Principal's Corner

Last Thursday evening, members of the Executive Leadership Team at St Peter’s Woodlands (Laura Sarich, Mandy Hore, Simon Theel, Amanda Kelly and myself) had the great fortune of listening to Dr George Otero from the Centre for Relational Learning, based in New Mexico. Dr Otero has a BA and a Doctorate in Global Multicultural Education from the University of Northern Colorado.

Dr Otero drew connections between parent and community engagement and school improvement, and whilst he left us with many challenging thoughts, I was struck by what he described as the critical aspects that the teacher can contribute to effective learning. He suggested that the nature of the teacher-student relationship, the empathy and care shown by the teacher, and the ability of the teacher to help children self-direct, were the most critical factors in determining student success.

Dr Otero went on to suggest that “any educational reform strategy that improves relationships has a chance of succeeding”. He goes on to say, “Any that does not is doomed to fail.”

Connections are a funny thing as, upon returning to SPW, I read an article in the Principals’ Digests, Volume 20, Number 29, which was headed “How to raise caring children”. The article suggests that parents can make a difference too, and it outlines the following:

Praise is more effective than rewards If we want to reinforce caring, rewards run the risk of leading children to be kind only when a carrot is offered, whereas praise communicates that sharing is intrinsically worthwhile for its own sake.

Praise character, not actions Say “You’re a very nice and helpful person”, which helps children internalise being helpful as part of their identity.

Nouns work better than verbs It’s better to encourage a child to “be a helper” than “to help”, and it’s better to say “Please don’t be a fibber”, than “Please don’t fib”. When our actions become a reflection of our character, we tend to choose the moral. In time it becomes part of us.

With bad behaviour, evoke guilt, not shame Shame is the feeling that I am a bad person, whereas guilt is the feeling that I have done a bad thing. Shame makes children feel small and worthless, and they respond either by lashing out at the target or escaping the situation altogether. When parents get angry and seem to withdraw their love, children feel shame and believe they’re bad people.

In contrast, guilt is a negative judgement about an action, which can be repaired by good behaviour. When children feel guilt, they tend to experience remorse and regret, empathise with the person they have harmed, and try to make it right.

Say you’re disappointed Expressing disappointment, explaining why the behaviour was wrong, how it affected others, and how they can rectify the situation, enables children to develop standards for judging their actions and feelings of empathy and responsibility for others, which are conducive to becoming a helpful person.

Expressing disappointment communicates disapproval of the bad behaviour, coupled with high expectations and the potential for improvement: “You’re a good person, even if you did a bad thing, and I know you can do better.”

Model caring and generous behaviour Children pay more attention to what adults do than
Middle Primary News

Middle Primary students warmly welcomed their grandparents and special friends to share with them a part of their learning at SPW.

It is one of those special times of the year in the school calendar to which the children eagerly look forward to. Their time together began with a Chapel Service led by our Year 5 students who presented with eloquence and confidence. It was a wonderful celebration of Grandparents. The Service was followed by the Years 3 to 5 children excitedly welcoming and sharing their inquiry learning with their grandparents, both in and outside of the classroom.

It was a wonderful morning. Following this, the grandparents and special friends enjoyed a delicious morning tea in Nutter Thomas Dining Room.

So what is a grandparent in the eyes of a Middle Primary child...

• a respectful older person who looks after their grandchildren and sometimes spoils them lots. Ross K, 3RA
• is someone who is a parent of a child’s parent; who is caring and nice, and able to teach you many things. Declan G, 4KB
• a special person who takes care of you and will make you happy when you are sad; they always have a smile. Maya K, 5CK

Even as adults, we still carry snapshot memories of our grandparents. A vision of a grandmother cooking, making a model, and a grandfather tinkering in the yard collecting the odd nut or bolt from the ground on a walk around the block; both which are firmly held in my mind from my childhood. For so many children, grandparents are islands of love and acceptance.

Grandparents are a reflection of who we are and where we came from. A vision of a grandmother cooking, making a model, and a grandfather tinkering in the yard collecting the odd nut or bolt from the ground on a walk around the block; both which are firmly held in my mind from my childhood. For so many children, grandparents are islands of love and acceptance.

