery, areas within that need improvement and particularly, and *the growth of individual student learning in literacy and numeracy every two years.*

So why is there so much fuss and controversy about NAPLAN?

The NAPLAN tests are being used more and more to compare the performance of schools rather than focus on student growth in learning. The identification of 'successful schools' based on NAPLAN results is a very narrow and unfair means of comparison, as is the increasing practice of publishing NAPLAN league tables. Students from lower socio economic backgrounds do not perform as well as children from more advantaged backgrounds but all students have the capacity to progress and this is where the focus needs to be in NAPLAN.

With the amplified attention on NAPLAN in recent years, commercial interests have developed a profit making industry in the publication of material targeting parents who believe they can help improve children's test results..

While literacy and numeracy skills are very important, there is so much more to learning. The primary curriculum is designed to promote the social, emotional and creative development of children as well as their academic attainment across *all* learning areas of the curriculum, including learning that is qualitatively measured through professional judgement.

Research evidence from practices in the United States and Britain clearly shows that high stakes assessment programs such as NAPLAN, can have an unintended, negative impact on the quality of teaching and learning. Schools tend to narrow their curriculum around the tests, the focus of other areas of the curriculum is diminished, important skills that are not able to be tested decline, and large amounts of teaching time are consumed by coaching and practising tests.

It's time to for our Federal politicians and bureaucrats to learn through the mistakes made in other countries.

Pam Kent, SAPPA President,

Community News

Christmas Pageant

Last year we walked in the Holdfast Bay Christmas Pageant. This year I would love to get more parents involved in planning what we do. I am looking for anyone who would be interested in getting together to form a committee. We still have a couple of terms to go, however I would love us to be better organised this year and have more people involved.

I am at school all day Monday and Wednesdays from 12.30pm. Please let me know if you are interested in helping in any way. You can contact me at school on 8294 9811 or email me at Vicki.woods141@schools.sa.edu.au



Vicki Wood, Pastoral Care Worker

Parenting SA Online Seminars

Parenting SA hosted two very successful parenting seminars at the Convention Centre over the last two nights.

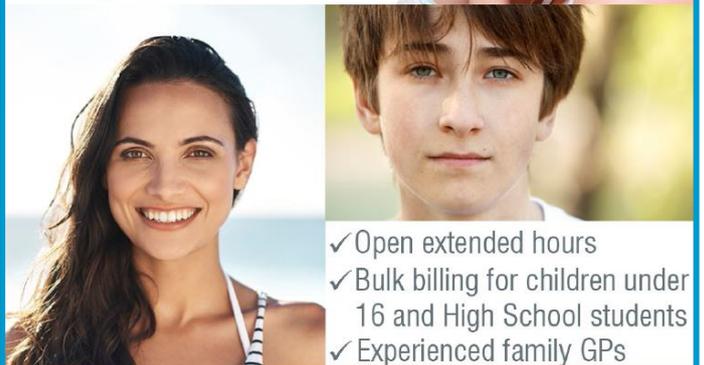
Feedback from parents, caregivers and professionals who attended the live events and those who viewed online was highly positive.

Both seminars are now **available to view on-demand until Tuesday, 26 April** via the link:

www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentingsa/seminars.htm



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