

The Heights School

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 11 | 29 July 2021

> Educating young minds

> Serving our community

> Instilling values and embracing our future



The Heights School has received in excess of \$13 Million over the past three years.

Major redevelopments include two architecturally designed buildings incorporating **state of the art** furniture and equipment in addition to refurbishment of existing learning spaces.

These facilities will provide a modern and contemporary learning environment which will inspire innovation and spark curiosity.



A Fair Go Have a Go, Go Hard, Keep Going! Go Together

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Aboriginal Education
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden
- Stage I and 2 Child Studies
- Subs in Schools Volleyball Competition (Pictured: Child Studies classes see article on page 6)



DIARY DATES

Due to changing restrictions, please check the parent calendar via our website to seek clarification of events that are cancelled or rescheduled. We will update this calendar as we get more information.

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2021

Friday 3 September - Term 3, Week 7

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

Monday 6 September - Term 3, Week 8

<u>Click here</u> to view our online calendar

CONTACT

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/heightsschool

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

School arrangements from Wednesday 28th July

Students and the learning programs are back at school from Wednesday 28th July.

All students will be expected to attend unless they are absent due to illness or have a direction from SA Health to complete a self-isolation. All absences due to these reasons will need to be reported to the school by a parent/caregiver. From Wednesday, we will not be offering an alternative home-based learning program. If your child is impacted by SA Health quarantine orders, work will be provided via Daymap or Class Dojo.

In the first instance it will feel a little like when we returned last year. Volunteers and additional people to the site won't be back yet. Parents are asked to minimise their presence on site. We will be postponing or cancelling the upcoming events that don't fall within what is permitted within the current restrictions. Face masks will be expected throughout the high school years as per SA Health advice.

All of the above and more is outlined in a letter emailed to families on Tuesday 27th July. Please refer to this.

We are looking forward to having your child back at school or preschool.

2020 Dame Roma Mitchell Award

Congratulations to Dimitra Tsavaris in year II for winning the 2020 Dame Roma Mitchell Award for Excellence. Well done on a fantastic achievement. Please read about Dimitra in the article further on.

Term 3 New Teachers

Jorden Petrilli will be teaching the Reception class in CF2 for Hayley Jenkins.

Victoria Esposito will be covering Science Coordinator David Eglinton's leave.

Alicia Oaklands joins us for an English contract teaching position.

Carolyn Earner will be taking on Food and Hospitality classes.

Anita Rathee is taking BG3 one day a week whilst Jemma Plaisted reduces time.

Information about secondary school enrolment offers

This term enrolment offers for secondary school will be sent to the families of our Year 6 and 7 students. It is important for you to know that not all schools will send out their enrolment offers at the same time, but they will be sent as close as possible to 13 August 2021.

Most families will receive their offer via email. If you think you have not received your enrolment offer from your secondary school, you need to check your junk folder for an email from education.noreply@sa.gov.au.

If you did not provide an email address on your Registration of Interest form, you will receive your enrolment offer in the mail or it will be handed to you by your child.

If your enrolment offer has not arrived by 18 August, please email Michelle Crush on dl.1430.transition@schools.sa.edu.au and we can follow up on your behalf.

If you need support to accept your enrolment offer, it is best to contact your allocated secondary school and they can step you through the process.

Governing Council Recognition

Parents of students who are excelling in a particular area are invited to let us know of individual successes.

To acknowledge student successes our Governing Council provides a small donation to contribute towards expenses involved with interstate travel and accommodation for State Team selection and representation or its equivalent.

If you are interested in letting us know and would like to see if your child is eligible please email the Principal's Assistant Daniella Dunne on dani.dunne887@schools.sa.edu.au



Nigel Gill Principal





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CHANGES TO SOME SCHOOL EVENTS

Due to increased restrictions effective on Wednesday, 28 July 2021 some school events and excursions have had to be cancelled or postponed for this week and next week. We do not know how long the restrictions on various events will be in place for and will only update the parent calendar when a re-scheduling or cancellation has been confirmed.

We understand that this is confusing for those families wishing to seek clarification on the upcoming Year 5 and 7 camps and we will provide an update as soon as possible.

