

# Solomontown Primary School

Respect

Responsibility

Confidence

Persistence



We have just been reviewing our Phonics results. These are the sounds associated with groups of letters. Knowing these sounds allows us to read and understand how things may be spelt. Our Junior Primary teachers have been working hard with Jolly Phonics, decodable readers and Heggerty to improve our results. I am pleased to announce all this hard work has paid off and we have seen a positive improvement in our results with most children at the level they need to be. We need to make sure all our students attend school as much as possible when they are well as most of the children who still need to improve have had long absences from school.

If you are having trouble getting your child to school please contact your student's teacher, Noeline Gapp our Wellbeing Leader or Tash Blad from our Aboriginal support team to see how they can help.

Speaking of reading, Book Week was fantastic with lots of exciting activities happening through the week culminating with our dress up Book Week parade. There were lots of fantastic costumes that represented many books. Some young children were surprised to learn that many films start as books or graphic novels that get adapted for the screen. So if you find a movie you like you may be able to find the book it was adapted from to see which you like better.

The student free day (Berry Street Training) was a great learning opportunity for our staff to better understand how to support students who may be suffering from the effects of trauma. Trauma can be triggered from many different sources such as moving, the loss of a pet or loved one, family breakdown and the list goes on. By supporting and understanding our students we have a much better chance to help them learn and prepare them for life after school.

Unfortunately as you are aware I had my second heart attack at the start of this year. I did not want to just abandon the school when that happened as I feel it is a great place and we (the whole school community) are working hard to improve the school, looking for better ways to support your children. It is now time for me to step away from being a principal at the end of this year. There will be a process to find a replacement for me that will start shortly. It was my intention to see my contract through but now that is not possible.

It will be all good,

Roy Winther



## Solomontown Primary School

P: 0886 32 2191

M: 0434070535

E: [dl.0406.admin@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0406.admin@schools.sa.edu.au)

A: 79 Three Chain Road, SA, 5540

W: <http://www.sollyr7.sa.edu.au/>

Follow us on **FACEBOOK**

@SolomontownPrimarySchool

**Principal**

**Roy Winther**

**Deputy Principal**

**Katina Athanasos**

**Wellbeing Leader**

**Noeline Gapp**

Term 3 2021

Pirie Partnership

Solomontown Primary School



A Proud Past, A Bright Future



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Department for Education

## R U OK?

Dear Parents/Carers,

on Thursday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of September we will celebrate R U OK? Day. This is a day where we ask our friends and family R U OK?

R U OK?'s vision is a world where we're all connected and are protected from suicide.

R U OK?'s mission is to inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone struggling with life.

### Our goals are to:

1. Boost our confidence to meaningfully connect and ask about life's ups and downs
2. Nurture our sense of responsibility to regularly connect and support others
3. Strengthen our sense of belonging because we know people are there for us
4. Be relevant, strong and dynamic.

You don't need to be an expert to reach out - just a good friend and a great listener.

Use these four steps and have a conversation that could change a life:

1. Ask R U OK?
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in.

By inspiring people to take the time to ask "Are you OK?" and listen, we can help people struggling with life and feel connected long before they even think about suicide. It all comes down to regular, face-to-face, meaningful conversations about life and asking "Are you OK?" is a great place to start. So let's implement R U OK? everyday!

You may be wondering why there is a dead tree painted blue in the front of our school.

"A young man called Jayden aged 29 and his friend snuck out in the middle of the night with paintbrushes and blue paint to paint a dead tree blue as a way to tease his father. Jayden had been suffering with depression and on November 12, 2018 he took his own life. After his death his friend started to paint lots of dead trees blue as a way to remember his friend. Eventually the painted blue tree took on a new purpose: "Spread the paint and spread the message that it's OK to not be OK." The blue tree is a symbol for hope and that you can talk to somebody, breaking down the stigma for mental illness." Now there are dead trees painted blue all over the Australian country side. So these grieving residents of a small town in WA's Wheatbelt have turned a tale of tragedy into a powerful message of hope, with just a few licks of blue paint.

### If you or someone you know needs help, call:

- [Emergency on 000](#) (or 112 from a mobile phone)
- [Lifeline](#) on 13 11 14
- [Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service](#) 1800 011 046
- [Kids Helpline](#) on 1800 551 800
- [MensLine Australia](#) on 1300 789 978
- [Suicide Call Back Service](#) on 1300 659 467
- [Beyond Blue](#) on 1300 22 46 36
- [Headspace](#) on 1800 650 890

Cheers  
Mrs Gapp  
Student Wellbeing Leader

# Science Week

Science week was celebrated in week 6. A science quiz was sent to all students during the week and there were numerous responses, most of which were correct. On Friday students were split into 6 groups with a combination of F - 6 students in each group. The groups participated in 3 of 6 experiments. These experiments included:

- \* Running colours
- \* Making ooblek (a substance that changes between a solid and a liquid)
- \* Mentos and coke
- \* Making whizz fizz
- \* Construction with marshmallow and pasta



# BOOK Week 2021



# SAPSASA Tennis carnival

I really enjoyed the tennis carnival . I got to use my Poppy's old tennis racket it helped me hit the ball better. I liked how we got to meet new people from other schools around Port Pirie.

