



Plympton PRIMARY SCHOOL

28 October, 2015
Week 3 Term 4



Diary Dates

October	
29	Student Discos
November	
6	Assembly: Room 2.1 hosts
9	Staff Only day
11	Open morning
13	Japanese Games Day
20	Assembly: Room 2.7 hosts
25	Orientation for 2016 starters
December	
1	School Council meets
2	Music Concert
3	Celebration Night
4	Assembly: Room 2.4 hosts Reports and 2016 Class
placements	
8	Yr 7 leaving Ceremony
10	School Picnic
11	last Day of T4. 1pm dismissal

Halloween Disco

Thursday 29 October, 2015
6:30-7:30 R- Year 4
7:45 – 8:45 Years 4-7
School Hall
\$5 (includes free soft drink or bottles water)

SRC Casual Day

Tuesday 3 November, 2015
Fun Day: 'Dress for the Races' Wear a fancy hat, dress like a jockey or simply wear your casual clothes.
Gold Coin donation.
Children will be able to participate in a variety of events at lunchtime.

Volunteers

We are very fortunate to have a number of volunteers who help out in a range of capacities at our school.

All of the volunteers who serve on school council, or who work directly with students must be cleared to do so by obtaining a background check through the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion.

In addition these volunteers need to be trained in responding to abuse and neglect. A workshop to deliver this training will be held on Wednesday 11 November at 2:15, and repeated for working parents at 7:30pm. Any current or prospective volunteer, or other interested parent is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please let Wendy at the front desk know which session you will attend.

Cup Cakes on Cup Day

Tuesday 3 November
Year 6&7 students will sell cup cakes at recess and lunch, raising money for Cancer Council
\$1.50 for 1 or \$2 for 2

Dental Care

Dental care is FREE for most school-aged children and ALL preschool children at the Marion GP Plus School Dental Clinic. All babies, children and young people, aged 0-17 years, are welcome to attend.

Marion GP Plus School Dental Clinic will be open during the Christmas school holiday break.
Please phone 7425 8400 to book an appointment.

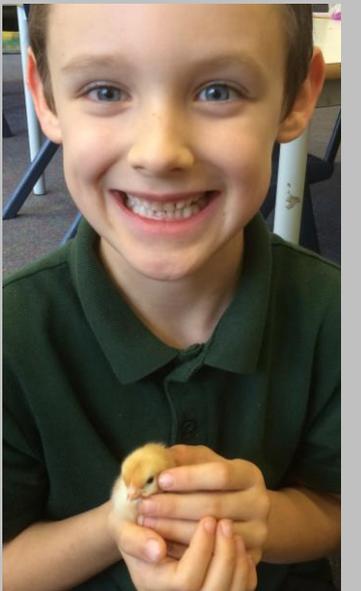
CHRISTMAS CRAFT

The Craft Club Coordinators, Anthea and Wendy, are looking for miniature figurines for Snow Dome Craft e.g. mini animals/pine cones/trees that will fit inside a small-medium sized jar.

Also, if you have any small-medium sized glass jars with a good fitting screw top lid, we would appreciate your donation. Lace, ribbon and wine corks would also be gratefully accepted. These items can be delivered to the Library any morning between 8.30 and 9.00 am

World Teachers' Day

On Friday 31 October, we celebrate World Teachers' Day. You are invited to get involved and say 'thank you' to a wonderful teacher at your school/pre-school. Visit the [DECD website](#), download the 'say thanks' activity, colour and decorate the attached 'owl', write a message on the back about how your teacher has made a difference in your life and present it to them on World Teachers' Day.



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development

Principal's Awards

Room 1 (Reception)

Kerry Baldwin

Tirth M for working hard to solve problems during Maths lessons

Joyeta P for working hard to make her own aboriginal flag

Room 6 (Reception)

Stephanie Kakoschke

Subhaan M for being able to recognise and read 445 sight words

Gurjot G for using his imagination and technology skills to construct amazing things

Room 2 (Reception & Year 1)

Georgina Ninos

Chloe G for being an honest member of our class

Bhavin R for respecting our classroom equipment and keeping the class tidy

Room 13.7 (Year 1)

Kerry Briggs

Marie G for always being well prepared for talk topics and presenting information in interesting ways

Emily S for researching and sharing information with the class on Science topics

Room 13.8 (Year 2)

