Greetings,

It’s hard to believe that the end of the term is almost upon us. We’ve packed a lot of learning and fun into this term, and I think we’ll all be ready for a well-deserved break! Next week, we’re looking forward to welcoming Lachlan Pickering, who will be joining us for work experience. He will be based mostly in Mrs Robert’s classroom, but I’m sure Miss Barton will have a few things for him to do as well. Also happening next week is a visit from the Royal Australian Air Force! A number of personnel will be coming to the school on Tuesday, firstly to talk to our students about the RAAF, and let them have a look at their 4 wheel drives. Then after lunch, they are going to give us some much needed assistance in tidying up our garden areas. In addition, we will be having School Pride again on Monday, and Assembly on Friday – an action packed week! I will be going on 3 weeks leave from that Friday, but I know I am leaving the school in the capable hands of Mrs Jacob, the teachers and other staff. If you have any queries during that time, please call Sue Jacob, and she will refer you to the appropriate person.

PORTFOLIOS
As part of our reporting schedule, we will be sending home portfolios of your children’s work over the past term, as we did at the end of term 1. If you have not returned your child’s portfolio folder from first term, could you please send it back in ASAP, so that we can use it again.

SCHOOL CAMP
Excitement is building for the school camp! Everyone is looking forward to a fantastic few days of challenging activities and building friendships. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Roberts. We want this camp to be a positive experience for everyone.

MALLEE MARKET
The Year 6 boys have decided to enter a stall in the Mallee Market, held at Sherlock on Saturday the 27th September, between 8am and 1pm. They are working hard to raise money for some outdoor fitness equipment to install in our playground. They would love it if you could give them a hand. Further details on how you can are outlined later in the newsletter.

SAPSASA
Congratulations to the students who have been selected in the SAPSASA athletics in Adelaide: Joe Howard, Tom Barrett and Olivia Howard. They are hard at training, and we wish them every success.
PEDAL PRIX
Two of our Year 6 boys will be participating in the 24 hour HPV Pedal Prix Event in Murray Bridge, Beau Judd and Trent Stephenson. We wish them a great weekend.

DECD have recently published their strategic plan for 2014 – 2017. This plan outlines the long-term strategic direction for the department, and the improvements it plans to deliver over the next four years. In his introduction to the plan, Tony Harrison, the Chief Executive said the following:

“The key actions in this plan are real commitments we are making to ourselves and the community. We will measure our performance and publicly report on our progress.
This plan will guide us. It sets our goals and gives us direction. But it is not for us. It is for every single South Australian child and young person so they have access to the quality education, health and family support they need and deserve.”

As members of our school community, we will all play a part in the implementation of these strategic directions. If you would like to read a copy of the Strategic Plan, please drop into the office, email me or give me a call.

Regards,

Ruth

Junior Primary News Update
On the Tuesday of Week 7, our class held a soft toy day as part of our Health curriculum for the term. We have been discussing Our Bodies and Our Feelings and students used their Soft Toys to practise safe actions and touching and discuss how our toys and people may feel in these different situations. After our lesson we held a Teddy Bear’s Picnic and enjoyed eating lunch, special snacks and cold milo’s with our toys. We hope our toys enjoyed their visit!

This week I received feedback from students about their experience with Maths in our class. Students have been thoroughly enjoying their Mental Computation, which is part of the first 10 minutes of each Math lesson. In the last few weeks our Mental Computation Games have included:

- Shaker Boxes
- Roll and Add (Number Bingo)
- Make 10 Memory and Snap

Here are some photos of students engaged in these activities:

In the last newsletter I mentioned our ‘Measurement’ investigations… The result from our inquiry of How Tall is the JP Class? Was…
We are 17m and 35 cm tall! Come in and see our measurements hanging in the corridor of the school!
Lorelle Barton

CPSW CORNER

Today was Pancake Day at Geranium and it always puts a smile on my face to see the children arrive at school to the aroma of hot pancakes! Thank you to the CPSW support group for helping to cook and serve the pancakes. It is greatly appreciated.

Over the last two weeks I have had lots of good conversations and fun times with your children in my role as CPSW at Geranium. I feel so privileged to share in their lives, in the good and the difficult times and to just be there for them in whatever way they need.

I recently heard a story about Thomas Edison. It was when he was working to create his new invention, the light bulb and it took a whole team of men working for months and months just to put one together. The story goes that when Edison’s team was finished with the very first light bulb prototype, he gave it to a young boy to carry upstairs. Step by step he carefully carried it afraid that he might drop this priceless piece of work. You can probably guess what happened; the poor boy dropped the bulb at the top of the stairs. It took the team of men ten months to make another bulb. You might consider Thomas Edison a little crazy but when his second precious light bulb prototype was ready to be carried upstairs, he gave it to the same young boy who dropped the first one. Thomas Edison could have dismissed the boy and never allowed him to touch his precious invention again for fear that he would break it. But Thomas understood that giving that boy a second chance and an opportunity to learn
from his mistakes was even more important than his precious light bulb. A powerful lesson for all of us!
I’m so grateful for “second chances” in my life. My hope is that we, in the community of Geranium Primary School, will be willing to offer a second chance to those around us.
I keep all staff and families of Geranium Primary School in my prayers.

Margaret Smith
Christian Pastoral Support worker

SCHOOL CAMP
Please remember to get your child/ren’s forms back to school as quickly as you can. While this camp is more costly than some in the past, the programme is fully catered for, and is delivered by trained personnel, providing some great opportunities for physical challenge and social networking. If the cost is a difficulty for you, please contact either Sue or myself, as in no way do we want the cost to prevent your child/ren from attending.

