



NEWSLETTER

Term 3 - Week 6 - 30th August, 2018

From the Principal

Thoughts from Finland

Earlier this term the leadership team were fortunate to attend the South Australian Primary Principals Association state conference. We heard from Pasi Sahlberg, the Finnish educator, author, school teacher, researcher and policy advisor.



Pasi discussed with us findings from his world wide research and amongst many things, highlighted the importance of the focus on 'future skills' such as; from mastery of knowledge to applying knowledge; the importance of an inter-disciplinary approach to teaching; and the adoption of modern teaching and learning tools.

He spoke in support of the Australian Curriculum having, as a core component , the 'general capabilities' which can be seen in this diagram. At Burnside teachers use an inquiry based pedagogical approach which allows for a true inter-disciplinary approach to delivering curriculum. To support this, teachers use evidence based practice to reflect upon and influence their teaching and work collaboratively in professional learning communities learning from each other.

Pasi talked of the future and what research suggests, is on the horizon for primary schools by mentioning 4 areas.

Health and Wellbeing Skills - research has shown a direct correlation between the decrease in mental health difficulties and the increase in screen time in 2011-2012. Leading with Small Data - take notice of the small data that exists within schools, things such as formative assessment; students involved in assessment and reflection

of their learning combined with professional teacher judgement; and the importance of taking notice of the diversity and beauty that exists in every classroom.

He finished with a simple message of reflection for educators and parents which he believes would assist students improve their learning outcomes; sleep more; spend less time with technology and watching television; play and move more everyday; read a book or two every month and finally write a letter to one you love each week.

Enrolments - Reception enrolment enquiries for 2019 close on Friday 14th September, 2018.

Canteen Update - Thank you to Rudy Heng for his work in the canteen for the last three months. Rudy finished at Burnside last Friday and we wish him all the best for his continued career in hospitality. Ingrid Oakes has accepted the position of canteen manager and began this week; Patricia Melzer will continue her role supporting Ingrid in the canteen on Monday and Friday.

School Events - Well done and thank you to everyone involved for their efforts and commitment that contributed to recent successful events, including Burnside's Got Talent, Science Week, Book Week, Canberra Camp and the Quiz Night. Our community is a key driver in supporting Burnside to be the best that it can be.

SSO Week

In week 5 of this term we said thank you and showed our appreciation of our amazing SSO staff with a lovely morning tea. A highlight was the presentation of a hand made card, prepared by students for each SSO. We are very lucky to have such talented, flexible, hard-working SSO staff who work tirelessly in many roles including student support, first aid, IT, grounds, sports, administration, enrolments, finance, library and the list goes on.

Our SSO staff make a huge difference to the learning outcomes of our students. We thank Alison, Lilli, Pj, Rikki, Anna, Emmanuel, Tyler, Andrew, Fran, Cathy, Tanya, Jess B, Jess J, Kim, Sarah, Emma, Maria, Val, CiCi, Louisa and Sheila.



Susan Copeland - Principal

Pupil Free Day - Monday 10th September, 2018

Intervention Programs at Burnside Primary School

There are several intervention programs that are implemented at Burnside Primary School. These include **MiniLit** and **MacqLit**, which are evidence based small group reading intervention programs developed by Macquarie University. Booster Maths is an intervention program in numeracy for primary students.

We commenced our MiniLit and MacqLit programs at the beginning of this term. The MiniLit and MacqLit programs are informed by the findings of scientific research, carried out over the past 40 years, into how reading works and how it may best be taught. It is also in accord with the recommendations of national reports into effective reading instruction that have emphasised the five key pillars of reading instruction (sometimes known as the 'five big ideas'): phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

MiniLit or '*Meeting Initial Needs in Literacy*' is an evidence based, systematic, explicit and effective model for teaching reading skills. Students in Year 1 and 2 are assessed for suitability to undertake the program. Students undertake the program with our trained SSO staff, Tanya Blucher and Sarah Wilton. Each MiniLit lesson is delivered to a small group of students and runs for 40 minutes, four times per week.

