Last Friday, the 25th of November, we held our first Celebration of Learning concert. There were a wide range of performances including an Indonesian Christmas song, Choir performances, dances created by students, a song about Australian animals, a shadow puppet performance, a traditional Indonesian dance and many more. The performance gave students a fantastic opportunity to build their confidence when performing in front of an audience. Our Year 6 students took on important organisational roles for the day including setting up the hall, welcoming families, setting up the props for performances and introducing each of our items. All of these roles allowed these students to build on their leadership skills.

The Celebration of Learning was exactly that; a chance for students, teachers and families to celebrate the learning that has happened over the school year. We would like to thank everyone who came to watch and support our students on the day. It was an amazing turn out and the students were so excited to see so many familiar faces in the audience. We would also like to acknowledge the wonderful work of all the staff and students for putting together such an amazing performance for the day.

Zemes, Year 1 – I liked dressing up and doing the actions with Mrs Dobson’s class. It was fun performing Taba Naba to some of the parents.

Catie, Reception – I liked everyone’s performances because they were all different. I felt a bit scared performing to everyone but after I felt happy.

Khushi, Year 5 – I thought it was great fun because we got to learn something new and got to speak a different language in front of a big audience. I felt a bit nervous when I got up on stage but when I started speaking I felt a bit better.

Cooper, Year 4 – I felt a bit nervous but then when we started dancing it felt amazing. I thought it was pretty good that we got to see everyone’s performances. All of them were amazing because it looked like they put lots of time and effort into them.

Rachel Pullman on behalf of the Celebration of Learning Committee

What a spectacular afternoon it was last Friday afternoon at the Celebration of Learning concert. The students did a brilliant job at performing, presenting and participating. Our teachers and the Celebration of Learning Committee worked tirelessly and should be congratulated for their commitment to this fabulous event. Thank you to all of the families who supported this concert.

At this time of year we bid our farewells to staff who are moving on including Michelle Smith, Scott Whitters, Deb Egglestone and myself. Deb Egglestone has been at Pimpala for a long period of time and is well respected by students, staff and families. She has been an brilliant educator of students in the early years and her passion for learning and doing her utmost for students and families, will be sorely missed. We wish Deb well for a long and happy retirement.

I have enjoyed my time at Pimpala and wish you all the very best for the future. I am sure you will be in good hands with Ken Smith, the new Principal from next year.

Karen Knox
Principal
Feedback: dl.1059.info@schools.sa.edu.au
TEACHERS FOR 2017

Year 6/7  Jo Power
Year 6/7  Christine Seyfang
Year 5/6  Chris Burns
Year 5/6  Richard Kemp
Year 5/6  Alyssa Rigney
Year 3/4  Nigel Branson
Year 3/4  Gerry Lewis
Year 3/4  Neil Lohmeyer
Year 2/3  Susan Kaye
Year 2/3  Mel Yates
Year 2/3  Peter Lucas
Year 2/3  Lisa Mitchell
Year 1  Sandra Howlett
Year 1  Pam Sims
R/1  Hazel Howlett
Rec  Silvia Lang
Rec  Pam Ryles
Indonesian  Rachel Pullman
Science  Vance Smith
PE  Michael Sboro
Music  Sarah Pearce
Library  Deb Hampton
Student Learning Support  Sarah Bosworth
Maths Support  Eliza Dixon

PIMPALA APP

If you have not already done so, we strongly encourage all of our school community to download the Pimpala PS app. The app is currently being used to send school wide notices including payment reminders for excursions and events including special lunches, alerts and the newsletter.

It is really simple to download. Just go to the App Store for Apple users and Google Play for android phones and search- “Skoolbag” and then “Pimpala PS”.

Please also make sure you enable push notifications so that when a message is sent, you know about it immediately. This way any information uploaded to the app is available in your phone for your reference anytime.

CHRISTMAS GIVING

As in past years, Pimpala will be co-ordinating donations of canned and non-perishable food and presents for a local church to distribute to needy families. These items are used to make hampers for the less fortunate in our community.

Let’s make it a great time for everyone this Christmas by bringing something to help struggling families. Please bring items including canned food, packet food or unwrapped new presents and toys to the Front Office.

OUTAGES

Most of this term Pimpala has had intermittent internet and email services which may have impacted on the level of service we have been able to provide, particularly relating to absence SMS, email, uploading of data and articles to the website and app and classroom use.

