

★ **Respect**

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Athelstone SA 5076

★ **Creativity**

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★ **Excellence**

OSHC Phone:
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★ **Resilience**

Principal
Dora Iuliano

**Governing Council
Chairperson**
Natalie Johnson

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www.facebook.com/ThorndonParkPrimarySchool
Parent Complaint Unit Hotline: 1800 677 435

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From the Principal Ms Dora

Welcome back from your holiday break and we are looking forward to providing positive and successful teaching and learning experiences this term. Our R-7 Program Achieve key for success is "Getting Along" to build and maintain mutually respectful relationships as evidenced in collaborative team work and the enactment of our school values.

'Escape to Everywhere' is this year's Book Week Theme and we encourage all students to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge! We appreciate the efforts of our Primary Years' team, volunteers and our Senior Leader Lindy Kelvin to organise an engaging environmental school camp at Arbury Park.

ACARA Curriculum fact sheets

We recognise that parent engagement contributes to children and young people's academic achievement. Families are the first educators of their children and they continue to influence their children's learning and development during school years and long afterwards. We are sending home printed copies of a series of curriculum fact sheets to parents of school age students to inform parents about what their children are learning at school.

A suite of fact sheets gives parents tips and ideas to help their children learn at home. More information can be located at:

<https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/parent-engagement-education/helping-children-learn>
<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/parent-information/>

Diary Dates

2 Aug	Wed	Yr 4-7 ThinkUKnow cybersafety session
4 Aug	Fri	Assembly yr 4/5 and yr 1
11 Aug	Fri	Pupil Free Day
18 Aug	Fri	9.00 Assembly
14-18 Aug	Fri	Science Week
21 Aug	Mon	Parent School Tour

Governing Council and Sub Committee Meetings

1 Aug	Tues	6.15 OSHC
7 Aug	Mon	9.00 Canteen 4.15 After School Sports
9 Aug	Wed	3.30 Asset and Landscape
10 Aug	Thurs	3.30 Finance
15 Aug	Tues	7.00pm Governing Council

Steaming Ahead Navigating a Digital Future!

The majority of our R-7 teachers attended a two-day EdTechSA conference along with staff from other schools to listen to educational experts and view technology exhibits. Our teachers connected with educators and industries to learn, debate, exchange ideas and to be inspired. Our powerful adult learners are keen to integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) across all learning areas.

Some of the workshops included:

- Making curriculum connections
- STEM through Literacy
- What Works: How We Can Improve Student Performance with Digital Technologies
- The NAO humanoid robot project
- STEAM (Science Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) and Project Based Learning
- Digital Technology Resources 7-10
- 3D Design and Creation Workshop
- Beats, Rhymes and Tech: Bringing Music Technology Into the Classroom
- Beyond Coding - Building teacher led innovation to deliver authentic Digital STEM experiences
- Bringing it to life – Interactive projects with Makey Makey
- Collaboration, Creativity, Engagement, Relevance: Creating a whole school pedagogical approach
- Creating a Code Club
- Leafy Sea Dragon National Park Project – students' Minecraft ideas used at Morialta Park
- 56 Creations – exploring tablets and virtual reality
- Critical and creative thinking frameworks
- Creativity learning, sharing and presentations through technology
- Super heroes – Girl Power
- Imagination room – STEM Works input by students

The presenters provided information that supports and challenges the direction Thorndon Park Primary School is taking in regards to STEM education.

The possibilities to extend our teaching and learning in this area were exciting.

We heard about planning processes for designing realworld tasks that begin with questioning students:

'What are the most urgent problems the world needs solving?'

'How can I change the world now?'

'What would you like to do now?' as springboards to motivate thinking and problem-solving.

Some key messages were:

self-doubt inhibits creativity;

passion plus skill sets in a supportive challenging environment;

recognise strengths and provide constructive feedback to build confidence and self-improvement;

risk-taking, failing, resilience;

public speaking/communication, collaboration to negotiate;

adapt, retrain and develop entrepreneurial skills;

critical thinking, action learning and problem-solving in high possibility classrooms;

student led stem teams – scientists, engineers, mathematicians...researching, designing and making;

quality teaching is the driver and technology is the accelerator.



The conference was engaging and generated excitement and discussion; what does this mean for our school STEM teaching and learning?

Some of our challenges included creating an app to solve a problem and to make the tallest tower out of spaghetti to hold a marshmallow which our team won through collaborative planning and team work!

Think about your day's activities and reflect on how many different ways that STEM has featured.

Why not explore more STEM challenges online?

Ms Dora

Wellbeing and Engagement Collection Years 4-7 Student

Students at our school have been invited to take part in a data collection in Term 3.

Purpose of the data collection

Young people's sense of wellbeing is an important part of their development and how they learn at school. The purpose of the collection is to seek students' views about their wellbeing and their engagement with school. Across the State, students in year levels 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 will participate in the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection.