Events affected in Week 2 and 3 include:

- 31/7 Pedal Prix Race 4 (CANCELLED)
- 3/8 Stage I Outdoor Education First Aid Training (TBC)
- 4/8 STEM Girls IBL Day 2 (POSTPONED or CANCELLED TBC)
- 6/8 SVP Meeting (POSTPONED)
- 6/8 Science Alive Excursion for 1006 & 1007 (POSTPONED or CANCELLED TBC)
- * Friday Morning Pancake Breakfast Club is on hold until further notice.



BOOK WEEK

Term 3 is always an extra special time on the calendar because amongst many other activities we have Book Week.

Please make sure you have Week 6 in your diaries.

The theme for this year is: "Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds".

What does this bring to your mind?

The week provides us all with a great opportunity to celebrate and enrich our love of literature with a big focus on Australian children's authors and illustrators.

More details of the week will follow.

Julie Simpson Teacher Librarian







ENROLLING NOW FOR PRESCHOOL 2021

LET YOUR CHILD GROW WITH US

The Heights Preschool is an integral part of The Heights P-12 School. We provide an engaging and stimulating learning environment for children. Our philosophy revolves around play as a tool for learning. We encourage children to be curious and to seek answers through learning, underpinned by a partnership with family and the community.

If you would like your child to attend The Heights Preschool in 2021 please contact Dani Dunne on the details below.

Email: <u>Dani.Dunne687@schools.sa.edu.au</u>

Website: https://www.theheights.sa.edu.au/preschool.html









ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

A big congratulations to one of our Year II
Aboriginal students Dimitra Tsavaris for winning

the 2020 Dame Roma Mitchell Award for excellence in Education. Presented to the students by local Kaurna elders and Rick Persse Chief Executive - Department for Education during this year's Reconciliation celebrations at Adelaide Town Hall.

The Dame Roma Mitchell Scholarship is designed to help students undertake SACE and ultimately pursue their educational and professional goals post school.

This award compliments Dimitra's dedication to her education. Dimitra also achieved a full Karnkanthi Indigenous Education Program Scholarship with the University of Adelaide in 2020. This will entitle her to funding and tutoring outside of school and inclusion into educational programs run by the University of Adelaide.

Dimitra has a high aim for post school education, wanting to become one of the first female Aboriginal cardiologist in the country, with an end goal to give back to her community.

A well deserving recipient.

Aaron Murray-Raschella
Aboriginal Secondary Education & Transition Officer

Congratulations!





BUILDING PROJECT - END OF AN ERA

With only 2 days to go before the end of Term 2, the school was granted permission to move teachers and students into the new Primary Building.

Cheers could be heard from our Year 4, 5 and 6 students as they learnt "the move" had finally arrived.

It was an absolute joy to see the kids marching over to their new learning environments and soak in the incredible space around them.

So much preparation went in before the day of the move and I'd like to acknowledge the enormous work of our Grounds and ICT teams who ensured these spaces were equipped and ready for the arrival of our students.

Work still continues to perfect these spaces and the dedication of all staff involved is simply exceptional.

External aspects are being completed and it won't be long before all the security fencing is removed and we get to appreciate the wonderful design as a whole.

With our Year 5 and 6 students now in the new building, it didn't take long for this to happen... in fact the very first day of the school holidays!

Even though our new classrooms are amazing, it is always with a degree of sadness that buildings which served the school for decades are now completely gone. They have been a place of learning for so many of our students which I'm sure have formed memories of attending The Heights School.

These areas will now be hard court play spaces for our students to enjoy and the making of new memories begins...

Kind Regards,

Vicki Cook

Business Manager

F Block - Year 5 classrooms







E Block – Year 6 classrooms











THE HEIGHTS STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

SAKG WINTER MARKET Tuesday 29th June 2021

It was with much excitement that the Reception – Year 6 kitchen garden classes prepared for our long awaited SAKG



Winter Market in the last week of Term 2. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, both our Winter and Summer Markets in 2020 were not able to go ahead; so, this year we were very pleased and relieved that the Winter Market could proceed!

From our kitchen, Eva, volunteers and students produced an amazing array of delicious baked goods, hot pumpkin soup, and focaccias. From our garden, Amanda, volunteers and students produced seedling punnets, potted plants, packets of seeds, succulent cuttings and fresh vegetables and flowers. A special mention and thanks to Tayla and Georgia for their fabulous beeswax wraps and lip balms.