It appears Telstra has been able to rectify the line issues and we are looking forward to a more stable school internet service. There will also be an upgrade to the administration system during the holidays which should also result in an improved service. We appreciate your patience during this time.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Thank you to those of you who responded to our request for email addresses. Next year we plan to use email to send notes, the newsletter and other communications. Consequently, we need to make sure we have your most up to date email address on our records.

Please provide your most current email address by sending an email to the school info address dl.1059.info@schools.sa.edu.au from your phone, ipad or computer with the Subject “Email Address – Your Child’s Name”. Please make sure you include your child/ren’s names in the subject line and send this email by Friday, 9th December. This will ensure we have the right address on file for any future contact, distributions etc.

Please note: From the beginning of 2017, if we do not have an up to date email address, you will have to access the newsletter and other notes from the app only. Hard copies will only be available from the Front Office next year.

REPORTS AND CLASS PLACEMENTS

Student summary reports for 2016 are currently being processed. These will be sent home with the students on Tuesday, 13th December, the last week of the school year.

Also, if you are part of a separated family and would like a second copy posted to a different address, please let the Front Office staff know by Monday, 12th December.

Class structures and placements are being finalised and we hope to be able to inform you of this when you receive your child’s report. A range of factors are taken into consideration as part of the class placement process including friendship groups, working relationships, teacher input and parent requests. We are unable to guarantee any requests. However, we are confident that after careful consideration we have made the best class placement for your child for 2017.

As always please keep in mind that unforeseen circumstances between now and the commencement of next year may result in some changes. If you have any concerns please contact us.
CLEARANCES & TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers at Pimpala Primary School need to have a DCSI clearance and have undertaken RAN – EC volunteer training. In the past DCSI applicants completed paper applications and showed 100 points of ID at school, however DCSI will now only accept electronic applications from the school. If you would like to apply for a DCSI clearance, please provide the Front Office with your name, date of birth, phone number and email address and we will lodge the application on your behalf. DCSI will then contact you directly to complete the process.

Great news! We have been able to secure RAN – EC training for volunteers on site at Pimpala for 2 sessions early next year. These sessions will be run by South Australian Association of School Parents Club and will be held on:

- Friday, 3rd February, 2017 from 9:00am – 11:00am
- on Friday, 17th February 2017 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm.

Please note: these sessions are for anyone who registers with SAASPC and not just Pimpala Primary School volunteers. Please book in with the Front Office to guarantee your spot at the training.

YEAR 7 GRADUATION

The Year 7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, 15th December at 6.00pm in the Hall. Family and friends are invited to attend the ceremony to celebrate this special event. Please come along and celebrate with the Year 7s as they graduate from primary school.

Afterwards, students and staff will attend a Graduation Dinner at St Francis Winery. Notes have been sent home. Payment is due to the Front Office by Monday, 12th December.

Please note: the dinner is for students and staff only.

NDIS SERVICE PROVIDERS

Due to the growth in enrolments, the number of visiting DECD practitioners and the high demand for the use of the meeting room from within the school, it will not be possible for Pimpala Primary School to host NDIS Service Providers from 2017. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

LIBRARY - BOOKS DUE BACK

Please make sure you have returned any borrowed books as all book returns were due today, Friday, 2nd December.

Please note: Invoices will be issued for unreturned or damaged books.

PIMPALA’S GOT TALENT

Pimpala’s Got Talent is a lunch-time competition created last year by Tiana Swan and Alyssa Forsaith. It is a talent show which students from all year levels have been excited to participate in and be involved with.

We are proud of the successful audition process. 99 students auditioned to make the Top 10 Finals in Week 9.

A large crowd of students and teachers have turned up each day for the auditions. We hope to have an even larger crowd of students for the Pimpala’s Got Talent Finals to show the participants how much support they have. Everyone at Pimpala has talent and now is the time to show it!

Parents will have the opportunity to watch the finalists at the End Of Year Assembly on Friday, 16th December at 10:15am when the winner from each group Rec-2, Years 3 - 5 and Years 6 - 7 will perform.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

We are the Environmental Committee, and our role is to sort out all the recycling in the school. Our team started off with the two boys who have done a great job for the last three weeks. We need you all to put your recycling in the right bins. We love doing this because we are helping the environment and making the school a better and cleaner place.

By Aiden M, Jordan M, Tahlia M and Teresa O.

