Climbing tree
I love the busy, engaging and sometimes messy nature that exists in schools like ours. We have had such a full and exciting couple of weeks at Naracoorte South, which have set us up for a fantastic year of learning. Last Thursday, we were very fortunate to have Simon Hutchinson from nature play consulting company Climbing Tree spend the whole day with us. On arrival, his first comments were to exclaim over the wonderful and spacious grounds we have, and he was particularly taken with our nature park area. Simon ran a variety of junk loose parts sessions with our junior primary and year 4/5 students, and was impressed with the creativity, problem solving and co-operation skills shown by some of our children. He has inspired us to collect our own junk loose parts for children to use at break times and lessons; later on in this newsletter we have included photos of the types of ‘junk’ we are after if you happen to have any you are willing to donate. At lunch time, Simon spent some time with me walking around the grounds to give us some suggestions for our planned natural play spaces. After lunch, Simon and Natasha Dawson worked with our Environmental and Agricultural group on some fantastic team building activities. Our staff also had the opportunity to take part in a training and development session on play and natural play spaces. Simon talks a lot about the benefits of outdoor play and in particular, children taking calculated risks in a nurturing and supervised environment. As a former outdoor education teacher, Simon is well-versed in playground safety standards and risk-management and can help schools develop spaces that meet the DECD standards yet are inspiring, engaging and encourage creative play. On the Thursday night, Simon held an information session for over 60 interested educators and community members, culminating in a consultation session on the proposed Memorial Oval Nature Play space. A big thank you to Simon who was energetic, engaging and
Teacher Nominations
I am proud to announce that two of our staff members have been nominated for this years’ SA excellence in public teaching awards! Deputy Kym Shepherd has been nominated for being supportive of staff members, students and parents and her attention to detail in ensuring the school is running smoothly. Tina Watson has again been nominated, this time for her passion and commitment to using the Walker Learning approach to empower her students. What deserving nominations, well done ladies!

Governing Council
A reminder that Monday night is our Governing Council AGM. If you are at all interested in becoming a councillor, feel free to speak to me, Troy Henschke, chairperson or any other of our councillors. On the next page you will find a Sub-committee nomination form. You do not have to be on Governing Council to have a say on one of these committees. We need parent, student and staff input for these committees to be effective.

Harmony Day
We look forward to celebrating Harmony Day next Friday with children from Naracoorte and surrounds. We will again be involved in a concert at the town square from 10:30, which all parents and family members are encouraged to attend. Children will travel to the square by bus (no cost) and are encouraged to wear orange to celebrate the day.

SAPSASA
Congratulations to Elise Barker for being selected in the Upper South East swimming team at Bordertown yesterday. Well done!

Kirsty
Hello, my name is John Stayte and I am the new Pastoral Care Worker, providing a Chaplaincy Service at NSPS. Pastoral Care Workers offer a unique dimension of care and support to all members of the school community. I will be a positive role model and I bring compassion, understanding and provide practical, ongoing support to students and families. My role includes working alongside and complementing other welfare and wellbeing staff in the school.

As the School Pastoral Care Worker, I will be running lunchtime activities and will be available in the yard. I will work alongside teachers and students in the classroom, and will be an extra resource to teachers to support extra-curricular events and activities. I also provide a Christian presence in the school on behalf of the local churches.

I will be at the school on Monday and Thursdays, and can be contacted by students through the front office, my office is in room 18. Parents and care-givers can contact me through the school front office, and by email john.stayte332@schools.sa.edu.au. I am really looking forward to assisting the school staff to provide the best outcomes for students and their families.

John Stayte
PCW

On Monday the 29th of February James and Katie from room 14 interviewed Andrea Henschke. Andrea has been volunteering at NSPS for 8 years, she listens to kids read, works in the canteen, helps out for sports day and Breaky club. She enjoys helping the kids. In her spare time she like to be with her family and her friends.

Paul McCarthy
Sports Coordinator

Round 3 this weekend. We head to Naracoorte Primary to line up against NPS Yellow. Good luck guys ☺

Reminder - If the forecast temperature on Saturday in 37C or above the games will be cancelled. Please check with your coach Friday evening.