Each lesson has three main components:

- **Sounds and Words Activities** – Where students learn to pay attention to the different sounds in words and to associate them with the letters of the alphabet.
- **Text Reading** – This gives students the chance to practise their new skills.
- **Story Book Reading** – This involves the teacher reading and discussing a story book with the students, to help improve their vocabulary and comprehension.

Student progress is monitored through ongoing testing and evaluation. At the beginning of each term, students complete a pre-test and at the completion of the term, a post-test. These results are analysed to see improvements made and to identify areas for further improvement.



- 'MiniLit has helped me quite a bit with my reading. I've learned lots of new skills. It's also helped me with my pronunciation'. **Évie**
- 'MiniLit helps me with my writing and spelling. It helps me to answer the questions about books'. **Joe**
- 'MiniLit has helped me with reading and it has helped me to answer questions about books. It helps me to understand and to write my own books'. **Benjamin**
- 'I like doing MiniLit! It has helped me with my spelling. It is fun'. **Tyler**

MacqLit or '*Macquarie Literacy Program*' is a reading intervention program for students in Year 3 and above who may be having difficulties in the area of word recognition/decoding and reading fluency.

The programme consists of 122 carefully structured, sequenced lessons, delivered by our trained SSO staff, Sarah Wilton and Val Konetschka. Each MacqLit lesson is delivered to a small group of students and runs for 40 minutes, four times per week.

Each lesson incorporates sounds and words activities, spelling, dictation and book reading.



- 'MacqLit is really good and helpful. It helps me with understanding what I read and with my writing'. **Jesse**
- 'MacqLit is fun! It's made me more confident when reading'. **Sophia**
- 'MacqLit has helped me with my descriptive language and my reading has improved'. **Jess**
- 'MacqLit is good. It's helped me with reading comprehension and spelling'. **Ryder**
- 'MacqLit has helped me with reading. I also don't make as many mistakes in writing anymore'. **Colleen**

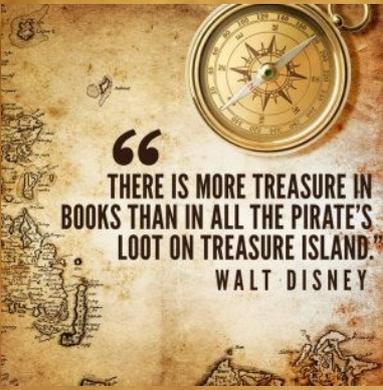
In the relatively short time we have been running the MiniLit and MacqLit programs, we have noticed students on the program reading with more independence and with greater accuracy and fluency. Student's confidence when reading has also increased as has their comprehension.

Athena Ladas – Assistant Principal



Book Week 2018

FIND YOUR TREASURE



What an exciting couple of weeks we have had celebrating Book Week. All year levels were given the opportunity to enjoy an author visit from Janeen Brian, Michael Wagner or DC Green, who engaged and captivated their audience with amusing anecdotes from their books. Students have enjoyed reading this year's shortlisted titles and have been busy with creative activities based on the text. At the annual Book Week Parade, children enjoyed seeing which book character their classmates and teachers dressed as, it can often become a fond childhood memory for many. Thank you to our parents, teachers and visitors who participated in this annual event.

*Maria Tamlin
Library Manager*

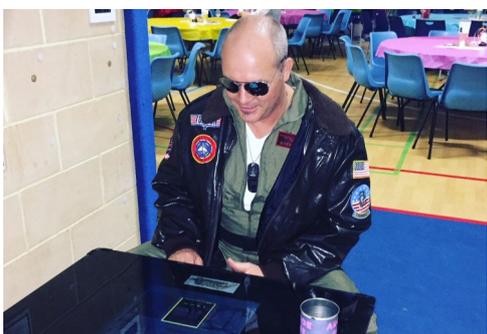


80s Quiz Night Fun!

What a night! Over 300 people battled it out for first place at the 80s Quiz Night, with 'Simply Irresistible' (table 7) as outright winners. Paul Kitching and Paul Huebl as hosts, were dressed for success with mullets and psychedelic lycra, it set the perfect vibe for the evening.

Team 'Simply Irresistible' made their entrance with a succinct dance routine to their theme song and the 'Roller Derby' crew managed to coast through the night without any mishaps on their roller-skates. The dance off, best costume and silent auction were all highlights of the evening. By far the stand out for everyone on the night was the opportunity to groove the night away on the dance floor to 'Hits of the 80s.'

