**Principal’s Piece**

**Student Free Day Friday June 10th.**

This Friday is our Berri Barmera Partnership Student Free Day. Our Junior Primary teachers are travelling to Nichols Point Primary School in Mildura to observe and study their Reading and Writing teaching and learning strategies. This school, which is very similar to ours, has a very high rate of Literacy progress for all students. One reason for this is that their students are trained to monitor and track their own learning in reading and writing. So they are not only learning reading and writing skills but are also developing their own understanding of themselves as learners, setting their own achievable goals and recognising what their challenges are and how to work through them – taking responsibility for themselves as learners. From this example our teachers will be able to build on the work they are doing in this area of learning with our own students.

Our primary teachers will be at a Workshop with other Berri Barmera Partnership teachers. This workshop will further develop and build their skills, enabling them to use a coaching framework with colleagues, providing feedback to each other after they have observed each other teaching. All teachers in our schools identify their level of teaching skills against the Australian Standards for teachers and use this to continually improve their teaching practices.

**Our School grounds**

Our Grounds staff work hard to maintain our grounds in a very good condition. One thing that makes their job difficult and spoils the look of our school is the rubbish which we are noticing on the oval and around the buildings. Much of this is plastic and wrappers from recess and lunch food. We do appreciate that many children do make the effort to put their wrappers etc into the many bins we have around the school. However, some do not make this effort. One way to alleviate this is to get children to take home any wrappers and bags in which their food is wrapped – rather than placing it in bins at school. This happens in many schools and preschools including our own Kindergarten. Staff discussed this process and agreed that it could make a big difference to the rubbish around the school. The idea will now be taken to our SRC group to consider.

**Staying warm!**

It’s now wintery and cold so please ensure that your child is wearing a warm winter uniform – all of which is available through our school uniform shop. Great to see so many children in the new style school jacket! Please name your child’s clothing – we still get lots of unclaimed lost clothing – some quite new.

PE clothing—Martin Barber (PE) and I have talked about children wearing suitable clothing for PE. Please ask your child when their PE day is and ensure that they are dressed in clothing that enables them to move, run, jump etc. Skirts or short denim shorts are obviously NOT appropriate clothing for PE lessons.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>6th June—14th June</td>
<td>MONSTER BOOK FAIR in Barmera School Library 8:30am-9:30am &amp; 3:20pm-4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 10th June</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13th June</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Mon 27th June</td>
<td>Governing Council Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 7th July</td>
<td>SAPSASA Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 8th July</td>
<td>SPORTS DAY</td>
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Next edition of our newsletter will be published on Wednesday 22nd June 2016

Please have articles to Joy in the Front Office by Monday 20th June 2016

e-mail : dl.0506.info@schools.sa.edu.au | web: www.barmeraps.sa.edu.au | fb : facebook.com/barmeraps
Miss Dalby & Mrs Smart’s class made some paperbark art for Reconciliation Week.

Marie showed the children in Ms John/Gobbett’s class how to draw Aboriginal Markings. They then painted these onto rocks.

Reconciliation is about Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians talking, walking and working together to overcome the reasons that there is division and inequality between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians.
My Dad made the snake with his tools. He carved the snake around the stick.

Jimmy James made the Boomerang down by the river.

By Janiquha Cook

The snake is a tool to get bush tucker in the bush. The top part of the snake is to hit the bush to get the bush tucker out of the bush.

The boomerang is a wood tool to get kangaroo for the Aboriginals to eat in the bush. In the bush, at night, they have a fire to cook their meat.
On our recent student free day, the whole staff looked at our Wellbeing component of the Site Progress Plan. One of the suggestions was to use a whole school approach to teaching social and emotional skills. Social and emotional skills include helping students to get along with other people, making good decisions in life and managing our own emotions and behaviours. It was decided by all staff to concentrate on one of the school values each term. This term we are focussing on respect. This includes:

😊 Respect for others and their feelings/ empathy
😊 Respect for self
😊 Respect for property
😊 Respect for the school
😊 Respect for the local community
😊 Respect for the global community

Many classes have been doing a variety of ‘respect’ activities within their classroom—allowing opportunities for children to display respect towards others and reinforce their learning.