Principal’s Corner cont.

they teach. Children learn generosity not by listening to what their role models say, but by observing what they do.


Other Business
As we are about to commence the mid-year three-week break, I am happy to inform all the SPW community that I will be taking Long Service Leave, commencing in the first week of the holidays and returning to work at the commencement of Week 4 of Term 3, 11 August. During this time Mrs Mandy Hore will be Acting Principal, therefore I request that any matters that would regularly be referred to myself be passed on to Mandy, through Helen Lindquist.

Finally, I would like to wish Mrs Cathy Mayfield, Chairman of School Council, all the best as she recovers from recent surgery. Until Cathy completely recovers, Mrs Megan Papadopoulos will be acting as Chairman of School Council. Until next time,

Christopher Prance, Principal

Learning Journey—Our Community History

Our Year 3 classes are currently learning about SPW and the local community history for their Unit of Inquiry on Where We Are in Place and Time. They have been enjoying visits to the Old Scholars Museum, to find out more about St Peter’s Day School and Woodlands Church of England Girls Grammar and how we became SPW.

They have been enjoying various excursions and incursions in order to gather research and experience a more hands on learning approach, listening to guest speakers to strengthen their knowledge of SPW history and the wider community.

The Year 3 students became tour guides for the School at the Middle Primary Grandparents and Special Friends Day, sharing their research and knowledge with grandparents, parents and friends on their recent Learning Journey.

Year 3 Teachers

Year 3s visit the Bay Discovery Centre

Year 5 students grandparents interviews

Simon Theel
Head of Primary
From the Chaplain

Easter
Due to the lateness of Easter this year, we returned to second term straight into Easter celebrations. This was a great opportunity for the Chapel Choir to work on a dramatic musical presentation of Easter Hope – The Road to Emmaus. The story of the Road to Emmaus is one of the most dramatic and moving of the Easter stories (found in Luke 24:13-35) and centres around two disciples (Cleopas and another) walking along the road to Emmaus, wondering about the Crucifixion and the strange inexplicable stories of resurrection. As they walk and talk, the risen Jesus walks with them and talks with them about what has happened. It is not until he breaks the bread that night that they recognise him and sprint back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples that Jesus has risen. The Chapel Choir excelled in singing and acting to portray this resurrection story to great effect. Highlights were the simple “Were you there?” and the six part harmonies of the round “By your cross”.

Communion
The Road to Emmaus story has much to say about the power of simple action of the breaking of the bread in Communion. This term has provided an opportunity for Year 3 to 5 students to undertake preparation for learning about Communion and take their first Communion in the final Service of the term. The program is voluntary and, for the first time, has been run in the newly established electives timeslot on Friday afternoon. Twenty four students are participating with eight of those preparing to be Baptised as well. The Baptism and Admission to Communion Service in Week 10 promises to be a wonderful community celebration and a fitting end to our Term 2 worship.

St Margaret’s Day
Another highlight of the term was the celebration of St Margaret’s day in Week 8 with participation from the SPW Old Scholars’ Association. Our Chapel is named in honour of St Margaret who is the patron saint of Scotland, as well as being the patron saint of learning and the protection of children. It was great for our children to learn more about this faithful inspiring female leader. Each child received a special bookmark to mark the occasion. We also newly established, through the generosity of the SPW Old Scholars’ Association, a Chapel Music Service Award, recognising the years of service for Chapel Choir and Band members.

Second Year of Service
Chapel Band—Hamish W, Sam L, Cooper M, Lachlan G

Third Year of Service
Chapel Choir—Imogen W, Olivia C, Tahlia K, Ella F
Chapel Band—Owen B, Luke H

Foundation Members & Choir Captains
Choir Captains—Lucy O, Ella F 7BF (Captain)
Foundation Members—Claudia M, Madeline A, Eloise B, Isabella A

The Year 1 and 2 classes presented wonderful Chapel Services on sustainability and world religions, and we have also enjoyed the Junior Primary Middle Primary Grandparents’ Days.