Special Projects ☐ Parent Fundraising ☐ Finance ☐
Canteen ☐ Sport ☐
On Thursday, we had the best day, we had Simon from Climbing Tree visit and he talked to us about respecting each other. He then put us into groups and we collected rubbish stuff, like tyres, wood and sticks. We could make anything we wanted! Some groups made an obstacle course, a tepee or a tree house. We made a ‘nature cafe’. My group worked well together. I want to do this again soon.

Livvy Thomson
Room 12
Grade 5
Students have been busy honing their jump rope skills throughout the school in preparation for our whole school 'Jump Off Day' on Wed 30th March. Kids have been participating in both big and small rope activities and have improved rapidly as a result.

Kids are encouraged to continue with their fundraising efforts and try to raise as much money as they can for the Heart Foundation. If students need more sponsorship forms they are available at the front office.

The 'Jump Day' will involve all classes skipping together in the gymnasium continuously for 45 minutes. Parents are encouraged to come along and join in with proceedings.

Keep skipping for a healthy heart.

Mr McCarthy
**School Leaders**

It is fantastic to see our School Leaders embracing their new roles. It is wonderful that we are able to give them so many opportunities to develop and refine new skills and abilities. Have a read below at just some of the things we have been doing!

**KIC**

The KIC executive have been busy behind the scenes already 😊 We have had several meetings to start organising the year and will hold our first R-7 meeting today. Sam, Emily, Nat and Ned have organised their first assembly, planned how to best organise our R-7 meetings for the year, planned Governing Council reports and sold drinks at our fabulous Kids Matter Event (and its only Week 5!!) I am looking forward to seeing how this little team shape our events for the year 😊

**EAGS**

The EAGS members have been equally as busy! They have met with Natasha Dawson and begun making plans for their year. They were also fortunate enough to attend a session with Simon Hutchinson while he was at NSPS. It was a team building activity requiring them to cross a rope between two trees. It took great communication, planning and collaboration to work out a solution. All fabulous skills this group can harness whilst working together this year.

The EAGS Leaders (John, Abby, Ben and Caitlin) also attended their first Young Environmental Leaders Program (YELP) at the Caves on Tuesday. This saw them learning about sustainability, the impact of humans on the environment and nature identification. They also forged relationships with other YELP participants from schools around the South East and spoke about environmental issues that were close to their hearts. They were given the opportunity to start planning their projects to be implemented back at school this year.

**School Photographers**

Chloe, Jack T, James B and Katie have all started the year with photography jobs already. They all had a turn taking photos at the Kids Matter event and have also been seen snapping shots at assembly and around the school. You will see their volunteer articles in our newsletter each week too. We have photographer request forms in the staffroom and office that staff members can fill out if they would like some photos taken of activities happening around our school. The photographers then take the photos and save them on our computer network (in a folder they have special access to).

**House Captains**

We have now completed our House Captain voting and I can happily announce that Emily Clark and Jack Thomson are the House Captains for Riddoch. Vice Captains are Natasha Downs & Maisam Akbari. Junior Primary Captains are Abby Caulian & Harry Clark. Struan House Captains are Lucy Henschke & Jaiden Durant, Vice Captains - Bich Tran & Hatchingson, Junior Primary Captains are Zahra Najafi & Alisina Alizada. Wrenthouse Captains are Lucy Walker & Levi Brun, Vice Captains - Caitlin Garrigan & Ben Goodridge Junior Primary Captains - Taylor Grady & Mason Brighton.

We are planning for the House Captains to be more involved in activities during the year in 2016 so stay tuned for some activities coming up!

**Assemblies**

We are trialling a few new concepts with assemblies this year. The first being the timing. We have deliberately separated Junior Primary and Primary assembly weeks as we realised it is difficult for parents who want to attend both assemblies when they are held on the same day. This will hopefully make it easier for the parents who plan lunch breaks/work around assembly! Our assemblies are wonderful showcases for our students’ work and we love seeing lots of parents, family and friends there.

