Greetings:

I recently attended a two day conference with all of the school Principals and Kindergarten Directors in the Coorong Mallee, Tatiara Wrattonbully and Murraylands Partnerships. It was a great time to meet and realise that there are a lot of things we have in common! One of our speakers, Martin Westwell, spoke to us about getting our students thinking. He talked about google-able and ungoogleable questions. Google-able questions are those where the answer can be found on Google. The most powerful questions however, are ungoogle-able — where the answer can’t be found on Google. It is these kind of questions that push our students to think deeply - questions that begin with ‘what if’ ‘why would you’, ‘what do you think’ ‘how could you’ etc. These kinds of questions are more engaging, and more equitable – all students can come up with a response. How about asking ungoogle-able questions at home!

TIQBIZ

We sent out a letter regarding our trial of the communication app ‘tiqbiz’ earlier this week. This will allow us to communicate with you in a much more direct and immediate way. Tiqbiz can be downloaded onto your smart phone, tablet or computer. So far, we have had 4 families join up. Ideally, we would love every family to join, but we are aiming for at least 75%. Hopefully we can meet this target!

FARM FAIR

Our stall at the Karoonda Farm Fair seems to have been quite a success — a huge thank you to all those who volunteered and helped ordering, packing bags, set up, pack up and serve on the two days. A fantastic communal effort! I particularly enjoyed my time on the drinks stall with Brayden!

This is our last newsletter for term 1. Have a wonderful break, and look for opportunities to do lots of deep thinking!

Regards,

Ruth

Diary Dates

Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues/ Wed</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 th</td>
<td>MUP Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 th</td>
<td>Term 1 finishes.</td>
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</tbody>
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Early departure 2.15 pm

Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 10 th</td>
<td>Pupil Free day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13 th</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 20 th-</td>
<td>Wed 22 nd Jun Camp at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warradale</td>
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</tbody>
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TERM DATES 2016

| Term 1   | 1 st Feb - 15 th Apr 2016 |
|----------------------------|
| Term 2   | 2 nd May - 8 th Jul 2016  |
| Term 3   | 25 th Jul - 30 th Sep 2016|
| Term 4   | 17 th Oct - 16 th Dec 2016|
REMINDER
Friday 15th April
End of Term 1
Early dismissal – 2:15pm

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Our parent teacher interviews will be occurring on Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 11, the 12th and 13th of April. These are an important way for you to have some time with your child/ren’s teacher and discuss important issues and concerns. Students can be a part of these interviews if the parents would like them to be. Please call Sue in the front office to book a time.

CARROTS and TOMATOES!
We still have quite a crop of carrots and tomatoes in our vegetable garden, and we haven’t been able to harvest them all. It would be great if someone could pick some, peel and dice, and put them in a ziplock bag so we can freeze them to use in soup or casseroles later in the year. Please let us know if you might be able to help.

Our Excursion to the Riverglades Wetlands at Murray Bridge
On Tuesday the whole school went on an excursion to visit the Riverglades Wetlands in Murray Bridge. We also got to stop at Tailem Bend and have a nice picnic lunch and play.

MUP CLASS UPDATE
Since our excursion the MUP class have continued some great learning about living things in Science. They carried out some research about the importance of wetlands as part of the environment and were shocked to learn that around two thirds of Australia’s wetlands have been altered or destroyed by development.

We have also been observing our three stick insects and were lucky to have one more egg hatch yesterday.

Children’s comments have been included below.

Regards

Kathryn

In this year’s book swap we made $58.48 that we can send to Mr and Mrs Morgan to help give books to the children in Cambodia.

Ben
Minister of Reading

On the excursion in Murray Bridge we took the bus to get to Murray Bridge and we went to the Wetlands and saw water bugs. Hayden
On the 5th of April 2016 the whole Geranium Primary had a science excursion to the Riverglades in Murray Bridge. After Harry showed us the Wetland he showed us how to test water in the Murray River. We got a scoop of water out of the river then we put it in a tube that has 3 squiggly lines at the bottom and we filled it up until we couldn’t see them. Luke

On the wetland excursion we learned about why wetlands are important to the environment and native animals. Oscar

At the wetlands we looked at the different birds with binoculars and looked at the different water bugs with a microscope. Matthew

I thought the trip to the wetlands was awesome. My favourite part was the geo-caching and the bug catching. Emelia