**By Charlie**

Last week we participated in the SAPSASA tennis carnival. we had loads of fun playing against other schools from Port Pirie. We also got to play against some of the students from Solly. It was the best day and we cant wait to do it again if we get the chance.

**By Blake and Erzabet**

The tennis carnival was a good fun day. I got to play tennis against one of my friends who moved to another school. We spent the whole day at the tennis courts.

**By Chase**





## From our Pastoral Care Worker

I am always encouraged to see the generosity from our school community to support each other. My role is to provide ongoing support and care to all members of our school community. I am always available to meet with you at school or I can contact you by phone to support you through any situation. If you need help or require assistance, please contact me at school or leave a message with the front office staff or email me on [avril.luke249@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:avril.luke249@schools.sa.edu.au). Students can contact me by sending a message via their class teacher, SSO or the front office staff.

A couple of weeks ago we acknowledged the SSOs in our school. We appreciate the many ways they support our teachers and students and their families. I was touched to receive a gift from a teacher.

We all help others in some way or another, whether it is volunteering at breakfast club, a school or community event, opening or holding a door, helping a friend or being part of a school community group or sport committee. It makes people feel good to be able to help, no matter whether it is big or small. I see the way people help out in so many ways; sometimes people do it without even realising. The recipient is always appreciative of the kindness.

Thank you to the donors who have given us home grown fruit. This is given to our students at breakfast club.

May I encourage each one of you to do an 'Act of Kindness' for a friend or even a total stranger? I'm sure that your heart will be rewarded and you will go away with a smile on your face. This is a quote that I recently read. "Helping is helping, even when it feels like a drop in the ocean".

I look forward to assisting you in whatever way I can.

Avril Luke  
Pastoral Care Worker  
Solomontown Primary School

## Breakfast Club volunteers needed

**We urgently need adult volunteers to assist on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.**

- ⇒ Volunteering at school breakfast club is a rewarding way to lay an active role in supporting our students and our school.
- ⇒ All volunteers are required to have a 'Working with Children' check. This can be organised through the school.

Please contact Avril Luke if you require more information, or leave your contact details with the front office staff.

## Sports Day lunch orders

**Sports day lunch order forms are being sent home today. Please note that there are 2 separate order forms. Families can place an order, but this must be on a separate form to the students. Orders, with money can be returned NO LATER than Friday 10th September. Drinks will be sold on the day.**

**Sports Day is on Tuesday 14th September.**

## Reading at Home Challenge

The importance of reading at home cannot be stressed enough, reading every day has a huge impact on every child's learning. To help encourage each student to be willing to read, Solly Primary have come up with some incentives for children to read at home.

Each child has been given a 'Reading Log' book to have a parent or an older person record when they read at home.

The reading will have milestones and children will be rewarded after reading 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150 etc. (listed below).

We ask that you are diligent in filling out the log books and only fill it in if your child/children have read to you. You do not have to be reminded that by filling in the log if the student have not done the reading only cheats your child of a better education. We all know that the only way to improve in life is to practice.

The reading should only take 5-10 minutes of your time every day. This is quality time with your child and a time of memory making. You will need to watch and listen to ensure they are reading the words on the page and not guessing them, then assist with any challenging words they may come across.

As a staff we hope that every child will be more motivated to practice their reading every day.

Reading stickers	Reading reward
25 stickers	Certificate and a sticker
50 stickers	Certificate and a novelty pen
75 stickers	Certificate and a zooper dooper
100 stickers	Certificate and a canteen item

## Week 8 Canteen lunch special

Hot Chips with Tomato or BBQ Sauce

plus a bottle of Water or Chocolate or Strawberry Milk

### Wandearah Cricket Club

Junior Registration and Training

Junior Blast (U7's), Master Blast (10's), 13s  
and 16s

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September

4pm – 5pm

Port Oval nets

**New and current players welcome**

Come and have a go  
BBQ sausage sizzle to follow  
For more information  
Contact 0400 081 278



### Solomontown North Cricket Club

**Registration Night  
& Come and Try**



On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of September, at 4pm - 5pm

At Pirie West Oval Cricket Nets

For players aged 5 - 16

Please contact Kyra Court on 0415640577