



# Munno Para PRIMARY SCHOOL

Respect, Responsibility, Success

NEWSLETTER  
Term 1, Week 6 2023

"Teachers open the door,  
but you must enter by yourself."  
– Chinese Proverb

## Principal's Message

It is hard to believe we have passed the half way point of the term already. And, with a long weekend, NAPLAN, community breakfast and open morning, swimming week, Easter and Sports-day coming up in the second half, it will be school holidays again before we know it.

### NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN Online begins on Wednesday next week (15/3) and runs until 24/3.

NAPLAN Online allows students to move along pathways that are aligned with their answers. This will give students more of an opportunity to work through questions at their level. Our NAPLAN data is quite often not what it should be as a number of students, particular older students, choose to opt out. We understand that NAPLAN can cause some students and families some anxiety. NAPLAN shows what students can do at one point in time. It would be heartening for students to show their resilience and have a positive growth mindset and to have a go.

### R-5 swimming

R-5 swimming will be at Starplex in Week 10 of this term, Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April (Friday is Good Friday).

All forms will be sent out by next week.

medical forms must be completed for students to participate in swimming. If you indicate that your child is asthmatic, an asthma health care plan that is signed off by a GP will be required for your child to participate in swimming. The Year 6s will spend a full day at West Lakes Aquatic Centre on the Wednesday of Week 10.

### Community Breakfast and Open morning

Please join us for a pancake breakfast on Wednesday, 29/3 from 8am. Students and families will spend time together enjoying a

pancake and playing some games that we will set up.

From 8:45am, the teachers will open the classrooms and your child/ren will take you to their room and show you examples of their learning and formally introduce you to their teacher (if you haven't already met them).

### Sports Day

School finishes on Friday 14th April and we will be finishing off with our Sports Day. The day will be a whirl of colour, fun and laughter and finish at 2pm.

### Governing Council

Governing Council governance in schools and preschools is the responsibility of the Governing Council whose role is directed by the constitution and code of practice. In this model of governance:

- The cooperative role of Governing Council and school staff is emphasised

- Management and governance are clearly separated
- The focus is on improving student learning outcomes
- The broad directions are set and monitored by the Governing Council
- The site leader and staff are responsible for reporting
- Joint areas of accountability are minimised.

Governing Council meetings are held twice a term.

### Site Improvement Plan

Schools are notorious for using acronyms and programs or frameworks that the wider population is unfamiliar or unaware of. This point was made to me recently by my wife when we met with our son's teacher.

In light of that, I thought I would share with you a summary of the Literacy programs/  
(Continued over)

## Diary Dates

### TERM 1

Friday 10/3 Pupil Free Day

Monday 13/3 Adelaide Cup  
Public Holiday

Wednesday 15/3 NAPLAN starts  
Years 3 & 5

Monday 20/3 Governing Council

Wednesday 29/3 Community  
breakfast &  
Acquaintance  
morning

Monday 3/4 -  
Thursday 6/4 Swimming Week

Friday 7/4 Good Friday  
Public Holiday

Monday 10/4 Easter Monday  
Public Holiday

Wednesday 12/4 Mini Sports Day

Friday 14/4 Sports Day  
Last day of Term 1  
- early dismissal 2pm

### TERM 2

Monday 1/5 Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 2/5 Term 2 starts

## Assembly

Week 3, 6 and 9

## Bell Times

8:45am Teacher on duty in the yard

8:50am School day begins

10:50am Lunch play

11:20am End lunch play

1:00pm Recess play

1:20pm End recess play

3pm Home time



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

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Maltarra Road, Munno Para SA 5115

Ph: 8254 8322 Fax: 8254 9231 Email: dl.1482\_info@schools.sa.edu.au

f Munno Para Primary School [www.munnoparaps.sa.edu.au](http://www.munnoparaps.sa.edu.au)

## Principal's Message (continued)

frameworks/assessments we use at Munno Para PS and how they fit into your child's education.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our main Site Improvement Plan focus continues to be reading. We are in our third year of this work and next year we will shift our focus to Numeracy, whilst maintaining our strong, established practices in reading and Literacy.

Firstly, if you have a child or children in reception to year 2, you may hear them or their teachers speak about Initialit, Heggerty and 'OG'.

