COUNCIL MEETING

Governing Council met again on Monday 22nd September. Part of this meeting was devoted to sharing reports on the latest status of finances, canteen and Out of School Hours care programs. All of these areas are functioning effectively in line with their budgets and OSHC has a steady number of students attending. The OSHC service has also made significant improvements to some of the internal facilities recently.

The STEM works update was shared with the Council. The Parent and Community engagement strategy was shared with council members and they have taken it away to examine more closely. All parents will hopefully be given the chance to contribute to the survey that is linked to the strategy shortly. Council also agreed to endorse some spending outside the budget to provide a cover for the bike storage area - a request that came to council from the student representative. Council also discussed possibilities for the end of year concert. Our Term 4 Connected Curriculum is titled “Feed the World” so we are considering the possibilities of having some broader than normal food options available on the night.

Another topic of considerable discussion was the need for stronger guidelines around school sporting teams. At the moment we have between 100 and 160 students participating in both basketball and soccer as well as other teams like cricket and football. There is a limited number of parent volunteers trying to maintain these teams with reduced help from other parents. The school is not staffed to provide coaches or managers but only basic overall co-ordination and advice for any of these sports and so their continuation relies on significant, hands-on parent support. A group made up of those parents currently heavily involved in school sport will be discussing the viability of maintaining the number of teams we currently run.

STEM PROJECT

Our STEM facilities project is moving rapidly forward with our initial concepts drawings being costed with some adjustments being made to bring the project within the $1 million budget. We are very hopeful that we can get 4 of our buildings upgraded as well as some new refurbished outdoor spaces that link with the STEM areas. Plans are available in the staff room if people are interested. Next stage is to be allocated an architect to take the project from concept to architectural drawings.
Early next term we will begin the process of deciding our class structures for 2017. As you are no doubt aware there are many factors that impact on the makeup of our classes, not the least being funding and enterprise and other binding agreements. We look at individual student needs, particularly for students at risk. We endeavour to ensure that every student is with some other students that they know and learn well with already. We do like to move students around from year to year so that they have the chance to get to know other students from their year level, especially as they get older. If you as parents have any factors you would like us to consider when placing your child for 2017, please let us know, preferably by email to sue.toone42@schools.sa.edu.au.

While we endeavour to meet parent requests, the overall makeup of the classes remains the responsibility of the Personnel Advisory Committee of the school. You will be informed about your child’s class placement for 2017 in the last week of school in Term 4. If your child has some special needs, we may confer with you before then to determine the best placement.

We hope to know all the teachers before the end of the year, but this is not always possible. **Please have your request in by Friday 21st October.**

It is critical that you let us know about any students, apart from Year 7, who will not be returning next year.

**URGENT INFORMATION ON LATE ARRIVALS**

It is a DECD requirement to have reasons for all absences. *This includes late arrivals.* A late arrival is considered an absence. Children arriving at school without parents are considered unexplained arrivals. If your child is late to school please ensure that you attend the front office with your child and sign them in. If this is not possible please ensure that you:

- Drop your child at the front Edwin Street entrance and instruct them to enter via the front office to sign in.
- Advise the school of the reason for your child’s late arrival on the day by one of the following methods:
  - a diary note
  - phone call
  - Skoolbag App.
- Instruct your child to advise the office staff that they have a note or phone call from you advising the reason.

To avoid unsettling early morning class instruction time it is important for your child to be on time to school. This will give them lifelong learning skills. The Principal will be sending notes home fortnightly addressing unexplained absences. We ask for your assistance in helping us with this important issue by explaining all lateness and absence in a timely manner.

**OSHC**

Please ensure your child is signed out when collecting from OSHC, this is a legal requirement and is necessary to account for children present when marking the roll in the unlikely event of an evacuation.

Currently we are at full capacity for After School Care on a Thursday, therefore we cannot assist families with last minute bookings.

Please supply your child with a sun safe hat for terms 4 and 1 (not baseball caps). No hat no outdoor play.

OSHC Educators have been collecting reception children from their unit, in readiness for 2017 and as per service information, children will be collected by Educators from the Sea Dragon building courtyard area at 3.15pm. Please ask your child’s classroom teacher to direct him or her there from term 4. This promotes children’s independence. Once children have arrived they will be marked off the roll then escorted to the OSHC building.

It is vital you inform us if your child is absent, OSHC staff spend time looking for, or phoning families to trace the whereabouts of children who are booked into care and have not arrived.

Thankyou

**FESTIVAL OF MUSIC**

On Friday 16th September 25 of our students performed on stage at Festival Theatre as part of the Public Primary Schools Festival of Music. Our school was also represented by Iris F, who was a part of the troupe. The Primary Schools Festival of Music, an official state icon, is a public school-based music education program which, in collaboration between DECD and the SAPPSS Music Society, gives all SA public primary students the opportunity to perform at a prestigious venue.

This year the Festival started in the jungle (Jungle Rhythm), looked at environmental sustainability through the commissioned work “Mission Possible” and ended Bollywood style with "Jai Ho". In between there were a number of Assisting Artists from public primary and secondary schools, other choir items that presented different musical genre and two pieces that specifically showcased the talents of the orchestra.
SCHOOL NETBALL CARNIVAL

Netball SA is hosting the 2016 Get Court Carnival, an inter-school netball carnival for primary school students in Years 3 to 7 to be held at Priceline Stadium on Friday 18th November 2016. Due to the large number of netballers at our school, WLSS is seeking expressions of interest for the entry of teams into the Carnival. As this is a one day event with limited training available, we are seeking team nominations of players within the three divisions of Year 3/4, Year 5/6 and Year 7. For further information and team nomination forms, please contact the Front Office or refer to the School Netball Carnival tab under Events on the school website. Team nominations must be submitted no later than Friday 21st October 2016.

