

Newsletter Term 4

22 October, 2020



SEACLIFF
Primary School

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Back to work in Term 4

Welcome back to the final school term for 2020, and for our Year 7 students, their final term at Primary School. An especially warm welcome to Seth (Year 5) and his family as you join the Seacliff community in what is sure to be a very busy time. The start of a new term is a good time to remind people of our start and finish times. Children should be at school ready to **enter their classes at 8:55am** and the day **ends at 3:15pm**. Arriving late and leaving early should be the exception rather than the rule, as this can be disruptive to the teaching and learning program. (We had 41 students arriving late or leaving early on Monday which is a very high number of students!)

New staff member: welcome Dale



Hello everyone! My name is Dale Colbeck and I am a new SSO here at Seacliff PS. I will be working in Room 3, QuickSmart, and the library. I have been a teacher in Vietnam for the last two years and returned to Adelaide to finish my Master of Teaching. I grew up in Adelaide, live in Glenelg and spend my weekends hiking, playing netball and swimming at the beach. I hope to meet you all over the next few weeks, please introduce yourself if you see me around!

Class Structures and ‘Composite Classes’

Our enrolment pattern and Department guidelines about class size helps determine our school’s class structure each year. Next year we will again have a combination of composite and straight year level classes. One of the considerations that some parents grapple with is about the pros and cons of composite classes compared with straight year levels. As some of you would know, prior to coming to Seacliff I was a principal of two Montessori schools, one in South Australia and one in Indonesia. Montessori schools generally operate with 3-year-level combined classes and students have the same teacher for three years. Early in my career I taught four years in a rural school, and for the last two of these, had around 26 Reception - Year 7 students all in the one class. It was certainly challenging but I loved it!



Here are just some observations/generalisations about composite classes that might be of interest.

- According to research, there’s no difference in academic achievement between children in composite classes versus straight year levels.
- For composite classes to function at their best, students need to take greater personal responsibility for both their learning and behaviour – a good thing.
- Children learn at different rates and in composite classes, children can be extended or supported in a classroom environment where differentiation is the ‘norm’.
- Students in a composite class are less competitive with one another and more cooperative than students in same-grade classrooms.
- Younger children gain self-confidence and maturity by being exposed to older students; older students have more leadership opportunities and learn to be positive role models for their younger peers.



Government of South Australia
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- Some children will benefit from having the same teacher over two years, as the teacher comes to know the students' abilities and how best to extend and support them.
- There is greater opportunity for peer-to-peer learning in composite classes.
- Students develop friendships across grade levels, instilling a greater sense of responsibility for one another and a better sense of community.

*So, regardless of whether a student is in a composite or straight year level class, the most important things are the **relationships** built between the students and their teacher and the **classroom culture** that develops over time.*

We are hoping to have the class placement process finalised and families notified of 2021 places soon after the '60th Celebration Night'.



60th Celebration Night – 27 November

Initial ideas about a huge 60th Celebration Night certainly changed with COVID-19 impacting on our thinking. The Fundraising Committee is instead looking to the 2021 School Fete as a time to invite as many 'Old Scholars' and former staff members along to recognise the 1960 school opening.

However, in a lower key way, our 27 November '60th Celebration Night' is going ahead. The Performing Arts teachers and other staff are already working on items for your entertainment pleasure. This will involve setting up a stage for a series of small performances in front of the undercroft (on the netball courts). There will be areas set up for seating and standing to view the 4 sets of performances. Families can move in and out of these areas during the short intermissions between each set. Our school oval will become a picnic ground for families. The Fundraising Committee are looking at COVID safe ways to do a little fundraising. As I'm sure you would appreciate, we are trying to make this a really enjoyable school community night while adhering to the current COVID guidelines. A program of events will be coming home in a few weeks time that will help explain things in more detail.



Rooms 13 & 19 - Sharing LOVE, POSITIVITY & KINDNESS!

During Term 2 and 3, Mrs Litchfield and Mrs Watkins have been running girls wellbeing lessons with us. We have learnt about building positive relationships, treating others with kindness, being grateful and positive self-talk. They have organised a number of fun and engaging ways to teach us these topics.

To read more and see the video visit: [Sharing-love-positivity-kindness](#)

OSHC Update

We had a great September/October Vacation Care at OSHC. It was excellent to be able to go on excursions again, with those days being very popular. We also welcomed some new students who attended from other local schools. Particular highlights were our days visiting Latitude and Adelaide Zoo. We aim to have lots of excursions during the long Summer/Christmas holidays!



