



NEWSLETTER

ADELAIDE
NORTH
SPECIAL
SCHOOL

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Term 2, Issue 1—July 2020

From the Principal

The COVID-19 outbreak has certainly been at the forefront of the entire world. The impact across the country, state and our school has been unprecedented and hopefully, a once in a lifetime event.

We ended last term with a real sense of uncertainty as to what life would be like after the school holidays.

We returned with a newfound confidence thanks to every South Australian adhering to the restrictions. I'd like to thank you all for supporting the school throughout these difficult times. Most students have returned to school and the gates are now open for families to enter.

What's been happening

Our SIP priorities are in full swing, with leadership conducting teacher observations with the focus on communication. This enables us to give feedback to staff regarding their teaching. Deprivatising practice through focused observations is an important way of supporting best practice and improved outcomes for students.

A few weeks ago I was informed by Ilia Tsoutouras, Education Director, that my role would be extended for another year, taking my tenure to December 2021. I'm sure you all know how passionate I am about the school and what we stand for. The process for advertising the principal role (commencing January 2022) will occur next year.

Staff Acknowledgements

I'd like to acknowledge the following staff:

Rachael Richards who will be taking accouchement leave. We wish Rachael all the best and look forward to seeing her back next year.

Denise Dekuijter and Chris Brewster who, after many years of amazing service to ANSS, have taken the step into retirement.

Calista Bussenschutt, James Samra and Siobhan McGinn, all from Flinders University, who have completed their 4th year final practicum experiences with us. Thanks to Jenny Rikard-Bell, Kirsty Brown, Christelle Pleasance and Lidia Reveruzzi for mentoring and supporting their placements.

What's ahead

ANSS will be advertising a range of tenured leadership and other permanent positions this year including: Deputy Principal, Senior Leader, teacher and SSO positions. The selection process will occur next term.

In Term 4 ANSS will have an External School Review. This is the second one in 3 years. The information gleaned from this process will assist us in reviewing and guiding our next stages.

I'd like to wish you all a wonderful holiday break. Stay safe.

Best wishes,

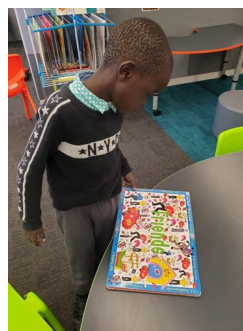
Byron



*"I'd like to
thank you all
for supporting the
school throughout
these difficult
times."*



*Reading is dreaming
with open eyes.*



Junior Primary

Laura Ewens

This term, we have had the opportunity to visit the library. At the start of the lesson, we listen to a story that is read to us by either Wendy, our teacher librarian, or Laura and we are getting better and better at sitting and listening to these stories.

Everyone enjoys choosing books to read and look through. There are favourite books that we always manage to find, like The Wiggles!

*Reading should not be presented to children
as a chore or duty. It should be offered to
them as a precious gift.*

Kate DiCamillo

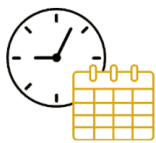
It is lovely watching all students engaging with different books, how to treat books appropriately, and learning the expectations of a new area of the school.

We have also begun to learn how to borrow books and love bringing them back to the classroom to read for the week.

JPB3 are great readers and bookworms; we are reading to learn and learning to read!

Primary

Kat Wcislo

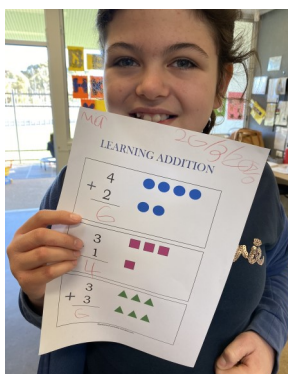


Term 2 brought us lots of new experiences. We became more focused on our health, hygiene, and social aspects. Keeping our learning routine was essential.

Every morning students engage in the Literacy and Numeracy Block as usual. Firstly, students warm-up with puzzles. Then they move to the individual learning folders. After that, some students require or request a short break.