Tina Bridgland & Jane Finlayson

Ethan M for great improvement in the presentation of his work

Connor W for showing respect for others by listening to the teacher, following instructions and caring for friends

Room 13.2 (Year 2)

Margie Barylak & Lynn Johnson

Sammy P for participating in oral language presentations to the class

Sarah W for bravely participating and presenting to the class in oral language

Room 13.1 (Year 3)

Brenton Woolford

Samuel G for demonstrating the classroom values and remaining focused on his goals as an effective learner

Zoe G for her honest effort in demonstrating the classroom values and remaining focussed on her goals as an effective learner

Room 2.4 (Years 3&4)

Cath Newbould/Kelly Rivett

Rodsi S for using initiative in completing tasks and finishing all work on the check list

Eftihia G for working respectfully with peers in collaborative tasks

Room 2.5 (Year 4)

Tracey Niekel

Levi L for demonstrating a positive attitude towards all learning tasks and for working well in his Science group

Aina A for always striving to achieve the best she can in all set learning tasks

Room 2.3 (Year 5)

Merryn Jones

Chloe A for constantly using her initiative to help in the classroom

Amilee DT for collaborating successfully in group activities

Room 2.7 (Years 5&6)

Jonathan Gardner

Ryan H for being an enthusiastic learner, completing set tasks to the best of his ability

Radin M for being a caring and committed member of the class, always enthusiastic and completing all set tasks to the best of his ability

Room 2.1 (Years 6&7)

Rose McCarty Jones

Sanjana A for always looking out for others in the classroom and being a good friend

Firas F for taking responsibility for his learning by setting himself thoughtful SMART goals for the term

Room 2.2 (Years 6&7)

Lauren Ireland

Ruby V for persisting and continuing to produce a high standard of learning even with a broken arm

Nehaal M for persisting with increasing and decreasing scales in Maths

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are independent

skills-based assessments with a competition element.

The assessments comprise

Computer Skills

General computer skills drawn from a range of curriculum areas and focussing on a variety of computing contexts, including:

- Common operating systems and hardware
- Graphics and multimedia
- Internet and email
- Programming and scripting
- Spreadsheets and databases
- Word processing.

Maths

Mathematical skills in a range of contexts from the following areas:

- Algebra and patterns
- Chance and data
- Measures and units
- Number and arithmetic
- Space and geometry.

Spelling

Spelling of words that range from simple spelling patterns to difficult or unusual spelling patterns, in four different contexts:

- Applying rules and conventions
- Dictation
- Error correction
- Proofreading.

English

Reading and language skills in a range of texts. Students are required to locate, identify, interpret, infer and synthesise information in and about texts, focusing on the aspects of:

- Reading for meaning in factual texts
- Reading for meaning in literary texts
- Syntax
- Textual devices
- Vocabulary.

Science

Scientific skills in the subject contexts of Earth and Beyond, Energy and Change, Life and Living, Natural and Processed Materials. The skills are from the following areas:

- Interpreting data
- Investigating
- Measuring and observing
- Predicting/Concluding from data
- Reasoning/Problem solving.

Writing

Constructing an aspect of a narrative text or a form of persuasive writing, demonstrating:

- Language choices that enhance the writing
- Punctuation
- Spelling
- Syntax and grammar
- Text purpose and structure.

Over one million student entries are accepted from over 6,300 schools in Australia and New Zealand annually. In addition, students from over 20 countries including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and the USA participate in ICAS each year.

This year we had 61 entries from 24 of our students in the competitions, and those students did very well.

34 received **participation** certificates, 3 received **merit** awards, 19 received **credits** and 5 received a **distinction** for their efforts.

These students were presented with their awards at our last assembly.

PCW CORNER

The topic of the week is HALLOWEEN which is celebrated on 31 October. This is an event with very ancient roots and it is celebrated at various levels all over the world depending on the local social, religious and civil culture. The celebration can wax and wane in any given society and at the moment in Australia it is waxing (growing).

An article on the retail side of Halloween in the Sunday Mail said that Halloween sales were quite minimal ten years ago and have really taken off in the last three years. Coles has reported an increase of 15% in sales of pumpkins and Spotlight a 100% increase in its Halloween products with people shopping earlier each year in readiness for the event. The increase in sales of the traditional costumes has been added to with people now dressing up their pets for the occasion. The Americans spent \$330 million on pet costumes in 2013. Pyjama King Retailer Peter Alexander said "Halloween is so much fun. It's great to see Aussies embracing this scary, spooky, wonderful day more and more each year".