We have also started a new format with assemblies where a class will be responsible for hosting. The KIC Exec will still organise and oversee the assembly but this will give the primary students more opportunities to take on speaking roles at assemblies. It is a skill they learn and excel at in Junior Primary so we wanted to continue the opportunity to practise these vital skills all through their primary years as well. It takes great courage to speak in front of a hall full of students and adults but is less intimidating if it is a familiar occurrence 😊

**National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying**

This day is set for Friday March 18. Classes will discuss these issues (in an age appropriate way) and each child will be given a wristband to commemorate the day.

There are lots of great resources and information on the website so please have a look!

Kym
Counsellor Chat

The term is zooming by quickly, as usual. Our new bunch of Buddy Bench Monitors have been trained and are ready to be deployed next week! The role of these students is to help younger students to find a friend at playtime if needed. It is always exciting to see our students “step up” to leadership responsibilities, especially at such a tender age. Actually it wasn’t so long ago that our new monitors were just starting School themselves...

The next programme queued for lift-off is our long-running LAP Programme: I have been in contact with 6 wonderful Volunteer LAP Friends who are ready begin another fun-filled year with a new Student Friend, but as always we have lots more students who would really benefit from additional support from a mentoring adult this year. With so many families having both parents working outside the home and with the prerequisites for working as a volunteer increasing it is getting harder to find people who are both willing and able to help us with important programmes such as LAP. Yet, we are once again asking that anyone with an hour to spare each week could contact me at the School to find out about how LAP works. When I ask our wonderful LAP Friends about why they keep coming back they say things like, “I get as much out of it as s/he does”, “every child is different” and, “my LAP Friend says s/he looks forward to it every week – so I must be doing something right!!”.

😊 “Please consider” 😊

Cathie Biggins
School Counsellor.

KidsMatter Community Event

What a FABULOUS day we had on Tuesday, celebrating Wellbeing at NSPS!
Over 30 different services and groups were represented at our Event and they provided a great variety of activities to engage and interest the many children who attended with their families. The informal atmosphere allowed people to browse information and chat with presenters. Meanwhile the stamp sheet competition kept students busy visiting the different tables for a chance to take home a yummy prize!
The multicultural tastings were a definite highlight – and there was a happy feel to the evening.
Thanks as always to the ever-ready NSPS Staff for making this Event happen and the Action Team (Kirsty, Kym, Deb, Lisa and myself) for the considerable “behind the scenes” planning and organisation.

Cathie Biggins.
Loose Parts Play
WANTED

Your old junk.

PLASTIC CRATES

Small Wooden reels

WOOD

d

c
“

Tyres

Pipes

Ropes

NO LARGE

PALLETS

THANKS!

Happy Birthday

To:

Samantha Edwards who was 10 on 21st February
Raphael Sopha who was 5 on 22nd February
Lily Wilkin who was 7 on 23rd February
Jake McMullan who was 12 on 24th February
Zac Doyle who was 6 & Lucy Henschke who was 12 on 26th February
Rachel Shepherd who was 10 on 27th February
Anastasia Plummer who was 5 on 28th February

Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge runs from the 1st of February and will finish on the 9th of September.
All students are strongly encouraged to complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Students have until early September to finish reading and complete their Premier’s Reading Challenge recording sheet.
Students must read a total of 12 books. 8 from the Premier Reading Challenge list and 4 free choices. There are lots of books available in the library so plenty of fantastic choices! Students reading records are kept at school in their classrooms.

Kirsty Nankivell & Sile Legoe

Canteen Roster

Monday 7th March - Andrea Henschke
Tuesday 8th March - Crystal Thomas
Wednesday 9th March - CLOSED
Thursday 10th March - Maria Beck
Friday 11th March - Ginny Harvie
Monday 14th March - ADELSIDE CUP HOLIDAY
Tuesday 15th March - Tanya Ham
Wednesday 16th March - CLOSED
Thursday 17th March - Sophie Thring
Friday 18th March - Ellen Konnecke

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Look at the fantastic resources we received through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program last year. Thank you to all our families for your support.
Harmony Day
Friday 11th March
Combined Education Event from 10.30am in the Town Square. Activities, singing & dancing
Community Picnic from 6.00pm at Naracoorte Swimming Lake. BYO Picnic. Live entertainment and floating candles.