Unfortunately, due to current SA Fruit Fly regulations, we were not able to sell our beautiful crop of citrus fruits... lemons, limes, mandarins, and oranges. Luckily, Eva was able to use some of these in her delectable baked goods.

A HUGE thank you to our fabulous team of kitchen garden volunteers who turn up every week rain or shine... we could NOT have held our Winter Market without you all. Also, thank you so much to all the enthusiastic students who helped us on the day with cooking, setting up and packing up the market stalls, creating the beautiful signage and working at the market.

A final thanks to Zoes Sarandis and the Grounds team; Vicki Cook and the Finance team Sonja, Renae and Felicity); IT Department (David, Tara & Matt); Rebekah Goodall, Trent Feil and Gjuzide Apat... you have all supported us so much with making the market happen during this challenging year.

Amanda and Eva (SAKG Kitchen Garden team)

Sisters, Georgia Atkins, Year 7, and Tayla Atkins, Year 4, are passionate about the environment. On Tuesday 29th June, they ran a stall at our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Winter Market, selling beeswax wraps and lip balms from their business, Busy Little Stingers.

Find them on Facebook @BusyLittleStingers.



















CHILD STUDIES

Stage I Child Studies

The Stage I Child Studies class have had a busy semester exploring different areas of child development including literacy and storytelling, food for babies and toddlers, and an investigation into



factors that can affect a baby's development.

A particular highlight in Term 2 for Year II students was working with Zoe Skewes Year 4 class CG6. This enabled students to have a more hands-on experience working with young children and forming new friendships with students in the primary years. The Child Studies class were given the task to work collaboratively to research and explore school kitchen garden programs and how they employ pleasurable food education into Australian schools. Fortunately, we were able to focus this investigation on the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program within our school. The Heights have been involved in the program since 2009 and were one of the first ten South Australian Schools in the pilot program. Our school has designed and created the garden that students continue to maintain all year round. Students also use the produce grown in the garden to create delicious meals in cooking classes. Based on the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden philosophy, Year II students designed, planned, and prepared a cooking lesson for CG6 using a special ingredient from the school garden. A variety of tasty muffins and scones were created by the students, and they enjoyed working together and celebrating their success in their creations. This was a wonderful way for students to partake in pleasurable food education and form positive food habits for life.

Stage 2 Child Studies

In Term 2, the Stage 2 Child Studies class have been involved in a Buddy Program with Trent Feil's Year 2 class CF7. The goal for this program was to develop



relationships between the younger and older children, enhancing the sense of a friendly and supportive school community. As part of a group assessment, the Year 12 students worked collaboratively to develop and produce a range of nature play activities for students in CF7 to spend time in nature, engage in different senses, socialise and, most importantly, learn. A major focus for our class was to promote nature play for healthy child development mentally, socially, and physically and many students enjoyed the sensory experience through hands-on fun. This was a valuable learning opportunity for Year 12 students to further understand that through playing in nature and having the freedom to explore their world, we help our children learn to care for their environment and one another. This was a play experience enjoyed by younger and older students and we look forward to working with CF7 again!

Gen Lempens, Child Studies Teacher



SUBS IN SCHOOLS VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

Our Year 10 students competing in the Subs in Schools Technology Challenge not only have to be at the forefront of innovative thinking in Science, Maths and Engineering, they also must conquer elements of marketing, presentations skills and fundraising.



Last term they decided to organise a Volleyball competition.

Entries were taken in two categories, Years 8-9 and Years 10-12 which saw 60 students diving in to have a go.

The competition was heavily contested across many lunchtimes in the gym, which saw high audience participation as peers barracked for their friends and enjoyed the spectacle.

These games were professionally supervised by Maths and Science teachers Tim Trainor and Tom Cridland and it just so happened Tom knew a thing or two about volleyball so we had an expert umpire on hand!

On the last day of term, the gym was buzzing as the grand finals were fought out.

Winning members of the Year 8-9 final and Years 10-12 final all took home a volleyball generously donated by IDM Sports.

Well done to everyone involved!

Grand Final Winners Years 8-9 Category: 907 Yuki, Ajin, Liam, Miguel, 905 Riley, Sajid Grand Final Winners Years 10-12 Category: 1206 Mekhia, Johna, Lijo, Tyler, 1201 Dominic, 1207 Malachi, 1101 Harneet



Tom Cridland (umpire of the year!) and Tim Trainor



Winning players listed above



