ED Tech SA Conference

On the last Thursday and Friday of the July school holidays, 11 staff attended the EdTechSA conference. The EdTechSA conference covered various sessions in teaching and learning with Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and Digital Technologies. Staff attended various different sessions from coding to creating beats and rhymes with Hip Hop music and the impact of Humanoid robots on Student Learning.

Everyone was surprised and excited by the amount of resources and ideas that are available to us to increase student learning outcomes. It was a fabulous day of discovering, playing, exploring and learning. We are looking forward to seeing this new learning start to show in the classrooms.

Rachael Courtney
Deputy Principal
EXCITING NEWS – STEM BUILDING

Exciting News! Our school will have up to $1 million invested at our site to improve our science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) facilities.

We’re one of 139 schools across the state to benefit from this $250 million state government investment. Planning for these facilities will start immediately with construction to be completed before the end of 2018.

Contemporary facilities and learning approaches will help to engage our students and prepare them for jobs in a wide range of industries from health to defence including advanced manufacturing.

STEM ROCKET PROJECT

For the past few years students at Pimpala have been involved in this project. It involves designing, building and launching rockets made from recycled plastic bottles which are powered by water and air pressure. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics and this project requires students to use skills and understandings from all of these areas.

In the project’s first year it was simply a one-off activity during Science Day. Last year it was expanded into a STEM project lasting a few weeks. This year the project was expanded further into a competition with the 4/5 classes spending several weeks on the project. There were two categories in the competition, one for the individual team rocket that travelled the furtherest and another for the class with the highest average distance of all their rockets.

This year Mr Branson’s class was the winner, with an average distance of 37 metres. The individual team winners were Hayden Smith, Jaxson Carman and Snehal Mahesh whose rocket, The Annihilator, flew 61 metres. The winners will be presented with trophies at the school assembly in Week Two.

I am extremely proud of the effort of all the students involved. They all worked hard and not only got a valuable learning experience, but also had lots of fun.

Vance Smith
Science Teacher

BOOK WEEK 2016

“Australia: Story Country”

Book Week is the longest running children’s festival in Australia. It is an annual event celebrated by schools and local community libraries to promote books and reading. Each year the Children’s Book Council of Australia selects books written or illustrated by Australian authors to be shortlisted in a book competition. These books can be recognised by the bronze circle on them. All classes have been exposed to some of these books.

We will be having a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library from Wednesday 24th August to Wednesday 31st August. Students will have the opportunity of looking at the display on Wednesday after school, Thursday before school and Thursday lunch time. There will be no sales during these 3 sessions as these times will enable children to make a wish list. The Library will be open for sales on Thursday 25th August after school to Wednesday 31st August before school.

On Friday 26th August we will conclude our Book Week celebrations with a Book Week Parade at 9:30am. Parents, grandparents and special friends are invited to our special “Australia: Story Country” Book Week Parade. Our Assembly will be hosted by Mrs Lewis’ Year 4/5 class.

The parade will be held under the COLA and will showcase the children, and maybe some teachers, dressed up in costumes / masks based on the characters or storyline from the shortlisted book chosen by their class. The costumes will be made in class and will just add a bit of fun to the morning.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the parade.
Deb Hampton
Teacher Librarian

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

It’s Scholastic Book Club time again! A great way to encourage reading is to allow children to choose the books they want to read. Scholastic offers a wide range of books suited to many children’s reading levels and interests.

Payment
Once you have looked over the catalogue and selected books you wish to purchase there are 2 ways to pay.
1. Mark them on the order form on the back of the catalogue and return the order form to the Finance Window with payment.
2. Order online by logging into www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP and following the instructions.

Last day to order is Wednesday, 10th August, 2016. No late orders will be accepted.

FATHER’S DAYSTALL DONATIONS

Father’s Day is on Sunday, 4th September. We are seeking donations of new items for our Father’s Day Stall. Please bring any donations of new items to the Front Office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

This term our Year 4/5 classes will participate in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, Mrs Lewis and Mr Branson’s classes will participate in Weeks 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 while Mrs Rigney and Mr Kems classes will enjoy the program in Weeks 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

We require helpers for both kitchen and garden lessons. If you are interested and have both the DCSI clearance to work with children and have completed RAN training (or equivalent), we would love your help. Please inform your class teacher or myself if you are able to help in any of our classes. All help is greatly appreciated.

Michele Ormsby-Smith
Kitchen Garden Coordinator
0408637850

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PARKING

Parking spaces are at a premium for staff and POSHC workers every day particularly before and after school. We ask you NOT to park in the school grounds under any circumstances, particularly not for drop off or pick up. You will be asked to move your vehicle if you park in the car park.

The kiss & drop zone is available on Vanstone Avenue and is supervised by a staff member from 8:30am to 8:50am each morning and from 3:10 to 3:25 in the afternoons. Thank you for your co-operation.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Many of our students bring a variety of food for lunch and recess and on occasion have asked for food to be heated and for eating utensils.

Please note: the school does not heat up lunches brought from home, or supply students with utensils.

Can you please ensure your child has everything they need to eat the food you pack for them.

WANTED

NETBALL COACH & PLAYERS (YEAR 6/7)

The Year 6/7 netball team needs a coach for Tuesday after school matches and Tuesday lunchtime practice (if possible). If you are interested and have both the DCSI clearance to work with children and have completed RAN training (or equivalent), please see Christine Seyfang or contact the Front Office.

The team also needs at least one more player, more if possible and a coach by Week 3 or unfortunately, the team will fold. Please see Ms Seyfang if you would like to coach or play for the team.

WALKATHON

Get ready for our annual Walkathon which will be held on Tuesday, 9th August and is one of our major fundraising events for the year. The aim of the Walkathon is for the students to be active and promote a healthy lifestyle. All students complete a walking course especially designed for their age group with each student anticipated to complete a maximum of 5 laps in the time available.

Each student is asked to find sponsors for the Walkathon including family, friends or neighbours. Sponsors can either give a donation or promise a specific amount of money for each lap of the course completed by the student to a maximum of 5 laps.

The individual student who raises the most money will win a Westfield Gift Voucher (First prize - $100, second prize - $50 and third prize $20). There will also be 50 prizes to be won in the Lucky Draw at the Special Assembly on Friday, 26 August at 2:30pm.

Every student who returns their card with $5 or more is guaranteed a prize in the Lucky Dip to reward their efforts. Lucky Dip prizes are available from Monday, 1st August from the Front Office during recess, lunch and after school.

The last day to return completed Sponsorship Forms is Friday, 19th August.

Please put the Walkathon date in your diary as family and friends are also encouraged to participate in this fun event. Please note if the weather is inclement the Walkathon will be postponed to the following day.

CREDIT UNION SA

Easy Budget Account

Members have told us that all their regular bills such as school fees, car rego, insurance, electricity, home loan, phone and internet have an annoying habit of all falling due within days of each other. Costs quickly add up, our disposable income disappears, and we start feeling nervous when going to the letter box, worried about having to open yet another bill. Credit Union SA recognised that an account that helped avoid those frustrating bumps in budgeting, and took away the stress of balancing finances each month, may offer peace of mind. So we created our brand new Easy Budget Account! The Easy Budget Account helps you better manage your bills by spreading your payments evenly across the year.

Save time, gain peace of mind

So if you would like to make your life easier, and feel confident that you’ve got your bills covered, contact us to find out more and start your 12 month free trial*:

Call your School Community Representative:
Northern area - Dimitri Carapetis 8202 7673 Southern area - Mark Kohler 8202 7675, or visit creditunionsa.com.au