### Initialit

Initialit is an evidence-based whole-class literacy program providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. Initialit is a three-year program, covering the first three years of school (Foundation to Year 2). The focus in the first two years is on explicitly teaching students the phonics code.

Phonics is the understanding that there is a predictable relationship between the individual sounds (the phonemes) of spoken language and the letters (graphemes) that represent those sounds in written language. Phonics instruction is most effective when it begins in the first or second year of formal schooling (NICHD, 2000) and, for most students, most letter-sound relationships can be taught within two years. Our explicit phonics instruction begins in Reception and we use a systematic synthetic phonics framework (Initialit) to underpin our practice. The sounds are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible, children are taught the 44 main letter sounds. This includes alphabet sounds as well as digraphs such as sh, th, ai and ue. They are not taught in alphabetical order. The first group (s, a, t, l, p, n) has been chosen because they make more simple three-letter words than any other six letters.

### Heggerty

The Heggerty Curriculum includes explicit instruction in the following phonological and phonemic awareness skills:

- Rhyming
- Initial Phoneme Isolation
- Blending
- Isolating final and medial phonemes (sounds)
- Segmenting
- Adding Phonemes
- Deleting Phonemes
- Substituting Phonemes

Phonological awareness is the understanding of different ways that oral language can be divided into smaller components and manipulated." (Chard and Dickson, 1999) Phonological awareness refers to the bigger "chunks" or "parts" of language. When we ask students to rhyme, blend small words to make a compound word, break words apart into syllables or onset-rime, we are working at the phonological awareness level.

Phonemic awareness is the understanding that spoken words are made of *individual sounds* called *phonemes*. A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound we hear in a word. Phonemic awareness falls underneath the umbrella as a sub-category of phonological awareness.

### "OG"

The Orton-Gillingham (OG) Approach is a direct, explicit, multisensory, structured, sequential, diagnostic, and prescriptive way to teach literacy when reading, writing, and spelling does not come easily to individuals, such as those with dyslexia.

At Munno Para PS we are using "OG" as our phonics intervention for those students who are not progressing at the rate we expect in Initialit.

In years 3-6 we continue to explicitly teach the skills required in order for students to not only decode (read) different texts but comprehend (understand) what they are reading.

This year, across all year 3-6 classes, students have been assessed in the first three weeks of the year with the DIBELS – Oral Fluency test. DIBELS is the acronym for the name of the assessment. Within that there are multiple tests. Our students will sit the Oral Fluency test (ORF) and MAZE which is a comprehension test.

We then use the data from those tests to determine whether or not any students require intervention.

The intervention could be OG, Heggerty or something similar to Heggerty for older students, called Kilpatrick or MacqLit (which is a primary years phonics intervention). The students access these interventions in 1:1 or small groups with a teacher or trained SSO.

### Spelling Mastery

Spelling Mastery provides structured lessons to effectively and efficiently teach the spelling skills students need to become proficient readers and writers using the following approaches:

- **Phonemic approach** - helps beginning spellers learn the relationships between spoken sounds and written letters and then apply them to spelling
- **Morphemic approach** - exposes advanced spellers to prefixes, bases, and suffixes
- **Whole-word approach** - gives spellers at all levels the meaning and root of a word and shows how the word's spelling is influenced

As you can see we have a lot happening in Literacy. We are also using the Department for Education's newly developed Curriculum resources and Units of Work to ensure we are addressing and explicitly teaching all areas of English, not just reading.

**Aaron McPherson**  
**Principal**

## Attendance

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won't affect my child?

Only missing just..	That equals..	Which is...	Over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1hour 40minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

Every Day Counts - If you want your child to be successful at school then YES, attendance does matter!

## M&S Reminder

Invoices for M & S were sent home with your child in Week 2.

As per Government subsidies your school fees for 2023 are only \$169.00 per student.

Fees can be paid by the following

- OKR
- Direct payment to the schools bank account  
BSB: 065189 Account No: 10105406
- In person or by phone

Materials and Services fees and school card applications must be completed by the end of term 1, 14/04/2023.

If you would like to make a payment plan please speak to Sharon (finance officer, Monday-Thursday) in the front office ASAP.

If you are unsure that you may be eligible for school card please speak to Sharon.

School card applications can be processed online or by hard copy.

