Issue No. 8
Thursday 24/5/2012

Principal:
Ilia Tsoutouras

School Vision:
At Spalding Primary School we aim to facilitate each student with the essential skills and knowledge to be an effective and successful member of society.

Diary Dates

- Wed 30th May: Playcentre – Australia’s biggest morning tea
- Mon 4th June: Sci-World HUB day at Booborowie Primary
- Wed 6th June: Wooden Toy Factory at Play Centre 10-12pm

Canteen Roster

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“Set Your Sights High”

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Whilst you are reading this edition of the Spalding Primary Newsletter I am currently in Port Pirie at the YMN term 2 leaders days. These days are built around leaders in the region being involved in Professional Development sessions in order to build on their capacity as leaders of learning. This terms session will also feature a visit from the implementation officers for the Australian Curriculum, which as you would know is being phased in and reported against in schools across Australia.

As a school we are always finding ways and continuing to work at getting better in the way we do things. We are currently in the process of analysing student achievement data in order to form our new Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the second half of 2012 and 2013. Our last years priorities were in student well being, writing (text types) and the big ideas in number. It is fantastic to have seen the improvements students have made, no doubt as a result of the hard work of students, teachers and support from home in striving for excellence, one of our school values.

From the data collected and reviewed, staff believe our new SIP should feature two new priorities. This isn’t to say we wont be endeavouring to continue to improve our practice and student achievement in all areas. Last years priorities and all learning areas will remain a focus but could be referred to as being in ‘maintenance mode’. The two priorities staff believe after reviewing data collected and from discussions with parents are Literacy (with a particular focus on reading/ spelling) and Curriculum and Pedagogies for Engagement. The latter of the two refers to the what to teach, given the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and also focusing on the how using what is referred to as the Teaching for Effective Learning Document. It also focuses on the use of Information Communication Technology within classrooms to enhance the teaching and learning taking place.

I was Ironically reading an article written by the South Australian Literacy Secretariat about reading and came across a passage which emphasises the importance of students being successful readers.

“Reading is an important life skill, fundamental to educational success and a catalyst for life-long learning and well-being. As learners progress through the stages of education and care, reading supports them to make meaning, solve problems, and to enjoy and investigate their world. Children take their first important steps toward learning to read very early in life. From their earliest years, children learn to connect and interact with the world around them when parents and families, carers and educators talk, sing, explain, discuss, read and play with them.”

We are still working on our SIP and plan to have a draft ready by the Governing Council meeting later this term for discussion and approval. Being the primary educators in your children’s lives we highly value your opinions/ feedback. Please feel free to bring any ideas or queries you have to myself before the meeting or to the Governing Council meeting later this term.

Faithfully,
Ilia Tsoutouras
Home Reading
As you would all know reading is a crucial part of a child’s education. It is fantastic to see our students reading at home. Congratulations to the following students for reading for 50, 75 and 100 nights:

CONGRATULATIONS
Bailey & Thomas Wohlfeil,
Zack Sommerville and Sarah Andrews
on 75 nights of reading
and
Jessica Longbottom on 100 nights of reading reading!!!!!!

Woolworths Earn & Learn
Don’t forget to ask for your Earn and Learn stickers when you shop at Woolworths. You can drop your completed sticker sheet into the box in the front office.

SRC Special lunch
Subway in Clare have given our SRC an opportunity to raise money through holding a ‘Subway special lunch’. SRC have decided to hold this on Friday, June 15th. For each Subway lunch ordered SRC will receive $1.00. To enable the SRC to raise extra funds community members are able to order their lunch on the day. Subway will provide order forms which will be distributed soon. They will also deliver lunch to us on the day.

SA Public Teaching Awards
Celebrating inspiring teaching.
Nominations are still open for the SA Public Teaching Awards. Don’t miss your chance to nominate an outstanding education professional of the South Australian public education system. The SA Public Teaching Awards aim to recognise and reward dedicated teachers, education leaders and support staff who have made an inspirational contribution to young South Australians. To nominate a member of our school go to: www.decs.sa.gov.au/teacherawards

Play Centre Mother’s Day Raffle Winners
1st Nat Sommerville
2nd Jade Davidson
3rd Laura Davidson
4th Browyn Rowley

“Set Your Sights High”
**At Spalding Primary School we value:**

*RESPECT*  *EXCELLENCE*  *SAFETY*

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**Student Corner**

**19th Century Children**

The children of the 19th century wore white smocks over their normal clothes at school. The boys wore smocks like a shirt and the girls wore a dress-like smock. They played a game called quoits. It is where you stand 2 or 3 meters away from a little stick and you need to try to get a ring on the stick.

Children in the 19th century home for the destitute ate the same things every week. Their menu didn’t have any fruit and looked very yuck. They played a game called Knuckles with the bones from animals, you throw them in the air and pick up one off the ground and catch the ones you threw before they fall.

The school desks that the children from the 19th century used had flaps on the top that you could lift and put things in. They didn’t write with pencils, they used ink or black boards and chalk. They played games with sticks and hoops. They had to try and keep the hoop from falling over with the stick. They didn’t have electronics and they didn’t have playgrounds like us.

By Nick Longmire, Zack Longbottom and Angus Shapley

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**Junior Primary Comments**

**The best thing about our new computers.................**

- Touch Typing and Tux Paint and they can do lots more things than our old computers. Bailey
- Tux Paint, because you can make more things with it than in paint. Jorja
- Tux paint, because you can make whatever you want. Jessica
- They are fun and they have lots of fun games. Martique
- They are new and they are fun. Sarah
- Tux Paint, because you can draw tractors and stuff. Zack
- All the good learning programs. Thomas
- They work better than our old computers. Alex
- Tux Paint, because it is fun. Amy
- Tux Paint, because it has fun stamps. Jayde

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**Did you know..?**

Did you know that a group of frogs is called an ‘army’? (A group of toads is called a ‘knot’.)

**“Set Your Sights High”**
Play Centre News

Yesterday Play Centre Mum’s, Dad’s and children were kindly invited into the Junior Primary class. Mrs Scott and her students made us feel extremely welcome and had a huge variety of activities set out to explore and experience.

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea is one of Australia’s best-loved fundraising events, and plays a vital role in raising money towards Cancer Council’s work in research, prevention and support. Spalding Play Centre will be hosting a biggest morning tea on Wednesday 30th May, from 10am. Please come along and support this with us. If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation towards the cancer council feel free to drop your donation off at the school.

Trish from CAFHS will be visiting Play Centre on Wednesday May 30th.

Kate Harper from Wooden Toy factory will be at Play Centre on Wednesday 6th, June from 10-12pm. She will have wooden toys on display for purchase.

“Set Your Sights High”