Q1. Solve the pyramid puzzle by filling the bricks in so that the sum of the two bricks is equal to the brick above them.

Q2. A harp has four of me, whilst a guitar has six of me. What am I?
Q3. Where can you find rivers with no water, cities with no buildings and forests with no trees?
Q4. I'm full of keys but I can't open any door. What am I?
Q5. What has a thumb and four fingers but is not alive?
Q6. I'm as light as a feather, yet the strongest man can't hold me for more than 5 minutes. What am I?
Q7. What kind of coat can only be put on when wet?
Q8. As you can see in the picture below that an incorrect equation is formed using matchsticks.

8 + 9 = 4
You need to move three matchsticks to make the equation correct.
I can do it by three ways. What about you?

ANSWERS TO STRETCH CORNER T3WK8
A1. Take the first letter of each word and place it at the end. It will spell the same word backwards.
A2. It contains each number, zero through nine, in alphabetical order when in the written version of the number.
A3. An onion.
A4. None, or else it wouldn't be a hole.

COMMUNITY NEWS

We are happy to support local organisations and groups however, please understand that we take no responsibility for the quality of any of the programs and products included in our Community News.

GRANGE SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB
welcomes children from ages 5 – 13 to be part of an amazing lifestyle.

Learn new skills, meet new friends, be part of the community and have fun!
Training each Saturday commencing at 12.45pm for Under 8 – 13 and 1.15pm for Under 6 and 7. Currently operating from the Grange Sailing Club, 417 Seaview Rd, Henley Beach. Registration Days are Saturday 24th September 2016, 10am-2pm Saturday 8th October 2016, 10am-2pm
Nippers Season Commences - Saturday 15th October, 2016. For further enquires please send an email to juniors@grangeslsc.asn.au

TAFE SA
KIDS DAY OUT
School holiday fun for the budding chefs of the future. Tiny tasty sweet treats, & delicious Asian flavours. Thursday 6th October & Friday 7th October from 9:30am-12:30pm. $55 per session at Regency Campus, TAFE SA 137 Days Rd, Regency Plk. Bookings now open on www.eventopoa.co/RGA

VACSWIM

BE A SUPERHERO SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL PROGRAM

CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST LAKES SHORE SCHOOL ON WINNING 1ST PRIZE
Our school will be receiving a $5000 gift card as the winning prize for this competition. Thank you to the whole school community family, friends and neighbours for rallying together, collecting receipts from Westfield West Lakes. The weekly lucky parent winners for week 5 and week 6 were Amanda McNeil and Vicki Schwarz, congratulations to them. They will each receive a $50 Westfield gift voucher. Once again many thanks to participating parents and friends.

8 + 9 = 4
You need to move three matchsticks to make the equation correct.
I can do it by three ways. What about you?

VACSWIM

December 2016 & January 2017
Programs at over 130 pool & beach locations for primary school aged children
Book online at vacswimsa.com.au

GRANGE NIPPER SEASON ON SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER 2016
Resisting kids’ pester power

Kids have a way of getting under your skin when they really want something.

"Mum, can you buy me a treat?" "MUJUUMMMM, can you get me some new clothes?" "It’s not fair. You never let me have any fun."

Sound familiar?

Kids have a way of getting under your skin when they really want something. You can refuse their request for a treat, some extra time up out of bed or some new clothes and they can keep at you until you give in.

Some kids when they receive a knockback from one parent, will try the other parent. “Okay, mum said no to an ice cream, I’ll just check to see what dad says” is the type of tactic I’m talking about here.

Sole parents can easily become worn down by pester power as there is no one to share the burden with.

There is no doubt that kids’ pester power is alive and well and living in Australian homes right now. In these times of small families the voice of one child resisting can be the only voice a parent hears.

Currently, kids are seen as fair game by marketers and advertisers that use increasingly sophisticated tactics to stimulate consumerism in kids. This makes life increasingly difficult for parents.

Pester power hasn’t always been a problem for parents. In the days of large families, when four or more children were common, not only was there less propensity to give kids what they wanted but siblings had their own way of dealing with rebellious or prima donna type behaviour.

If your kids don’t take no for an answer, particularly when they want you to buy, buy, buy consider these well-tested resistance strategies:

1. Avoid getting into too many negotiations with kids. It’s worth remembering that it’s okay to say no….without always having to explain yourself.

2. Make yourself scarce, either physically or psychologically when they don’t take no for an answer. My wife was an expert at the latter method when my kids used to argue the point with her. She would ignore attempts to change her mind, going about her business as if they weren’t there. They soon realised that arguing was futile.

3. Differentiate between a want and a need. Kids want many things including the latest gadget, more free time and lots of treats. But they don’t necessarily need these things. Understanding the difference between a need and a want helps you resist pester power.

4. Communicate with your partner. Teenagers are adept at putting pressure on parents to acquiesce to their demands, particularly when it comes to going out. Get into the habit of bringing your partner into the picture. “I’m not sure about that, I’ll check with your father and get back to you” is a handy response.

5. Draw strength from a friend. It helps, particularly if you are on your own, to phone a friend to check if you are being reasonable. It’s easy to doubt yourself, and your sanity, when you are on your own.

6. How can you make this happen? Sometimes it’s best to put the onus on to kids, particularly when they pester you to buy them things. “Sure, you can have a new mobile phone. Have you got enough money to buy it now or do you have to save for it?” is the type of response I suggest for kids who just love you to be their automatic teller machine.

Resisting kids pressure for parents to purchase items for them is a challenge that comes with living in more affluent times. But it’s a challenge that’s worth meeting, not just for our peace of mind, but to promote some restraint and self-discipline in kids.

Published by Michael Grose
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For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au

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