I found a fish. Tonisha

My favourite things were finding the geo-caches and finding water bugs. Sophie and I found two water boatmen. Tracey

I learnt about that wetlands can have bugs. Shianne

I really enjoyed doing the geo-cache because I got to write on the little note pad. Lilly

I enjoyed using the binoculars to look at plants and birds. Amy

We tested the water with a turbidity tube and I caught a yabby and I called him Brandon. Georgie

We did something called geo-caching where you have to look for little notes that tourists had hidden. My group only found one that was in a tree because we could not find the other one. Jasmine

The first thing that we did was look at the wetlands then we looked for water bugs. Jade

Junior Primary Class Update

Excursion to the Wetlands
When we got back from our excursion, the JP class had a great discussion about the things we learnt and saw. On Wednesday we also did a written reflection/recount on our trip. Here are some of the comments students made about what they learnt or enjoyed the most about our excursion:

- My most favourite was playing on the train. – Henry P
- I liked it the best when we went for a walk and I saw a yabby net in the water. - Charlie
- It was fun playing in and under the big train. – Henry W
- I liked seeing all the water bugs. – Sophie
- I really liked the doing the water bugs. – Declan
- I found out that some of the water bugs have legs. – Matilda
- I enjoyed the treasure hunt in the two teams. – Nate
- Geocaching! It was the “funnest” part! – Lucas
- I LOVED playing with my class around and under the train. I had fun fixing the engine and it kept breaking when I wasn’t there. – Claire
- I liked driving the train when we were playing and catching the bugs. – Ruby
- I like geocaching the best. I also liked when we looked down through the train to see people in our class working on it. – Bonnie

Thank you to all our helpers on the day! The other teachers, bus drivers, Harry and our class for making our bus ride up and back so much fun!

I look forward to seeing you all next week at our Parent Teacher Interviews to show you all the fantastic learning from this term.

Until next time, Miss Lorelle Barton
Pancake Breakfast
Tuesday 12th April
As buses arrive at school, all students and staff will be given a delicious pancake breakfast, supplied by the PCW Support Group. 😊

Well done to our fantastic school community for putting in such a huge effort for the Farm Fair Fundraiser. The Geranium Primary School flag was waving proudly and it was great to see the children helping so enthusiastically also.

Next Tuesday, April 12th, there will be a PANCAKE BREAKFAST supplied by the PCW Support Group. A nice way to celebrate the approaching holidays!

Next Wednesday, April 13th there will be “MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT” games at Lunch time organised by School Captains, Minister of Sports and some younger students. This will be loads of fun for the students!

I wonder who you consider to be truly GREAT..

Last night, I watched an interview with Dylan Alcott, a 24 year old Australian wheelchair basket-ball champion and wheelchair tennis World #1. Dylan has a fantastic outlook on life and doesn't wish that he was anything or anyone else. He loves his life and truly "goes for it" with passion and humour! I think Dylan is GREAT!

Greatness can be seen in many angles. It has been wisely said that greatness can be measured in the way that we show care for others.

“Your care for others is the measure of your greatness.” Luke 9 v 48

I hope that the fast approaching holidays are GREAT!

I continue to keep all staff and families of Geranium Primary School in my prayers,
Margaret Smith,
(Pastoral Care Worker)

GREAT ON LINE RESOURCES
FOR PARENTS

Parenting SA hosted two very successful parenting seminars at the Convention Centre over the last two nights. Feedback from parents, caregivers and professionals who attended the live events and those who viewed online was highly positive.

Both seminars are now available to view on-demand until Tuesday April 26th via the link: www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentingsa/seminars.htm

‘Toddlers and touchscreens: What should I do’ Dr Justin Coulson

‘Children, teens and pornography: What every parent should know’
Dr Justin Coulson
To ensure the safety of our students, cars must be parked in the bus bay and students walked into school. Right of way is to be given to the school buses at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Attached to this newsletter are the uniform items that can be purchased from LW Reid. Please advise Denise Stephenson (0417 087 445) by next Friday (15th April) if you would like to place an order.

Karoonda Farm Fair – Thank You!

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers from Parents and Friends, PCW group, Kindy and Playgroup, staff, school children and parents for a tremendous effort helping with the Farm Fair. It has been a great team effort and no small feat as we have been responsible for organising and staffing two stands with the drinks and stump trail. All the hard work is very much appreciated so thank you all.