LOST PROPERTY
We are finding a lot of jumpers being left around the school and in lockers, and often we can’t identify who they belong to. Please feel free to pop in and check the lost property box!

Please mark your child’s clothes.

All lost property will be put in the second hand cupboard at the end of term if not claimed.

CRICKET CLINIC
On Tuesday, 3 men came from Adelaide for a cricket clinic. The Clinic went for an hour and a half. We did lots of awesome drills and it was great fun!! Thank you to SA Cricket.
By Joe and Trent

GARDEN SHED
On Thursday, the year 6 boys helped Mr Turner build a shed to put the garden tools in. We had to move the shed from over by the kindy and put it together. It is now against the fence in the vegie garden and we are already using it.
By Tyson and Beau

MALLEE MARKET
Sherlock Community Centre
Saturday, September 27th
8am – 1pm
Egg and bacon rolls, pancakes and various stalls
For more details contact:
Marie on 0448 664 233

PARENTS & FRIENDS
The next meeting of the Geranium P.S Parents and Friends will be held on Friday the 19th September after assembly.
ADVANCE NOTICE
RAN TRAINING WORKSHOP
AT SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
7–8PM
OR
THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER
2–3PM

SHERLOCK - Mallee Market Day
Date: Saturday 27th September
Time: Set up from 7am, open 8am – 1pm
The Year 6 boys have decided they would like to have a stall at the Mallee Market, as a fundraiser for our fitness equipment, which we hope to move towards purchasing next term. Unfortunately, I won’t be able to attend on that Saturday, but Kathryn Roberts has volunteered to oversee the stall on the day. I will work with the boys in preparing items for the stall in the next two weeks.

If you can help out with any donations for the stall, and / or assistance with manning the stall throughout the morning, please fill in the tear off slip.

Name: ____________________________
I can help with donations of:
...........................................
...........................................
...........................................
I can help man the stall between the times of:
□ 7 – 8am (set-up)
□ 8 – 9am
□ 9 – 10am
□ 10 – 11am
□ 11 – 12pm
□ 12 – 1pm
□ 1pm – 2pm (pack-up)

Vegetable Garden Update
We have made steady progress in the Vegetable Garden and enjoyed gardening in beautiful weather at our last School Pride Session. The older students in the Veggie Garden have been working on paving the entrance to our garden and we have all been busy planting more crops to fill up all our planter boxes. It has been very exciting over the last few weeks to watch some of our crops shoot up with the change in weather and we are hoping that we will be able to pick this produce, ready for eating, soon. We are also very lucky to have had the help from Mr. Turner and the Year 6 boys who constructed a tool shed in our garden this week. If you are interested in participating in the Vegetable Garden in our next school pride session (Monday Week 9), please contact the school ASAP – we would love your assistance!
Lorelle Barton

Concert Update
Time is moving quickly and concert preparations are in full swing. The Kindy and School students have been busy rehearsing their lines, dances and songs to put together their sections for the concert. Within the next week a note will be coming home with students to let you know their characters and what they might need for their costumes. If you have any Jungle themed costumes or props lying around, we would love to hear from you.
A big thankyou to those who have helped in any way, shape or form so far!
Lorelle Barton
A reminder that the Coonalpyn & District Show is

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 18TH 2014**

The show is asking for tenders from community groups to provide tea and snacks for the **FREE TWILIGHT FAMILY MOVIE**
Sponsored by Coorong District Council

Catering for families from 4.30pm to 9.00pm

Enquiries: Trade Convenors Rachel Neumann and Terecia Page
Ph RN: 0409 671 495 Email: rjbal@internode.on.net Ph TP: 0427 182 730

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**GERANIUM PANTHERS BASKETBALL – JUNIOR TEAM**

At our AGM it was confirmed that Geranium Panthers have a Junior team for the 2014 – 2015 season. The basketball season runs from mid/end October to mid March, with a long break over the Christmas holidays. Matches are held on Mondays or Wednesdays and played at Geranium, Lameroo and Parilla. Lorelle Barton will be coaching the Junior team and running some after school training **ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON** starting Week 9 with the children being able to travel home on buses. If you are keen for your child to play or know of children in the district who would be keen – who are in year 3-7, further details available from Penny Temby Secretary 85773591 or Denise Stephenson President 85772203

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**61 CIRCUS ACTS IN 60 MINUTES**

Roll up, roll up, the circus is coming! Witness an astounding range of acts as acrobats race against the clock, juggling, balancing and tumbling with touches of magic, humour and surprise. You’ll laugh, cheer and be amazed by what the human body can do in 61 Circus Acts in 60 Minutes. 61 Circus Acts in 60 Minutes will be touring the Mallee in September. The circus performance will be visiting Lameroo Memorial Hall on September 15 at 7pm. To book tickets drop into IGA Traders, 48 Railway Terrace North. Ticket prices are adults $25, group (6+) $22 and under 17 $15.
**KIDS CLUB**
The next Kids club will be on Friday 12th September

**KIDS CLUB CAMP**
Saturday October 11th – 12th @ Berling’s Carriage
24 hours of fun!!!
More details coming.
Contact person: David Smith 85772216
Forms will be available soon from Margaret Smith

YOGA
Are you interested in doing yoga, we have an instructor coming to Geranium fortnightly on Mondays for an 1 ½ hour. Next session is on Monday 29th September in Gym room 2 from 6.30 – 8.00pm.
Any queries to Tanja 85771651 or Heather 85771653

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by volunteering to host one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2015 for their 3, 5, or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan and USA will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceau@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
*****SCHOOL HAPPENINGS*****

OLD TAILEM TOWN

SAPSASA ATHLETIC TRY OUTS

SUPER CRICKET CLINIC

PANCAKE MORNING TEA & BRUNCH