



# Tarlee Primary School

Craig Street, TARLEE. SA. 5411.

Ph: 85285301

Principal: Chris Turrell

email: dl.0430.info@schools.sa.edu.au

# Newsletter

Week 4 Term 1 Issue 2 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

## From the Classrooms

### Science

Over weeks 2, 3, and 4, Upper Primary students have been learning about the states of matter in Science (liquid, solid and gas). In week 3 students conducted an experiment using liquids and solids to determine if they could change its state by being heated or cooled. Students either investigated chocolate or liquid jelly. We found that when chocolate was heated, it melts into a liquid. It can also be turned back into a solid by cooling it. We also learnt liquid jelly turns into a solid when left to set in a fridge for 4 hours.



### Fun in the Sandpit

Our Woolworths Earn and Learn purchases arrived and 'The Smart Pancakes' were the first to be able to try out our new range of sandpit toys this week.



The students had a great time playing with the new trucks, loaders and

shovels and want to say a huge thankyou to all the parents and community members who sent stickers into the school for them to have these fantastic new toys.



### Dates to Remember

March	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri	LMN Swimming Carnival
12 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
30 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Good Friday
April	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	Easter Monday
13 <sup>th</sup> Fri	End Term 1 Early dismissal
2:15pm	

Current Attendance Percentage 94.1%

### Enclosed with this newsletter

- Swimming Carnival form
- Consent forms

## From the Principals Desk

### What is phonological awareness?

This is part of a best advise paper by Deslea Konza, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education and Arts, Edith Cowan University, Western Australia

Phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and phonics are now used widely in discussions about reading but they are often misunderstood. The terms phonological awareness and phonemic awareness are sometimes used synonymously even in academic literature, so it is not surprising that there is confusion about their precise meanings. Some people also confuse phonics with phonemic awareness. Although phonics depends on phonemic awareness, these terms do not mean the same thing.

Phonological awareness is a broad term, referring to the ability to focus on the sounds of speech as distinct from its meaning: on its intonation or rhythm; on the fact that certain words rhyme; and on the separate sounds. When children play with language by repeating syllables, they are demonstrating an awareness of the phonological element of rhyme.

Phonemic awareness is a subset of phonological awareness and is the most important phonological element for the development of reading and spelling. Phonemic awareness is the ability to focus on the separate, individual sounds in words, the phonemes. 'Phonemes are the smallest unit of sound that make a difference to a word's meaning' (Armbruster et al, 2003, p.2). Thus if you change the first phoneme in the word man from /m/ to /p/, you change the word from man to pan.

Phonemic awareness is a prerequisite for learning an alphabetic code: if children cannot hear the separate sounds in words (and certain English sounds do not exist in some other languages, so this can be problematic for children for whom English is not their first language), they cannot relate these sounds to the letters of the alphabet and so cannot use decoding skills to analyse unknown words.

Phonics refers to the relationship between individual sounds (phonemes) and the letters

that represent them (graphemes). A phoneme is often represented by a single letter, but can be represented by two letters (*th* or *ck*), by three letters (*igh* in the word *high*) and even by four letters (*ough* in the word *although*). Phonics is also the term often used to describe the teaching of letter-sound relationships.

## From the Playgroup

Playgroup started again this week with some great activities.

Motion and action toys for action and reaction recognition.

Slide and tunnel for gross motor skills.

Drawing and play dough for fine motor skill.

A great book called 'Over In The Meadow' and singing counting songs for numeracy, literacy and vocabulary growth.

'The Smart Pancakes' joined us and all children had a great time learning and playing together.

If you know anyone with preschool aged children please let them know that they are welcome to come along and join in our



9:15am Thursday mornings  
during the school term.

Please bring your preschool aged children and join us for a fun filled morning of play based learning activities with your child/ren

# Swimming

In week three of this term, students took part in swimming lessons at Riverton swimming pool. Students learnt all types of skills in the water.

Junior Primary students learnt how to jump safely into the water with a life jacket on, find objects underwater while holding their breath, floating on top of the water and kicking their feet to move forwards.

The Upper Primary students learnt how to duck dive, tread water, keep their head above water while jumping in and many different swimming styles. The students had a great time in the pool learning these skills.

## JP Swimming comments

- I liked picking up the toys and diving in.
- I liked jumping into the really deep end.
- I liked doing the freestyle swimming.
- I liked diving in.
- I liked getting into the big pool, floating and almost getting my head under the water.



## Message from Tracey

### Pastoral Care Worker

What a great start to the year it has been, already week 4, so much excitement and activity. I trust all families and staff enjoyed the holidays. It is always good to be back at school, a special welcome to all our reception students and new students. I have noticed how well the students have settled down to begin their learning, those who have adapted to moving to the upper primary class too.

During week one I began morning toast before the bell rings, I will be cooking toast on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, thank you to Tarlee Uniting Church for funding this breakfast program. I have been visiting the classrooms, listening to reading, hearing student news and events. I help out at teacher direction wherever I can. It is a pleasure to work with the students.

Week 3 I went along to the swimming lessons in Riverton, unfortunately it was a little cooler but the students did really well enjoying learning water safety and swimming skills. I also cooked pancakes for the students which they enjoyed. This week I attended Wellbeing and Resilience Training by SAMHRI in Balaklava on Monday and Tuesday evening.

Playgroup and parent coffee morning resumes this week, come along to our family friendly group, let me know if you have any ideas for guest speakers to visit us this year.

I will be at school each Wednesday and Thursday until 1PM, if I can be of any assistance to you or your children please let me know.

Have a great fortnight  
Kindest regards Tracey.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

