Plympton Primary School is finding its rhythm with students choosing a variety of musical opportunities in 2016. We have music classes and performing arts for all students, choir for 35 students in Year 5-7, piano and guitar for interested Reception to Year 7 students and now our music program has expanded to include more students in the Beachfront Hub. This is an opportunity for Year 5-7 students to learn Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Electric Bass and Percussion with the DECD Instrumental Music Service on Wednesday mornings at Brighton High School.

LEADERSHIP NEWS
Ministerial Visit—We Give a Gonski!

Matt Williams MP, Federal Member for Hindmarsh will be visiting with his colleague, Hon Susan Ley MP, Minister for Sport, Health and Aged Care on Monday 7 March 2016, at 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

Our Student Representative Council Year 5-7 students along with House Captains and Sports Captains will attend a meeting to discuss being an effective representative of people, important leadership skills and the process of electioneering. The Sports Captains will also be presented with a certificate of recognition for their leadership in sport.

Our parent and carer community along with grandparents are invited to speak with our local member and Hon Susan Ley from 3.00pm to 3.15pm. They will be in the central courtyard under the shade area. Please come over and have a chat about any Hindmarsh issues, topics related to sport, health and aged care.

Most importantly I ask you to enquire about the future of Gonski funding and the impact it will have if it is withdrawn from our students. To understand more about Gonski funding watch a short Gonski clip on YouTube—“What is Gonski”? “How schools have used Better Schools Funding 2015” by DECD; Gonski at Work Principals” by NSWTF. This funding is a landmark initiative to fulfill the vision of a ‘fair go’ where all students will have access to educational resources they need to reach their full potential. This funding aims to achieve a fully funded needs based funding system for all students. This funding is at risk of being cut at the next election.

OSHC
BOOK NOW for PUPIL FREE DAY
on Tuesday 15th March.
Limited spaces left.

At OSHC this week the children have been relaxing in bean bags after a hard day of learning at school. Some of the other children have been reading with their friends. If you need to get a message to OSHC during the day you can ring the mobile number and leave a message. Nick checks his phone regularly and will get back to you asap. If you want to book a spot for your child contact Nick at nick.gillard28@schools.sa.edu.au or phone on 0401121136.
**Year 6/7**

In Room 13.2 and Room 2.5, we have been looking at ways to improve our writing. One of these ways is through using similes in our writing. Similes are a way of comparing one thing to another to help give the reader a picture in their mind. We wrote poems and then published them creatively.

Room 2.7 have been working on self introductions in Japanese. We wrote and learned to say our names, ages, year levels and country. We presented some of them at last week’s assembly, which we ran.

**Year 3/4/5**

In Room 13.2 and Room 2.5, we have been looking at ways to improve our writing. One of these ways is through using similes in our writing. Similes are a way of comparing one thing to another to help give the reader a picture in their mind. We wrote poems and then published them creatively.

**Specialists**

After School Sports started Tuesday night with over 60 students learning to play cricket and tennis. The Year 6/7 students are coaches for each sport. The program is lead by Mr Anthony Worden our PE Specialist Teacher. This is also a great time for the parents to have time to relax on the lawn.

**Wellbeing & Care**

**Screen Time**

The question many of us are asking ourselves is how much is too much how much is healthy and is it something that we should be worrying excessively about. One of the most useful articles I found suggested that time spent in front of the screen is not the question we should be asking ourselves and is unrealistic in being able to answer; but what we should be asking ourselves is what are our children watching.

The article did suggest a number; 7 but not in terms of time but points to consider around managing your child’s screen time. Here is a summary for your information.

1. Convince. Your children that too much screen time can be harmful for them.
2. Agree. Come up with a number of a minutes or hours for screen time, on which you and your children agree upon. Make the number realistic, but whatever you agree, be specific: no phones at the dinner table, for example; or no screens for an hour before bedtime.
3. Give and take. The agreement should be mutual. Children see you modelling behaviour, if you are constantly checking your mobile that is what they learn.
4. Make it fun and rewarding. Give proper incentives, as well as penalties for not following agreed rules. That goes for parents too: which penalties will you agree to if you fail in your own self-control?
5. Planning. Before children turn on their screen, remind them of the agreed time limit. Have them set an alarm and encourage them to plan out how they are going to use the time.
6. Keep a track of the time your children are having screen time. Have them to plan out how they are going to use the time.
7. Encourage something different. Try to find hobbies or sports that are as fun as digital media. You could set a one-to-one matching rule, for example, if children play video games for one hour, they also play outdoors for one hour.

**Material and Services Fees**

Invoices for the 2016 M&S Fees were sent home via your student last week. The last day to pay your fees is Thursday the 14th of April 2016 – the last Thursday of term 1.

If you are a low income earner, please collect a School Card Form from the Finance Office.

If you wish to pay by instalments, please see Alison Salisbury in the Finance Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays.

**ICAS Competitions**

If you wish for your child to enter any of the ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) Competitions for 2016, please see Alison Salisbury in the Finance Office for a permission form. Year 3-7 subjects include Digital Technologies, Science, Writing English and Mathematics. Spelling is available for year 2-7. To learn more about ICAS go to www.ea.unsw.edu.au/icas/about or see Alison in the Finance Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

**News**

**Kyttons Fundraising**

We are holding a Kyttons Fundraiser to raise funds for the Oval Shelter Pavilion. Your child would have received an order form last week. More are available from the Finance Office. Orders need to be paid to the Finance Office by Wednesday 16th March. Orders can be collected from the Front Office from 3pm on Wednesday 23rd March – just in time for Easter.

**Easter Bunny is on his Way**

We are holding an Easter Stall in the Canteen at Recess and Lunchtime on Wednesday the 23rd of March. Bring your pocket money!!!

Please be aware if your child has an allergy, we will be selling chocolate Easter eggs and other snack and treat items.

Please keep an eye out for flyers around the school listing prices and items for sale.
PLYMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATION FOR ELECTION FORM

I………………………………………………………………………………...(full name) of………………………………………………………(address)

NOMINATE
………………………………………………………………………………………(full name) of ……………………………………………..(address)

To be elected as a member of Plympton Primary School Council
I………………………………………………………………………………...(full name) of………………………………………………………(address)

accept the nomination and hereby declare that:
I have not been declared bankrupt and do not receive a benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors.
I have not been convicted of any offence of dishonesty, or of a sexual nature involving a minor, or of violence against another person.
I understand that should I be declared bankrupt, receive a benefit of law for the relief of insolvent debtors or be convicted of any of the offences listed my membership for Plympton Primary School Council will cease.
I agree to undertake a criminal history check prior to commencing an appointment on the council. More information is available at http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/hrstaff/pages/default/criminalhistory/
I am interested in Plympton Primary School Council Advisory Committee
Out of School Hours Care  Fundraising  Grounds & Facilities

Signed………………………………………………………………………………………..….Date…………………………………………...………..