Naracoorte Caves Red Gum Fun Run
Starting and finishing at The Caves
Sunday, April 10, 2016, 10am
5km Run, 5km Walk, 10km Run, 10km Walk
Entry fee; Adults $20, children (under 18) $5, Family $30....
Entry forms and enquiries please contact: John or Dot Ruck. 0417 885 660
Email: djruck@activ8.net.au

Matho’s Basketball
4/5 to 7 year olds basketball training/games
Starts Wednesday 9th Mar
Ends Wednesday 13th Apr
Cost $5.00 per night per player
From 4.15pm to 5.15pm
At the Naracoorte Basketball Stadium
All welcome
Just a lot of fun and learning along the way.
Please email mathooncourt@bigpond.com
Ph. 0417-855-247 or turn up on the night and see Helen Garrigan at the desk.

Seeking Junior Colt players to play in the red & the blue for the 2016 season
TRAININGS EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY 4.30 – 6pm
Any queries contact: Ricky Adams (coach) 0439 215594

Junior Training
begins on Thursday March 10th at the Frances Courts beginning at 4.30pm (SA time)
New players most welcome.
For any enquires contact: Gez Walter 0427861236

Keep your kids smiling
SA Dental Service
Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule?
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.
Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.
Please call now for an appointment.
Naracoorte Dental Clinic
Phone: 8762 2614

School Dental Service

Cricket Country Cup
I would like to run a session in Naracoorte for anyone from the area who is interested in trialling for the 2016/17 South East Country Cup squads.
These players may be involved in the local School boys competition, or playing Senior Cricket, or even not playing any structured cricket at all.
Details as follows:
Where: Naracoorte High School nets
When: Monday 14th March 2016
Time: 1:30pm – 3pm
To be eligible for the U14’s, players need to be Under 14 as of 1st September 2016, and to be eligible for the U16’s players need to be Under 16 as of 1st September 2016.
Please forward this information to anyone you think may be interested in attending. To register, players just need to email me the following:
Name, Address, DOB.
If anyone has any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Regards
Shelley Nitschke | Country Cricket Officer
Mobile: +61 447 081 634 | Phone: +61 8 8300 3803 |
Initially it is okay for your child to move the cards into

playing cards can provide opportunities to practice reading

What is the value of the coins in each group?

With your child

thousands, eight hundred and ninety-two.

Subitizing is considered by some brain researchers to be

happen in the brain. Through spontaneous subitizing, some mental calculations will rapidly develop with experience and become almost automatic. Initially seeing a small group of objects we have no need to count; we know just by looking how many there are.

Taken from the Latin word subito = sudden.
Counting on back in tenths will be the initial strategy.

By counting on back to find how close each number is to the target, this game also works for subtraction. Where there is close call, check tenths to find the answer. When there is close call, check in 8.5, 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5, etc. You are encouraged and model counting on in 8.5, 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5, etc. The player who is closest to a chosen target number (e.g., 9.4) wins a point. Encourage and model counting on in 8.5, 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5, etc. The player who is closest to a chosen target number (e.g., 9.4) wins a point.

With Your Child

To promote deep understanding, although this may seem complicated it is a good starting point. Start with easy stages (e.g., 4.9, 14.4, 19.4). After students are comfortable with 4.9, 14.4, 19.4, they can move on to the more complex stages (e.g., 4.9, 14.4, 19.4). This strategy works well with a partner. The strategies used are similar to the traditional addition and subtraction strategies used when we begin working with these numbers.

The strategies work for 2-digit numbers as well. For a 2-digit strategy, count on or count back to the nearest tenth. For example, to count on from 27, 30, 34, you would count on 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc. To count back from 27, 30, 34, you would count back 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc. This strategy is similar to the traditional strategy of counting on or counting back to the nearest tenth.