Congratulations to the Community Events team, particularly Raelene Masters for their hard work and attention to detail in organising this fundraising event, which raised nearly \$12,000 for our school.



national science week

National Science Week was held in week 5 with the theme of Game Changers and Change Makers. Each year group was visited by a guest speaker to present on this theme. We were delighted to be host to a wide range of talks that inspired our young minds. Reception children participated in a DIY workshop hosted by Bunnings – Designing the Game - Changing tools of the future.

Year 1

The Year 1 students learnt about how the cochlear ear implant is changing peoples lives, enabling them to hear for the first time. Children heard a first hand experience from a parent/ electrical engineer at the school, they also had the opportunity to see and touch the cochlear implant and see it in action. The students were actively engaged in questions and answers.

Year 2

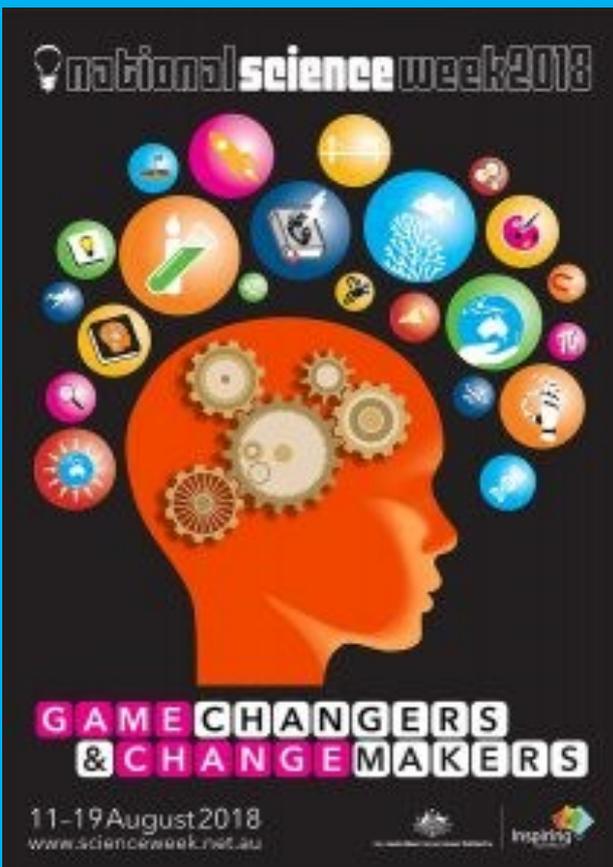
Year 2 were luckily enough to have Bec Mumford and Melissa Rayner of The Foodprint Experience. Bec introduced her new character of Bill the Bush Tucker Boy and demonstrated the Game Changing Blippar app which brings her books to life. Melissa brought in samples of native foods in to see, smell, taste and talked about ways to cook with native edible Australian food plants.

Year 3

The following two pages in this article show the explicit learning our Year 3 students undertook for Science Week. Veolia explored with the children how plastic is a Game Changer and how we can be Change Makers with our decisions to reduce our plastic usage and recycle it appropriately.

Year 4

The year 4s were visited by PhD student Brianna Le Busque who explained how science is a lot more than being in a lab with a microscope and that to be game changers you need to think outside the square and how different jobs and STEM careers can help solve conservation problems.



Year 5 and Year 7

We were very grateful to both Helen and George from 'The Orang-utan Project' who came in to spread the message about the importance of preserving the rainforest to our year 5 classes and year 7 classes. They focussed on the importance of the strata within the forest and how these strata support very different eco systems.

Year 6

And our year 6 students were visited by Jessie Morris from the local Kombucha producing company MOJO. She shared with the students how some Game Changing moments resulted in the small company growing from an idea into a very successful locally based company that employs over 50 people.

Abby Macpherson & Eleanor Freeth
Science Specialist Teachers



BURNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



PLASTIC

GAMECHANGERS
& CHANGEMAKERS

The team at Veolia visited our Year 3 Students on Monday 13th August 2018 as part of National Science Week.