Mention should be made of the wonderful A&M Lenten appeal which was finalised this term and raised over $4000.00 for the Al-Ahli Arab hospital in Gaza and the Episcopal Church Health Commission in South Sudan. As well as this, the winter clothing appeal for Anglicare collected bags of good clothes to be shared this winter, and the Foodbank Weetbix appeal brought in around 500 boxes of Weetbix. All of this showed that the Christian values of generosity and service are alive and well at SPW.

Father Andrew Mintern
Chaplain
Junior Primary Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Our Junior Primary students made quite an impression with their performances during our Junior Primary Grandparents and Special Friends Day earlier this term. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 students excitedly welcomed some very important people into their classrooms. Then, under the direction of Mr Mark DeLaine, the children confidently showed their singing talents to our community of visitors. Part of my joy was watching not only the children as they performed, but also sneaking a look at the faces in the audience as they swelled with obvious pride for those little people who hold a very special place in their lives.

When a Reception student, who had both his grandmother and great grandmother visit him at school, was asked about what it meant his great grandmother was, if his grandmother was the mother of his mum or dad. His response, without hesitation, was, 'Really, really old!' It was a beautiful reminder about the priceless moments we can experience when working with our confident children.

The wonderful performance was followed by an opportunity for SPW to express the gratitude for our Grandparents and Special Friends through a chat and a lovely Devonshire morning tea.

This special morning goes a long way to reminding us all about the value of joining in, respecting those around us and appreciating our community at SPW. Thank you to everyone who made the special morning possible.

Amanda Kelly
Head of Early Learning

From the Sports Department

SPW’s Physical Active Culture

The last term has provided many examples of how strong a culture of being physically active we have at SPW. Whether it is students wanting to improve personal fitness levels, getting fitter for team or individual sport, preparing for championship events or just having fun with it, there are numerous examples to be seen, such as Run Club and Beach Run.

At the beginning of Term 2 we had our Year 3 to 7 House Cross Country races, followed the week after with the District SAPSASA Cross Country Championships at Marion Golf Club and then in Week 4 the Junior Primary Fun Run. These types of events culminated last week in the State SAPSASA Cross Country Championships at Oakbank Race Course.

As well as many students committing to a preparation program for these SAPSASA events, SPW had numerous students who produced outstanding individual and team performances.

South West District SAPSASA Cross Country

Individual Results
10 year old girls: Airlie R 2nd
10 year old boys: Cameron M 2nd
11 year old boys: Nathaniel D 2nd
12 year old girls: Ruby L 1st, Rosa T 2nd, Macy N 3rd
13 year old girls: Claudia M 2nd
13 year old boys: Joel M 1st, Austin F 2nd

Team Results
10 year old Girls 1st
Emma D, Airlie R, Simone C, Bonnie T, Abby F, Rommy S
10 year old Boys 1st
Cameron M, Sebastian T, Jack B, Daniel B, Austin B, Daniel Kelley
11 year old Boys 1st
12 year old Girls 1st
Ruby L, Sienna R, Macy Newman, Rosa T, Jessica D, Freya Y
12 year old Boys 2nd
Cooper T, Reed L, Sam K, Calum O, Jack G, Ned P
13 year old Girls 2nd
Claudia M, Lauren W, Isla H, Tessa K
13 year old Boys 2nd
Austin R, Joel M, Mitchell J, Sam L

Our grandparents and special friends visit the classroom
From the Sports Department

State SAPSASA Cross Country

Individual Results
Ruby L 3rd

Team Results
12 year old girls 3rd
Ruby L, Freya Y, Macy N, Rosa T

11 year old boys 3rd
Nathaniel D, Alex M

Ruby L has been pre-selected to represent SA at the National Cross Country Championships in Albany, WA, later in the year. A number of SPW students have been selected to attend the final trial race on 14 June.

Beach Run

Continuing on the theme of being physically active, Friday lunchtimes witnesses an enthusiastic bunch of students (and parents and staff) take off down to the beach at Glenelg for 20-25 minutes of rigorous, challenging but fun exercise. Parents Claire and Murray Drummond have been huge supporters of the Beach Run and are a big part of SPW’s success. Other parents who have provided invaluable assistance to the Beach Run and Run Club are Anna Liptak, Lee Rouvray, Leanne Sutter, Vanessa McCully and Bo Soderberg. Staff member David Coulter also does the quick change into his running gear to support the students.