Thank you to all the parents/carers who are very good at informing us when your child is unable to attend their OSHC session. As a reminder, could you all let us know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend, as we only have a limited number of spaces available for every morning and afternoon session. This will then free up a space for another family to use. Thank you and kind regards, Jody.

Team Canteen News



Our canteen has had a makeover! Over the course of 3 days during the recent school holidays staff, parents and students painted our canteen a lovely new cool blue to lighten and freshen up our amazing space! To read more and see images click on the link: [Team-canteen-news](#)

Library – Scholastic Book Fair

In Week 3 we are holding the Scholastic Book Fair, in the library.

The fair will run from, after school, Wednesday 28th October, before and after school Thursday and Friday 29th and 30th Oct. Times - 8.30 am till 4.30 pm.

Kimochis at Seacliff PS



Recently, Seacliff Primary staff have had the opportunity to participate in a six-week after hours Professional Development programme in Kimochis. Twenty staff including SSO's, classroom and Specialist teachers and Leadership attended the sessions. Kimochis = means 'feelings' in Japanese. To learn more visit: [Kimochis at Seacliff](#)

Returning Sport Tops



Thank you to all of the families who have returned their soccer shirts. There are still quite a few outstanding, so if your child hasn't returned theirs, can they please do so. There are also several basketball tops to be returned from players who are not continuing in term four.

Kelly Sports

We are delighted to announce that **Bronte** and **Isaac** were awarded the Seacliff Primary Kelly Sports Stars of the Term by our Kelly Sports coach for Term 3.

The reasons for Bronte's nomination are:
"Bronte is always so enthusiastic and brings a fantastic attitude to every session. She is constantly willing to give answers to the questions we ask the group."

The reasons for Isaac's nomination are:
"Isaac gives 100% at every session and is always very polite, saying thank you/please every time."

Thanks for your continued support of our Kelly Sports programs.



University Study Request



Adolescent females diagnosed with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) are needed for a research study looking at whether meditation improve quality of life in adolescents with PCOS. If you are a female aged 12-22 years and diagnosed with PCOS, you can help us with this study in Adelaide evaluating a simple strategy to improve quality of life in adolescents with PCOS.

This study has been approved by the Women's and Children's Health Network Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC/18/WCHN/168), Adelaide, South Australia. If you are interested in finding out more information about this research, please contact Dr Alexia Peña (paediatric endocrinologist) on 8161 8134 or via email

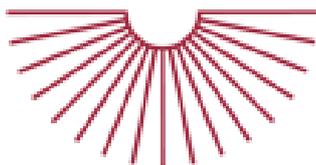
alexia.pena@adelaide.edu.au

Christmas Card Competition



The City of Holdfast Bay 2020 Mayor's Christmas Card Competition is open!

Council are inviting all local children (aged 5 - 12 years) that live or go to school in Holdfast Bay to get creative and submit artworks that capture what the **Christmas at the Beach** theme means to them. The Competition is open between **Monday 12 October – Monday 2 November 2020** and the winning artwork will be used on the front of the City of Holdfast Bay 2020 Christmas Card. The winning artist will also receive a **\$100** gift voucher to spend at Jetty Road Glenelg. A **\$50** gift voucher for the GU Filmhouse will be awarded to the 2nd place winner and the 3rd place winner will receive a **\$30** voucher for the Beachouse. For more information or to enter the competition visit www.holdfast.sa.gov.au/cardcomp



Aberfoyle Park High School Year 7 & 8 IGNITE program

There will be an INFORMATION EVENING for students and parents interested in the Aberfoyle Park High School Year 7 and 8 IGNITE program from 2022. IGNITE is a specialist program for students with high intellectual potential. Aberfoyle Park High School is the official Department for Education school for gifted students in the southern metropolitan area of Adelaide. Come along to our information evening to learn more about the structure and philosophies of the program, characteristics of gifted learners and the selection process. Register your interest in attending by emailing ignite@aphs.sa.edu.au with your child's name, current school, year level. Please also advise of the number of attendees as places are limited.

12 NOVEMBER 2020 | 6.30 - 7.30 P.M.

ABERFOYLE PARK HIGH SCHOOL

STEM CENTRE

ENTER THE SCHOOL VIA TAYLORS ROAD