So why is it that something that can be so much fun can also have a controversial element? It all has to do with the scary and spooky side of Halloween (spiders and ghosts etc) and the fact that historically the event of Halloween has to do with the subject of what happens to us when we die. There are different rituals all over the world that are used when people die and they are buried or cremated and these rituals tell a story about death.

There are two traditions which have been combined to form Halloween. One tradition stems from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain with roots in pagan practices where the spirits of the supernatural world were believed to return to earth and they needed to be appeased by gifts of food and drink (treats) otherwise bad things would happen (tricks). The other tradition is the Christian tradition of remembering the holy ones or saints (those who had died and gone to heaven ie the Hallowed Ones) on All Saints Day on Nov 1 – hence the evening before is known as All Hallows' Eve or Halloween.

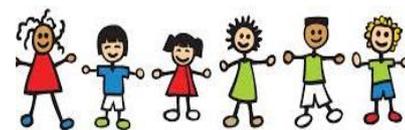
The school is having Halloween discos for the juniors and the seniors on Thursday night and the actual day for Halloween is Saturday. Some children will dress up and visit houses for treats. In Australia it is common these days for any house that is happy to be visited on Halloween to indicate that on their house. The decorations can be quite amazing – especially the pumpkin lanterns and the scary bits can be dealt with through a caring education.

Til next time
Karen Tromans
PCW

Karen Tromans works in our school as a Pastoral Care Worker, and her role is supported through the Federal Government Schools' Chaplaincy Program.

The following table summarizes their achievements.

Student	Computing	Science	Writing	Spelling	English	Maths
Sampson, James						Credit
Freer, James					Participation	Participation
Sharma, Dhruv	Distinction	Credit	Credit	Credit	Credit	Distinction
Fear, Lachlan		Participation				Participation
Palmer-Bray, Jack		Credit		Credit		Credit
Batra, Ryan				Participation	Participation	Participation
Leopardis, Braelyn				Merit	Participation	Participation
Ghummanm, Sanjog				Participation	Participation	Participation
Imran, Hamza	Participation	Participation	Participation	Participation	Participation	Participation
Patel, Shrey			Participation		Participation	Merit
Hutchins, James						Credit
Leopardis, Ceejay		Credit		Credit		
Sampson, Amelie		Participation	Credit	Credit	Credit	
Pasculli, Mia			Participation		Participation	
Sahani, Devang						Participation
Gupta, Bhavya					Participation	Participation
Hutchins, Ryan					Distinction	
Pasculli, Caleb		Credit		Credit	Distinction	Credit
Sharma, Priyasha			Participation	Distinction		Participation
Lombardi, Christopher				Participation		
Pienaar, Oliver			Participation			Participation
Adhikari, Subigya			Credit			Credit
Bilangel, Franco				Participation		Merit
Dissanayake, Onethra				Participation		Participation



Discipline and Children's Behaviour.

We shape our children's behaviour and they learn about caring thoughtful behaviour from watching the adults around them. Discipline is one of the tricky elements of parenting that we sometimes don't get right.

I think we need to be clear about the difference between discipline and punishment and I found an interesting article that helped me think this through. Discipline comes from the word 'to teach' and punishment is a reaction to unacceptable behaviour.

The aim of discipline is to help children take responsibility for their behaviour through teaching them appropriate responses to situations. As they grow we hope that they can become more self-disciplined and able to take responsibility for their behaviour. Successful discipline depends on good relationships and understanding of rules and expectations so children are aware of what behaviour is expected and acceptable. It also involves building an understanding of what happens if we break these rules and then choosing an appropriate consequence.