Mrs. Fielke/ Mrs Smyths class have made ‘Respect Flowers’- writing statements about their understanding of respect on flowers.

The following excerpts are from the Kidsmatter resources. This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff.

View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Valuing others means seeing differences as something positive. It means trying to understand how others think and feel, and knowing that this helps you as well as them.

Encourage empathy and respect for others

Teach children to listen to and understand the needs and concerns of the other person. Help them to ask why the other person wants something and consider what it might be like to be ‘in their shoes’. Learning to understand the other person’s perspective is a critical foundation for conflict resolution and for building positive relationships.

How parents and carers can help

Research has found that the examples shown by caring adults have a big influence on children’s empathy. Parents and carers (as well as school staff) can also foster empathy by promoting values of caring and compassion and coaching children to be kind and thoughtful towards others.

• Model empathy by tuning into children’s feelings (eg “Ouch! That must have hurt,” or “You must be feeling disappointed that your friend can’t come over”).
• Help children think about how feelings affect other people (eg “How do you think your friend might be feeling?”).
• Help children develop skills for understanding other people’s points of view by discussing the effects of discrimination and the importance of respectful and caring attitudes towards everybody.
• Talk about situations that involve empathy (eg “What I liked about the story was how kind the hero was,” or “That was a mean thing to do. Don’t you think she should have helped her friend?”).
• Notice when children are kind and let them know you value their behaviour (eg “That was a very thoughtful thing to do. I really appreciate it!”).
CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

When somebody commits a crime, the CSI are the first to investigate the crime scene. Senior Constable John Hyson talked to us about tool marks, DNA, fingerprints and shoe prints. He showed us some photos of crime scenes and how the criminals went wrong. One of the coolest things was when he showed us this black powder. It’s used to show fingerprints better. The best thing he showed us was a picture of a teddy bear bomb but the bad thing about it was that it started a bush fire.

By Jayden Hedley

Senior Constable John Hyson is a crime scene investigator and a policeman. Today he came to our school and talked to us about his job. My favourite thing that he does is investigates the things that get broken into or stolen.

He looks for evidence like footprints, fingerprints, tool marks, DNA, clothing and weapons. He made a slide show about some of the crimes he had been to. They have a special powder that they put on fingerprints to make them show up clearer. The black powder is if the fingerprints are on lighter things and the white powders if fingerprints are on darker things. They had containers that they put things in, green was for blood, red was for drugs.

If they find some evidence, they send it away to see who it is. It comes back in about 1 week.

By Aiden Scordo
FAB FIVE WINNERS
At our last assembly the following names were drawn out of the “Green Card” Box. They have all won a $2 voucher for the school canteen.

Congratulations to:
Shaya Whitbourne, Stasi Efstratiou, Robert Randall, Soren Warnett, Macy Bourton

ATTENDANCE AWARDS
The following names were drawn out of the “Gold Star Award” Box at our last assembly. They have all won a $2 voucher to use in our school canteen.

Congratulations to:
- Brooke Winen
- Ocea Higginson
- Damien Gates
- Gurmanpreet Kaur
- Elise Heppner

Congratulations to the following students on receiving an award at last weeks assembly.

Cody, Emily, Lateeya, Alexis, Tayla, Mercedes, Tony, Caleb, Harry, Toby, Diesel, Daniel, Isla, Alyssa, Damien

Music on the Murray
2 pm Sunday June 19
Berri Uniting Church
3 Denny Street, Berri

an afternoon of music and fun
Adelaide West Men’s Choir
and associate artists

GIVING BLOOD FEELS GOOD
Every donation can save three lives.

The Blood Service Mobile Blood Donor Centre will be visiting:

Berri
Senior Citizen Centre, 1 Crawford Terrace, Berri
Thursday 16th June 11:00am—6:15pm
Friday 17th June 7:30am—11:45am

To make an appointment call 13 14 95 or visit donateblood.com.au

Australian Red Cross
BLOOD SERVICE