END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY

There will be a End-Of-Year assembly on Friday, 16th December at 10.15am to say goodbye and good luck to our Year 7 graduates – all 40 of them. We will also farewell a number of staff including Karen Knox, Michelle Smith, Scott Whitters and finally Deb Egglestone who is retiring. We will also acknowledge our contract teachers this year: Emma Shillum, Michelle Parslow and Jordan Wheatcroft.

We wish all of you a happy and successful future and thank you for your time at Pimpala.

CANTEEN CLOSED WEEK 9

The canteen will be closed during the last week of this term, 12th – 16th December, 2016. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

RESPECT FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS

Can you please make sure you respect our neighbours by not damaging their gardens and in particular breaking the heads off of the flowers.
SWIMMING RECEPTION – YEAR 5

Students in the class groups listed below will be attending swimming lessons each day next week, 5th to 9th December. (Students in Mrs Egglestone, Ms Howlett, Mrs Lang and Ms Sims’ classes attended swimming lessons this week).

Students will be attending lessons at various times during the day, with junior primary students attending the earlier sessions. Students are asked to wear their bathers under their uniforms to school. Please do not wear thongs to school. Students will go to the swimming centre and return wearing their bathers, wrapped in their towels and will get changed into their uniforms when they return to school.

Lunch orders will be available as usual and the lunches will be available at the most suitable times for the classes.

Please note: only teachers may take photographs/videos at the swimming centre. This is to respect and protect the rights of the children and the instructors in relation to privacy.

**GROUP 1: RYLES & SEYFANG**
- Depart School: 9:10am
- Swimming Lesson: 9:30am – 10:15am
- Depart Pool: 10:20am

**GROUP 2: DOBSON & YATES**
- Depart School: 9:55am
- Swimming Lesson: 10:15 – 11:00am
- Depart Pool: 11:05am

**GROUP 3: KEMP, RINEY & LUCAS (Year 3s)**
- Depart School: 10:35am
- Swimming Lesson: 11:00am - 12:30pm
- Depart Pool: 12:45pm

**GROUP 4: KAYE, LEWIS & BRANSON**
- Depart School: 12:30pm
- Swimming Lesson: 1:00pm – 2:30pm
- Depart Pool: 2:45pm sharp

Please ensure ALL items are labelled with your child’s name. Any unclaimed items will be put in the lost property boxes in the courtyard.

Thank you to parents for providing up to date Health Care Plans. Any medication at school will be taken to the pool by staff for the child’s use if required each day.

UNIFORM SHOP HOLIDAY OPEN TIMES

During the school holidays the Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday, 24th January, 2017 from 1:30 – 3:30pm for your convenience.

VOLUNTEERS MORNING TEA

Reminder: On Wednesday, 14th December we will be holding our annual Volunteers morning tea to appreciate and acknowledge your valuable contributions. Invitations have been posted to our wonderful volunteers. However, if you do not receive an invitation but have contributed in some way to our school during the year, we would love for you to join us at 10:45am on Wednesday, 14th December in the Dining Room.

CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Notes will be sent home by class teachers next week advising of the dates of class Christmas parties and what your child should bring.

IDEAS FOR HELPING CHILDREN WITH ANXIETY

Most kids experience worry, fear or anxiety on at least some days. Here are some common worries we see in the clinic and you probably see with children you work with:

- Imaginary creatures (like monsters, ghosts, aliens etc)
- Them getting hurt, sick, injured or dying
- Other people getting hurt, sick, injured or dying
- The dark or being alone
- Being separated from Mum or Dad or other carers
- Not being good enough at something or doing badly/failing
- Getting in trouble or being told off
- Germs or being clean

Of course there are a range of other anxiety triggers too - including trauma, difficult life events, loss and others.

Generally we believe helping children with worry involves 4 different basic processes:

- Being empathetic - not always immediately trying to “talk them out of” their worry, but being caring. “I’m sorry you feel nervous about that” is a helpful sentence for us to say to children - and one we sometimes miss as professionals as we try to treat/solve and “fix” anxiety problems.
- Helping them come up with calm and reassuring sentences they can say to themselves. We are wanting to not provide the reassurance ourselves all the time, but get them to be able to do this independently (and sometimes we will be wanting to teach parents to help kids do it independently as well)
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- Helping them act in brave and confident ways rather than avoid the thing they are afraid of. This often needs lots of small, step by step work.
- Helping them relax their bodies and slow their breathing.

For more information, visit calmkidcentral.com