



Whyalla Stuart Primary School R-6

Term 1, 2022 Issue 2

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Dates To Remember

14th March

Adelaide Cup Day

Public Holiday

15th March

Pupil Free Day

Staff Maths T&D

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is great to finally see some familiar faces coming back to school after having been unwell. I would like to thank you all for the way in which you have supported the school in maintaining contact and keeping us informed of your child's health.

Teachers and classes have been working through the 'Success at Stuart' program in Weeks 3 and 4. It was great to see some of the things they had been learning about when we had our Assembly online last Friday.

Junior Primary classes began Initialit lessons this week after Mrs Saji, Ms Polain and Mrs Kleinrahm attended training and development in Week 3. Initialit is an evidence-based whole-class Literacy program providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. Initialit is a three-year program, covering the first three years of school. We also have some other students participating in the program to fill in any gaps they have with their learning.

We have also been working with classroom teachers to use a writing tool which helps them to identify where students are at with their writing and strategies they need to learn to take their narrative writing to the next level. Teachers will do more work on this on the first day of Term 2, which will be a Pupil Free Day.

On Tuesday of Week 7 all staff will be involved in a training and development day with Mike Chartres from the Primary Maths Association. The focus of this day will be around developing students' knowledge of number, in particular fractions and decimals.

All of the work teachers are doing is focused around our School Improvement Goals, which are to improve student achievement in English and Mathematics. As we move through the term I will endeavour to share more specific information about this. You can find our School Improvement Plan on the school's website.

We welcomed Mr Geer back at the end of this week as he had been away



Students in Year 4, 5 and 6 would have received a note this week about Instrumental Music Lessons. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please make sure they return their form as soon as possible. Priority will be given to returning students and students in Year 6 and 5 as there is a limited number of positions available.

Congratulations to C7 who were winners of the Attendance Award at Assembly on Friday.

Students who have demonstrated a growth mindset by seeing challenges as opportunities to grow and never give up are presented with the Golden Yoda for their class at each Assembly. Congratulations to the following students on receiving the Golden Yoda award last week. Sophia was absent for the photo, but was the winner for C7 and Ms Polain received the Emerald Yoda.



C5 – Shodie Dann



B4 – Macee



B3 – Luke



Ms Polain

Have a great weekend everyone.

Jenny

Governing Council

Can Parents and Caregivers, who are interested in becoming part of the Governing Council, please let me know so you can nominate yourself. Our AGM will be held on Monday 21st March at 6pm.

We are looking for new members to join.

Governing Council meet twice a Term and discuss:

- New facilities and planning
- Updates for staffing and school policies
- School finances

As a member of the Governing Council you will have the opportunity to be involved in whole school decision making and discussions. A Nomination Form is available from the Office if you are interested in this opportunity

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Socially responsible citizens



COVID 19 Update Week 5-8

A range of restrictions have been removed from the start of Week 5, 28th February 2022. It is intended that these arrangements will apply from the start of Week 5 until the end of Week 8 in Term 1.

From the start of Week 5 these activities can resume in schools:

- Day excursions (indoors and outdoors) and incursions (held outdoors where possible). Some excursion venues may have vaccination requirements.
- Swimming lessons and sports days (spectators may attend if held outside).
- Interschool sporting competitions.
- Extra-curricular activities at the school, including choirs, band practice, instrumental lessons attended by a non-school employed music teacher.
- Work experience and work placements.
- Camps and other outdoor activities required by the SACE for the purpose of subjects such as Outdoor Education. Make sure the camp provider or venue has a COVID management plan.
- Formals. Some venues may have vaccination requirements.
- Assemblies that are held outdoors.
- Prospective parent tours and information nights targeted at students considering enrolling in the school in the coming year (for example year 6 to high school) held in a COVID safe manner (attendees wearing masks when indoors, with social distancing).
- Hiring education sites to community groups outside of school hours can continue as normal.
- Staff are encouraged to continue to do online meetings and professional development where possible. However, in person professional development can occur in small groups, with participants wearing masks and social distancing.

From the start of Week 5 visitors can include:

- people attending the school for specific events held outdoors (such as spectators attending outdoor sporting games)
- volunteers required by the school
- instrumental music teachers

All adult visitors must wear a face mask when indoors, practise physical distancing, and not attend the site if they are unwell.

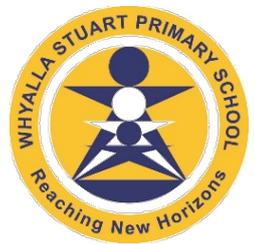
Continue to minimise visitors attending indoor venues and sites outside of specific events.

Parents and caregivers do not need to wear a face mask if they have a medical exemption.

COVID 19 settings that remain in place

- Face masks continue to be required (when indoors) for:
 - all adults, except when it impedes ability to teach
 - students in years 7 to 12.
- Face masks are strongly encouraged for students in years 3 to 6 (when indoors).
- Testing, isolating and quarantine requirements remain unchanged, including classroom contacts.
- Staff to continue to minimise use of staff rooms where possible, using outdoor areas and separate rooms for breaks where possible.

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Arrangements from Week 9

Transmission of COVID-19 in schools and the broader community will be monitored over the coming weeks and the Department will continue to work with SA Health during this time.

Our intent is to remove further restrictions from week 9, including resuming:

- COVID-safe, socially distanced indoor events, including ticketed concerts and performances (with audiences), COVID safe indoor assemblies (for example in year level) and spectators at indoor sporting events.
- Camps, where there is a COVID management camp plan.

Learning at school

Children and students should continue to attend school and preschool as normal unless they are:

- self-isolating as directed by SA Health
- waiting for results of a COVID-19 test
- unwell.

If a child or student is required to isolate as a result of testing positive to COVID-19 or because they are a close contact, they can use the department's learning at home lessons to continue their learning at home.

Reception to year 10 students can access a minimum of 3 learning at home lessons online each day. Lessons are delivered via video or Microsoft PowerPoint and can be accessed on any device.

The learning at home lessons and other resources are available on [Our Learning SA](#)

Senior Leader – Literacy and Numeracy Improvement

It is exciting to announce that we have started a new Literacy program called Initialit at Whyalla Stuart Primary School this year. Initialit is part of the MultiLit Program which was developed by the Macquarie University. MultiLit stands for Making Up for Lost Time in Literacy. This program has had excellent results in schools across Australia, including Whyalla, in improving student reading and Literacy. All students from Reception to Year Two will be using this program along with some other students from across the school.

Ms Saji, Ms Polain and myself have begun working with students in Initialit this week. We have many new resources to go with the program, including thousands of new readers that will be in our classrooms soon!

We look forward to sharing our students' progress with you throughout the

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