Sharon Hunt, Finance Officer



## Want \$500 to help you with school costs?

saverplus

Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment\*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)\*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old


\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible


Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

 Michelle Macarthy

 Michelle.Macarthy@thesmithfamily.com.au

 0409 986 245 or 1300 610 355

DELIVERED BY



Find out more at [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

## Munno Mates

This term we have started participating in a program called Munno Mates as a way to develop friendships across the school. Mates work together to participate in activities across the school, supporting each other to be successful and participate in new activities. It has been great to have students' comment "I made a new mate" or "I helped a mate at lunchtime today". We all look forward to our next Munno Mates activity in Week 8.



## P.E.

Well done to all the students getting back into PE lessons. Students have been practicing different Sports Day tabloid events and getting sprint times, long jump and high jump results for mini sports day. We are all getting excited for the big day!

Both K block and D block students have been participating in the lunch time basketball competition. Students have shown great sportsmanship and have been really enjoying the games.

Remember all students need to have their hats for when we are participating in PE outside. Also if your child is injured or unable to participate in PE can you please let me know through ClassDojo or a written note.

Also Year 5 and Year 6 students please keep an eye on ClassDojo. During the year our local district SAPSASA team have trials for different sports. This is run after school hours and run at different schools or locations. If you are interested can you please see me.

Mr Barnett

## Community Notice

# COOL Writings Student Writing Competition

## Write4fun Win \$1000



**Toyworld Gift Card** OR **Rebel Gift Card** OR **JB HI-FI Gift Card** OR **Apple Gift Card**

### THE COMPETITION

Entry is NOW OPEN in the 2023 Schools Writing Competition! Students all over Australia are invited to enter their Poems or Short Stories and battle it out for the great cash and prizes on offer.

**THERE IS NO THEME!!** Entrants are encouraged to let their imaginations run wild and to write on ANY TOPIC and in ANY STYLE. Students from ALL GRADES are welcome to enter - Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Enter online at [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net) OR email to [enter@write4fun.net](mailto:enter@write4fun.net) OR post with entry form details to Write4fun, P.O. Box 2142, Nerang DC, QLD 4211

**ENTRY IS FREE!**  
Competition closes Sunday 26 March 2023 at 12am.

### THE BOOK



Poems and short stories entered into the competition will be considered for inclusion in our 2023 Write4fun keepsake anthology, 'Cool Writings'! Those selected will have the opportunity to purchase the edition at a discounted, pre-order rate. Prize winners will receive a complimentary copy of the book, featuring their writing. We enthusiastically aim to encourage young writers with our competitions and pride ourselves on being able to "show them off" in our keepsake publications.

*"We are excited to be able to hold our second writing competition for 2023! Our hope is our competitions inspire students, in a fun way, to be creative with words through story telling."*  
Julia Woods, Managing Editor, Write4fun

### THE PRIZES

**FOR POETRY:**  
1st - \$1000 CASH (\$500 to YOU & \$500 to YOUR SCHOOL)! And YOUR CHOICE of: A \$500 Toyworld Gift Card OR a \$500 JB Hi-Fi Gift Card OR a \$500 Rebel Sport Gift Card OR a \$500 Apple Gift Card  
2nd - \$250 Cash  
3rd - \$150 Cash  
10x Finalist - \$25 Officeworks Gift Card

**FOR SHORT STORIES:**  
1st - \$1000 CASH (\$500 to YOU & \$500 to YOUR SCHOOL)! And YOUR CHOICE of: A \$500 Toyworld Gift Card OR a \$500 JB Hi-Fi Gift Card OR a \$500 Rebel Sport Gift Card OR \$500 Apple Gift Card  
2nd - \$250 Cash  
3rd - \$150 Cash  
10x Finalist - \$25 Officeworks Gift Card

### THE RULES

- Only one entry per student - either a Poem OR Short Story.
- Entries to be typed or neatly handwritten.
- Poems must not exceed 16 lines and Short Stories must not exceed 500 words.
- Entries must be in by 26 March 2023.
- Entries must be the original work of the author.
- Co-written entries will be disqualified.
- Entry form details must accompany each entry.
- For full list of rules head to [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net)

[www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net)  
[enter@write4fun.net](mailto:enter@write4fun.net)  
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