Our third activity is shared reading. This is probably the most popular part of the day for us. We all love books and we are learning to treat all books with respect.

The last activity, before recess meal and play break, is writing. Our recess meal break is well deserved and probably the quietest time in the classroom. When recess play time is finished, students gather back for more learning, where they join together as a whole class for group time, and our busy day continues.



*Never stop learning, because life
never stops teaching.*

Lin Pernille



Senior

Amy Checkley

In Term 2 we altered our shopping program due to COVID-19. Since we couldn't go offsite, we decided to set up shopping in the classroom. Each week students chose items using PODD, then found their item in a Woolworths catalogue.

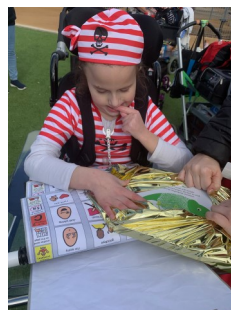
Students were given a token five dollar note and, as a class, we used the calculator on the interactive white board to work out the change. Students used resources such as money magnets, stamps, PODD, calculators and the interactive white board to assist with this activity, engaging in their own way.

This weekly activity has been a great way to bring shopping to the classroom, as students really enjoyed their weekly outings to the shops last term. Students are also given the opportunity to learn about coin, note and number recognition through the use of the calculator and PODD, which is an important life skill to know for their post school pathways.



I could give up shopping, but I'm not a quitter.

Author Unknown



Not all treasure is silver and gold, mate!

Captain Jack Sparrow

R-12 JP-Prrrrr!

Calista Bussenschutt and Jenny Rikard-Bell

Hello from the R-12 JP-Pr class!

This term we have dived into our letter sound experiences. We've had hand massages for the letter H, washed our hands with soapy water for the letter S, iced cupcakes for the letter I, but... the most exciting experience was our R-12 Unit Pirate Party for the letter P!

We had a great day dressing up as pirates, wheelchair dancing and hunting for treasure around the school. We loved collecting our stickers from classrooms in different units.

As a follow up activity, we also used the experience for Predictable Chart Writing.

Our class would like to say a huge thank you to Penny's class, both staff and students, for organising such a fun day!

Thank you also to our wonderful parents for sending in such fierce, ferocious but adorable pirates.





*The senses,
being the
explorers of
the world,
open the way
to knowledge.*
Maria Montessori



Sensory Unit

Kayla Mancini and Sarah Skuse

This term, the Sensory Unit has been working together for shared literacy and art activities each week. Students and staff have thoroughly enjoyed interacting with each other and working with different people.

For literacy, we are focusing on the A-Z of foods. Each week students try a new food and use their preferred method of communication to give their opinion. Bananas weren't very popular! They were described as: 'rude', 'gross' and 'yucky'.

Our art activities are based on our weekly book. Some stories we have read this term have included 'My Garden', 'House for a Hermit Crab' and 'Bear has a Story to Tell'.

To meet students' high sensory needs, our unit sensory room and outside courtyards have been great spaces for all to relax and regulate in between activities. We have recently bought a new light table which has been a favourite for many, along with laser lights, music and shredded paper.

Pathways

Siobhan McGinn and Lidia Reveruzzi

Over the past 6 weeks I have had the pleasure of completing my final year placement in the Pathways Unit, in Ms Lidia's class. Some of the topics I taught covered literacy, science—looking at the chemical change in food, maths shapes, number and visual art focusing on Australian Aboriginal Art. We looked at many different types of Aboriginal Art—dot paintings, nature paintings and boomerangs and the importance of these to the Australian Aboriginal people.

Students learned about the significance of Reconciliation Week and National Sorry Day. Learning related to the students' experiences, and they shared their feelings about how they would feel if something happened to them where they could not see their family again.

The students answered with thought using different forms of communication we use within the classroom. It has been a pleasure to watch the students grow over the weeks and I can't wait to see what they achieve in the future!



Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best.
Bob Talbert