The theme this year was Game Changers and Change Makers.

Veolia explored with us how Plastic is a Game Changer and how we can be Change Makers with our decisions to reduce our plastic usage and recycle it appropriately.

Veolia also explained how we must buy more products that are made from recycled plastic, to support a Circular Economy.



OCEAN CONFETTI

We watched a great video which explained how when plastic isn't recycled correctly it can end up in our oceans. We know that big pieces of plastic are bad news to marine animals but we also learnt that the sun, wind and waves tear apart the plastic into tiny pieces, much like confetti. These micro plastics are still incredibly durable and so they have been found, pretty much everywhere in our oceans.

So what do we need to do? A great way to stop these plastics going into the ocean is to recycle them properly. If you'd like to see the video please copy this URL into your browser;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVoFeELi_vQ&feature=youtu.be





SOFT PLASTICS 'THE SCRUNCH TEST'

Did you know that only 6 tonnes of soft plastic is recycled in Australia each week and yet 300,000 tonnes is landfilled. Let's rethink waste and get recycling!

Margot taught us the 'Scrunch Test'; if you can scrunch the plastic into a ball it's a soft plastic.

Soft plastics are not usually recycled through your yellow bin at home (check with your local council) but they can be recycled at your local Coles or Woolworths in their Redcycle bins.

Some examples of soft plastics are; plastic shopping bags, bread bags, ziplock bags, clingwrap, pasta bags, confectionary wrappers, newspaper wrap and bubble wrap.

CLEAN HARD PLASTICS 'GO IN THE YELLOW BIN'

Hard plastics are things like ice cream containers, strawberry punnets, water bottles and even clean lids from takeaway coffee cups.

What happens next depends on who collects the bin. Since the China Ban some councils and waste collectors have had to resort to burning commingled recycling as it has not been 'clean' enough to recycle. At Veolia they work hard with their customers to understand what goes in the bin so they can recycle all of its contents. Ask your local council or provider what happens with your waste!

To recycle, hard plastics must be clean and free from food waste or its contents, lids need to be removed and placed into a larger container so they don't get lost in the sorting process. We got to see and touch the pellets that hard plastics are processed into, to make new products with. They look very different to the original ice cream container!



BUY RECYCLED

Jake shared with us some amazing products that are made from recycled plastic.

We saw a toothbrush that was made from yoghurt cups, a backpack made from PET bottles and even toys made from yellow bin recycling from homes.

We learnt that some park benches, playgrounds and even garden hoses can be made from recycled plastic.

We need to do more, use less and make sure we are ready for the future. Are you a ready to become a

CHANGE MAKER?



School Updates

Festival of Music Choir

Congratulations to the Year 6/7 Choir on a wonderful performance last Thursday night at Burnside Village! The choir performed eight songs from the 2018 Festival of Music repertoire in preparation for their final performance in September. Harry I. and Finnley L. led the night with a very entertaining and well thought out script. Congratulations to all choir members and a special mention to our very talented soloists - Laura, Summer, Daniela, Phoebe, Finnley, Chloe, Esme and Alexandra.

Mark Ashby & Tanya Henry - Music Teachers



The Premier's Reading Challenge will be finalised by Friday 7th September, 2018. We ask parents to encourage your children to complete and submit their forms by this date, to ensure they are included. All forms can be returned to class teachers when completed. Thank you in advance for supporting us with this process.

Maria Tamlin - Library Manager



RECEPTION - YEAR 7



SPORTS DAY

Friday 21st September, 2018 at Newland Reserve



REMINDERS



9.30am until 2.30pm

- The canteen will not be open on Sports Day.
- Dogs are not permitted at Newland Reserve between 9.30am and 2.30pm
- Parents and Friends will be providing a cake stall for morning tea with a coffee van available on the day.
- A sausage sizzle will be provided by the Rotary Club of Burnside.
- Rest stations will provide fruit and water for consumption throughout the day.
- All students must wear their school hat, sunscreen and bring their recess, lunch and water. Students are to come dressed in their school uniform or dressed in their House Team colours with appropriate footwear for participation.
- Dismissal will be back at school, unless a parent has negotiated directly with the class teacher.