SAPSASA Touch

After weeks of preparation three boys’ and two girls’ teams competed at the State Touch Championships. The boys were hoping to go one better than 2013 when they finished runners up and the girls were competing for the first time. The girls had previously won the State title four times in a row in the competition they previously entered. After a hard and physically demanding day of pool play, both our boys and girls teams came through to the knock out and business end of the day.

The girls progressed through a nail biting semi-final where they displayed significant resilience to overcome a committed and skilful opposition. The final was an amazing display of skill, courage, physical fitness and determination. At full time the scores were level and the girls headed into extra time. After another ten minutes of extra time the girls could not quite get over the line and finished as runners up which is an amazing achievement in their first year in this competition.

The girls coach, parent Peter Tellam, has again done a fabulous job of preparing the girls, especially when you consider most if not all the girls have no or very little experience in this sport. Peter’s dedication to the girls’ playing development and their general welfare is humbling to witness.

The boys were just too good for everyone this year and won their semi and final in convincing fashion. Their skills, fitness, composure and most importantly their game sense was to be marvelled at in students so young. So runners up last year became state champions this year.

Boys 1st Team State Champions: Charlie Y, Samuel K, James J, Issac Y, Cooper M, Riley C (captain), Austin F, Zach M, Ned P, Jayden F, Sam L


Boys Year 6 Team: Charlie Y, Samuel K, Ben P, Cooper T, Harrison L, Reid L, Nathaniel D, Adam D

Old Scholars News

Ryan B recently starred in the National U18 Football Championships for South Australia. So inspired were his performances that he is being talked about as a potential first round draft pick to the AFL.

Emma C was selected in the Matilda’s squad for the final of the recent Asian Women Soccer Championships.

SPW wishes Ryan and Emma continuing success in the sports.

Huw Bowen
Coordinator Physical Education and Sport
Engaging in the Arts

Term 2 has been another busy time in the Arts Department. It is a thrill to see our students creating and responding to the Arts. You need only step into the Art Room, Music Centre or Chapel each week to see our students enthusiastically engaging with Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Drama. I wish I could bottle the enthusiasm of the Reception to Year 3 students who are participating in our first Junior Musical ‘Aladdin Trouble’. We can’t wait to share our hard work with you in Term 3. Similarly the Year 6 to 7 students have been hard at work rehearsing for the Wakakiri competition. Their thought provoking piece is titled *At the Going Down of the Sun* and will truly be something special.

“We need people who think with the creative side of their brains—people who have played in a band, who have painted…it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively.”

Annette Byrd, GlaxoSmithKline

Music Leaders 2014

Congratulations to the 2014 Music Leaders. These students have demonstrated outstanding leadership in our co-curricular ensembles and outstanding development on their chosen instrument.

MP Glee Leaders: Daniel R and Aylish M
UP Glee Leaders: Eloise B and Noah B
Chapel Choir Leaders: Lucy O and Ella F

Tigers and Teapots

Congratulations to the Junior Primary Students who participated in Tigers and Teapots recently on incursion. What a great day we had. Mrs Gann from the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra said ‘I am writing to formally thank and congratulate you and your students on the exceptional work that was demonstrated during our ASO in Schools Tigers and Teapots visit last week. David Banney, myself and the ASO musicians were particularly impressed with the outstanding quality of the work and the enthusiasm and commitment shown by the students and staff. We had a truly wonderful time at your school and hope to be able to work with you again in the future.’ Congratulations. I am very proud of your awesome work and singing with professional musicians.

Instrumental Concerts

This term we held two Instrumental Concerts which were fantastic, with a variety of instruments and some truly outstanding performances. It is wonderful to see our young musicians succeeding so well.

AMEB Flute Exam Results

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding results for Australian Music Examination Board Grade 1 flute and their first exam:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samara B</td>
<td>A+ High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katerina A</td>
<td>A Honours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren W</td>
<td>A Honours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mark DeLaine
The Arts Coordinator


Tigers and Teapots incursion with the ASO
News from The Pines

During Term 2 the Playgroup children have been busy learning more about themselves as they explore, take risks, meet challenges and refine skills. It is important to remember that these young children are on a learning journey where they attempt new skills, practise and keep on practising in order to consolidate the skill or understanding. It has been a joy to watch and assist the children during this journey.