What is the data collection about?

The data collection asks young people about their

- 1) Social and Emotional Wellbeing: About you;
- 2) School Relationships and Engagement: About your relationships and learning in school; and
- 3) Physical Health and Wellbeing: About your health, lifestyle and after school activities.

Students' answers will be kept confidential – no one will use the results to identify individual students.

The information collected will help inform work in the education system and broader community to help improve young people's health and wellbeing. A letter included with this newsletter summarises key information about the data collection.

Where can I get more information?

Further information can be found at www.decd.sa.gov.au (search:wec) or can be collected from the school. For questions or concerns, or to view the questions, please contact Betty Curzons, Project Manager, via email at DECD.WEC@sa.gov.au or by phone at (08) 8226-9144.

Canteen Roster

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24/7 Jason, Alison, Hedda	25/7 Anna C, Tania, Simone H	26/7 Nicole, Stella, Severina	27/7 Daniela R, Anna, Kylie J	28/7 Stacey, Andrea
31/7 Jason, Anna, Stella	1/8 Anna, Julie, Tania C	2/8 Jason, Nicole, Stella	3/8 Daniela R, Nicole, Hynda-Shin	4/8 Anna, Narelle
7/8 Jason, Alison, Hedda	8/8 Anna, Tania O	9/8 Stella, Nicole	10/8 Nicole, Eleanor M	11/8 Stacey, Andrea

NOTE from OSHC

What a successful last holidays in our old home!
The children enjoyed the planned activities and our excursion to Gameroom Essentials was voted the favourite out of the 2 weeks.

We have settled into our new space and any fresh ideas are welcome so please pop in and have your say! Our suggestion box is still located on the sign in desk.

We are now taking bookings for the Pupil Free Day on the 11th of August. We only have 30 places available so please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Thanks,
Stef, OSHC Director

PARENT INFORMATION

FREE parent workshop at SPELD

Teaching a child (4-6 years old) to read and write

Tues 29 Aug 10-11:30 am

This section will show parents how they can help their children develop the foundation skills for reading and writing and demonstrate a range of activities that can be incorporated into a 5 minute-a-day holiday program/daily routine
No charge – Please phone 8431 1655 to book a place

Dyslexia – what it is and how to help

Mon 21 Aug 7-9 pm

This section looks at the problems encountered by students with dyslexia and the ways in which they can be assisted.
No charge – Please phone 8431 1655 to book a place

Advertisement

On behalf of Little Athletics SA and our proud sponsor Toyota, we would like to present the **TOYOTA Little Athletics Program for Schools (LAPS)**.

TOYOTA LAPS is a **FREE** program for Primary Schools, designed to introduce students to the basic skills of athletics through a fun promotional Little Athletics session! The program's aim is to educate students about the benefits and fun of becoming actively involved in Little Athletics in their local area.

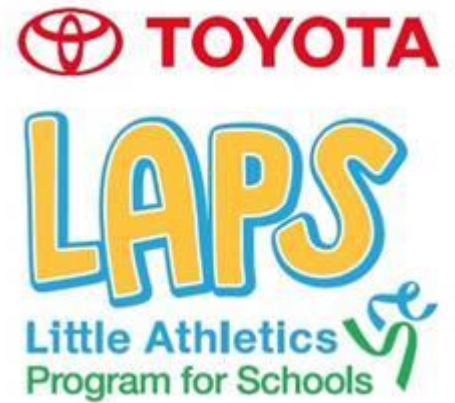
Sessions are conducted by Little Athletics SA coaches for up to 30 children at a time for 30 minutes. The coaches deliver a standardised session that incorporates running, jumping, and throwing, to give students an opportunity to learn and experience what is offered at Little Athletics.

Little Athletics SA are pleased to advise that bookings for TOYOTA LAPS are now available for Term 3 and 4.

The benefits involved are:

- One full day available for free.
- Reception to Year 2 classes get the opportunity to give athletics a try.
- Introductory running, jumping, and throwing activities to teach students about the different track and field athletic events that Little Athletics offers.
- Encourage the students to become actively involved in Little Athletics.
- All children who take part will receive a Little Athletics brochure, certificate, and wrist band. The school will be provided with a poster and a valuable resource CD which contains examples of athletics activities and lesson plans.

If you require further information, please visit <http://salaa.org.au/Schools/LAPS-Primary-Schools> or contact Little Athletics SA on laps@salaa.org.au or 8352 8133.



Attention Parents

Is your child a strong, safe swimmer?

Learning to swim takes time.

Start now & be ready for summer.

- Caring instructors
- Clean, fresh facilities
- Great results

There *is* a difference

State Swim Clovercrest
clovercrest@stateswim.com.au
8264 1268