Lynn Johnson
Student Counsellor

Halloween treats and novelties will be sold in the Canteen on Thursday 29th October 2015 At Recess and Lunch times



Halloween donuts		\$1.00 each
Halloween Goody Bags (chips, sticky hand, novelty items)		\$4.00 each
Halloween masks ghost/skull/vampire/ugly		\$5.00 each
Halloween board games	Large \$2.00	Small \$1.00
Halloween novelty items	Glow in the dark bouncing eyeballs	\$2.00 each
	Gel blood window stickups	\$2.00 each
	Zombie slime	\$4.00 each
Bookmarks, lots of other fun items		from \$1.00-\$5.00

FUNDRAISING NEWS

HALLOWEEN STALL

We are holding a Halloween Stall in the Canteen at Recess and Lunchtime tomorrow. Items range from \$1 to \$5. Items for sale include donuts, goody bags, masks, board games, glow in the dark bouncing eyeballs, zombie slime and lots of other fun items. Bring your pocket money!!

CELEBRATION NIGHT

Celebration Night is fast approaching – Thursday December 3rd. We are trying to organise a raffle to raise funds for the school. If you have any items in good condition that you would like to donate for raffle prizes, please drop them into the Finance Office. We also need volunteers to help cook the BBQ and serve food/drinks on the night. Please leave your name with Wendy at the Front Office and the Fundraising Committee will contact you closer to the night to organise a roster. Thankyou in advance for your help – we couldn't put a night like this together without your help!

Gonski Funding is Getting Results at Our School

Why Gonski Funding Matters.

Plympton Primary School is the school of choice for many families in our community. We provide solid learning programmes for all of our students, not only in the basics of literacy and numeracy, but also broad and rich learning experiences in science, the arts, physical education, languages and social studies.

Some of our students experience learning difficulties in one or more areas. These students are accommodated with their age peers, and we work hard to meet their additional and individual needs.

Gonski funding allows our school to support the students who need additional support so that all students can reach their potential.

What is Gonski Funding?

The Gonski Review was the biggest review of school funding in Australia in over 30 years. Headed by respected business leader David Gonski, it found too many schools were under-resourced and children were missing out as a result. The review recommended a significant increase in funding and a change to the way it is distributed to ensure all schools are properly resourced to meet the needs of their students. The SA and Commonwealth Governments signed a Gonski agreement in 2013 which aimed to get all schools over a six year period to the point where they were appropriately resourced.

The Gonski review recommended schools be funded on a needs basis, because it found that lack of resources were denying many students the education they need. The plan was to release funds over a six-year period so that every school would be resourced to meet the needs of every student.

While the South Australian Government committed to the full six years of increased resources for our school, the current Federal Government only wants to provide four years of funding leaving a huge gap in the final two years.

In 2014 we received \$8000. This year it rose to \$13000 and over the next 4 years the funding should continue to grow. **If the agreement is honoured, we should receive a further \$393 000 in the last 2 years of funding, which would allow us to put our plan fully into action.**

The Difference Gonski Funding Is Making For Students

We have used this Gonski funding in 2014 and 2015 to build on things the school is already doing and to introduce new programs.

- We provided every class with additional SSO support for 2 lessons per week.
- We were able to support our 3 reception classes at the beginning of the 2015 school year by ensuring that each class was staffed by a teacher and an SSO for the first 3 weeks of school.
- We had SSO staff in the classrooms supporting supervision and guidance of the learning programme, allowing the class teacher to provide targeted help to those students with additional needs.

How Students Will Benefit If We Get The Full Gonski Funding

We've started some programs that we know are getting results. If we get the full six years of Gonski funding we can do more and deliver opportunities to more students.

- We noticed real benefits in our Reception classes with the additional SSO support. The transition for students from pre-school to school was smoother and less disruptive.
- When SSO's are present in classes, we are seeing students more engaged in their learning and less disruptive behaviors.
- We believe we can get best results when students in most need are supported by staff with the most expertise. By providing an extra staff member in each class, the teacher can more readily support those students with additional needs.

Getting the Resources Our Children Deserve

- At present, SSO staff are too thinly spread across the school. Our ambitious plan which would see an SSO in every classroom, every day, especially during crucial literacy and numeracy learning time.
- We believe there will be enormous benefits for student learning at our school and investing in our children's future in this way is too important not to support. We are looking for a commitment from the federal government that will give funding certainty to continue our plans to improve student learning at our school.
- Without this commitment, the SA Government estimates it will leave our school nearly \$393,000 short.
- We would love politicians from all parties to support in full this once in a generation investment.
- That will give us the certainty to know we can continue with our plans to improve student learning at our school.
- Teachers and parents are continuing to campaign for this vital investment. If you would like to find out more or register your support visit:
www.igiveagonski.com.au