The Toddler classes have been exploring the theme resilience through the book and song Pete the Cat. The teachers have been helping the children apply this resilience theme from the book to many situations during their play time. As the end of Term approaches the Toddler children have been spending more of their playtime with the Preschool children as part of the transition program. Term 3 will be a new beginning for some children who move into the Preschool classes.

The Preschool classes have been exploring the Unit of Inquiry Who we are: Friendship is like a seesaw. The teachers are supporting the children to understand that friendships can go up and down but that it’s important to try to keep them balanced. During many class discussions the children have brainstormed ways they can be a good friend at Preschool. During play time, the children have had many opportunities to put this into practice: sharing toys, taking turns on the swing, working together to build a long train track and helping each other to find all the pictures hidden in the scavenger hunt. The teachers are looking forward to seeing the children grow further in this area.

Courage to be great “Mut großartig zu sein” in our German room.

Kylie Stephenson
German Teacher

Inga Dow
The Pines Early Learning and Care Centre Coordinator

German Cultural Experience

The Year 3 Hahndorf excursion was a wonderful way for our children to learn about German culture and history of the settlement of the early migrants. It was an opportunity for the children to practise some of the German they have been learning and to follow a scavenger hunt collecting information about the German-settled town. Some of the highlights included trying some German food, in particular Fr Stephenson’s speciality “Apfelkuchen” (apple cake) and sketching the local architecture “Fachwerk” houses which followed on in specialised Art lessons.

Games day in the German room is always a fun way for language learning. The students move in small groups from station to station and have certain language to practise and instructions to follow in German.

Buddy class activities are an excellent way to bring languages out into the wider community. The 2AA class have been learning how to ‘Google’ translate with the help of their buddy class 4NP.

Chalk drawing was another buddy activity last term with RBA and 3RA. They wrote different greeting words inside the traced outline of their bodies.

Kylie Stephenson
German Teacher
Parents and Friends News

The PFA had quite a few events for Term 2 that catered for everyone.

There was the Mothers Day stall where each child chose a gift for their mother or special person for $5.00. The children were excited about choosing the right gift, having it wrapped and writing a special message on the tag. A huge thank you to Sheree Guppy who co-ordinated the event and all of her helpers.

The Mothers Day event held on the Friday morning before Mothers Day was a lovely morning of breakfast, coffee and tea, and two wonderful speakers, Lucy Cornes of She Shopped and Lisa Bondarenko of Eshe Counselling. We had lots of positive feedback and look forward to it being a yearly event.

The Crazy Hats and Hair Disco held on Friday 23 May was amazing, the children have not stopped talking about it. There was loom band making, tattoo’s, glow sticks, disco by Bop till you Drop and snack packs to take home. A huge thankyou to Kate Hayward and all the parent helpers, it was a fabulous evening.

The money raised from all these events is going towards LED lighting for classrooms which will ultimately save money and be more environmentally friendly.

The Monday Sports barbeques and Saturday Soccer home game barbeques are always a great success. This year we are putting the fundraising dollars into sports. So far we have raised enough money to purchase new soccer goals, next is raising funds for Junior Primary Sports equipment. Thank you to everyone that has helped out each Monday, and a big thank you to Theoni and Bill (and their helpers) who are run the Saturday barbeques.

Our last event for the term was the Drive In at Gepps Cross to see How to Train Your Dragon 2. Children enjoyed a disco, farm animals, face painting and more all before the movie started.

Parents and Friends News

Next terms’ events include:
- Soiree Winter Wonderland
- Fathers Day Breakfast
- The Beachouse lock-In
- Sports barbeques
- Wine Orders

The PFA Executive, would like to thank all the parents who were involved and helped out at various events. Many hands make light work.

Narelle Dandy, President
Jane Tuohy, Secretary
Sharon Smith, Treasurer

The Crazy Hats and Hair Disco on Friday 23 May

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