It has been a wonderful start to the school year so far! The students have settled into routines well and there is lots of great learning happening in classrooms. We have had a whole school focus on our five values at Barmera Primary School and have been learning about the school values of respect, friendship, feeling safe, continuous learning and building social skills.

Communication between school and home is very important to us here at Barmera Primary. Please feel free to visit your child’s classroom and make contact with your child’s teacher. Teachers will be making contact with you over the next few weeks. If you have concerns or wish to discuss your child’s progress, please contact the school and make an appointment with your child’s teacher. We look forward to working with you in the education of your child/ren.

You are cordially invited to attend the Parent Acquaintance – Meet and Greet Night here at the school on Wednesday 1 March 2017 from 5.45pm. Classrooms will be open for you to meet with your child’s teacher and discuss classroom expectations and some support at home strategies. This will be followed by a free barbecue for the whole family from 6.15pm. We welcome you to the Annual General Meeting of Governing Council at 7pm. Governing Council is an important body in setting the direction of the school. Please consider attending. A crèche will be available in the Resource Centre for the AGM only. I look forward to meeting with you all!

Hats Just a reminder that students need to wear wide brimmed hats, which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside eg sport, sports carnivals, outdoor excursions, activities, recess and lunch in Terms 1 and Term 4. Children who do not wear their hats in the school grounds will need to sit under shady areas.

Swimming is occurring at the Berri pool in Weeks 4 and 8 of the term. In South Australia swimming is a required program for all primary school students from Reception to Year 5. Our Years 6 and 7 students participate in the one day Aquatics program at Lake Bonney. Please see the events calendar to check your child’s swimming week/ Class teachers will send out more information for you.

Individual Learning Plans (ILP) are an important part of your child/ren’s learning. An Individual Learning Plan is an agreed learning plan with the teacher, student and parents working together to set challenging yet achievable literacy, numeracy and other educational goals. These goals form a large part of the learning within classrooms and are reviewed regularly. Students are familiar with their goals and the plan provides teachers, students and parents with the opportunity to celebrate success and monitor progress. Teachers are currently working on these plans and will keep you informed.

Have a great week!

Natasha

Next edition of our newsletter will be published on Wednesday 1st March
Please have articles to Joy in the Front Office by Monday 27th February
Hi everyone,

Wow, week 3 already! I hope you have had a positive start to this year. In life we will come across many challenges and difficulties. Every day we are faced with choices. One of the best things a parent can give their children is a healthy attitude to living. Optimism is being able to expect the best out of life’s experiences. It means having hope and a strong belief and confidence to deal with situations. Teaching your child to build an optimistic outlook costs nothing but is good life insurance.

Optimists are people who refuse to feel helpless and don’t give up when faced with seemingly impossible problems. They expect to succeed and remain positive.

Some ways to help your child to have an optimistic outlook:

Be a good model. Let your children hear how you make sense of a situation and share your positive thoughts.

Re-phrase what your child says. Say things or use different words to make more positive sense out of a situation.

Tell your own stories of overcoming hardships.

Use stories and videos to inspire – Mighty Ducks, The Lion King, Mulan, Ratatouille, Kung Fu Panda and Turbo (to name a few).

Give encouragement.

Remember and tell some of the old sayings: “If at first you don’t succeed – try, try again” and “Every cloud has a silver lining.”

Draw your child’s attention to media and highlight public figures or winning teams who have overcome hardship.

A good website on this topic is the Child and Youth Health website: www.cyh.com

I hope this is helpful. If you would like to see me, call the front office to make an appointment or come in on a Tuesday or Wednesday when I am at school. I hope you have a great week!

Best wishes,
Erin Harrald
Come support Cobdogla Football Club

Held Saturday March 11th 8:30 start
$10.00 a car if you would like a stall
please contact Tracy on 0427 718 064
Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics.

Call now for an appointment.
Your clinic is: Riverland Oral Health Centre
Phone: 8580 2700