We raised $1425 profit selling stump trail bags and have many sponsors to thank for generations donations. The profit from the drinks was on the low side compared to other years but still a very reasonable $700.85 profit. The total of $2125.85 has made Farm Fair another successful fundraiser and the money raised will directly benefit all kids at Geranium school.

Tanja Morgan

OUT OF THE BLUE

A play by Stig Wemyss presented by HealthPlay

Life can be tough in the bush, especially when you lose a mate to suicide

Out of the Blue tells a story about a group of men who get together at the local pub to pay tribute to a mate they have lost to suicide. This story is relevant to people everywhere and offers a powerful pathway to sharing, conversation, action and, hopefully change.

Guest panel will facilitate a community discussion after the play.

For more information please contact Centacare 08 8531 8888
www.centacare.org.au ~ find us on facebook

Talleen Town Hall April 3 ~ free sausage sizzle 5.30pm performance starts 6pm
Meningle Area School Hall April 4 ~ free sausage sizzle 5.30pm performance starts 7pm
Tintinara Soldiers Memorial Hall April 5 ~ free sausage sizzle 5pm performance starts 5.30pm
Meedows Memorial Hall April 6 ~ free sausage sizzle 6.30pm performance starts 7pm
Mt Berber Town Hall April 7 ~ free light lunch 12pm performance starts 12.30pm
* Suitable for adults and children aged 15yrs and over ~ Crèche available
The 5,6 & 7 class, under the guidance of Mrs Smith, will be setting up a canteen, on Thursdays in Term 2. To assist with the setting up we are asking families to help by ticking your child’s food preferences to complete the form below and returning to the school by Tuesday 12th April. All foods adhere to the “Right Bite Guidelines” for healthy eating.

Family Name__________________________________________

☐ Lasagna
☐ Macaroni Cheese
☐ Pizza Hawaiian
☐ Pizza Supreme
☐ Seasoned Wedges
☐ Meat Pie
☐ Pasty
☐ Sausage Roll

☐ Frozen Yoghurt

☐ Chocolate/Strawberry Milk
☐ Apple/Orange or Apple and Blackcurrant Fruit Boxes
☐ Sky Juice (Water)

☐ Seasonal Fruit
As part of the Geranium Parents and Friends Committee, we have recently made some adjustments to the items ordered from LW Reid for our School Uniform. While it is not compulsory for you to order through LW Reid, Geranium Primary School does have a uniform guideline stating that our colours are a Gold T-Shirt, Grey pants or Bottle Green pants/shorts/skort and a Bottle Green Jumper.

Below are the items available for order. A booklet with current prices will be kept at the front desk for you to look through if you wish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Twin Strip Polo Top Long or Short sleeve</th>
<th>Plain Polo Top Long or short sleeve</th>
<th>Roll Neck Skivvy</th>
<th>Fleecy Zip Jacket</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Twin Strip Polo Top" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Plain Polo Top" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Roll Neck Skivvy" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Fleecy Zip Jacket" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Half zip Polar Fleece Jumper</th>
<th>Rugby Top (New Addition)</th>
<th>Hoodie Pullover or Full Zip</th>
<th>Polar Fleece Vest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Half zip Polar Fleece Jumper" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Rugby Top" /></td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Hoodie Pullover or Full Zip" /></td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Polar Fleece Vest" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Dress</th>
<th>Skort</th>
<th>Box Pleat Shorts</th>
<th>Rugby Knit Shorts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image9" alt="School Dress" /></td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Skort" /></td>
<td><img src="image11" alt="Box Pleat Shorts" /></td>
<td><img src="image12" alt="Rugby Knit Shorts" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Straight leg Track Pants</th>
<th>Pants with Elastic Waist</th>
<th>Long Pants normal or double knee</th>
<th>Winter Skirt/Pinafore (hard to find – not LW Reid)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image13" alt="Straight leg Track Pants" /></td>
<td><img src="image14" alt="Pants with Elastic Waist" /></td>
<td><img src="image15" alt="Long Pants normal or double knee" /></td>
<td><img src="image16" alt="Winter Skirt/Pinafore" /></td>
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</tbody>
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*Please note* - If you currently have items of old school uniform that don’t match the above, please continue to use them, but please don’t pass them on to be used once out grown. We would like to phase these designs out over time. Thankyou