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SPW Skoolbag App

Download the SPW Skoolbag App today!
We have tailored our App specifically for our school community
Set up a Push Notification based on your child’s year level, sport and music
News Feeds + Alerts, Sports Fixtures, School Calendar/
Events, Newsletters and School Information
Search our school name ‘St Peter’s Woodlands’ on App Store or Google Play

SPW Foundation
The Long Lunch
Under the Tuscan Sun

Sunday 1 November 12noon - 5pm
on the Nutter Thomas lawns, St Peter’s Woodlands Grammar School

SPW News
I trust that readers will enjoy the Term 3 edition of the SPW News for 2015.

As I glance through this spectacular collection of photos and articles, the photo depicting the Walk a Mile in My Boots with our SRC lingers as a lasting memory. Unfortunately I was unable to be present on the day but the feedback I received from so many sources was one of absolute pride in the achievements of our students. The fact that a greater awareness and empathy for those facing homelessness has been gained is life shaping.

It is also important to consider other lasting memories, some of which are yet to play out. The first is participation by our Senior Boys Soccer School of Excellence team in the Grand Final of the SAPSASA state wide Primary School Knockout Competition against Blair Athol Primary School this week. This is a truly amazing performance by these boys who have steadily honed their skills under the guidance of our coach, Neil Young. It is unusual for children in Year 5 and Year 6 to be competing against Year 7s in Primary School SAPSASA events, however that is the case with this Soccer team which is testimony to the incredible skills that these boys have developed. By the time you read this, no matter what the outcome, we can reflect on the outstanding achievements of these boys.

This year’s Senior Musical, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, certainly stands tall in my memory bank as another amazing example of effective teamwork, a love of performance and great talent that was so ably coordinated by our own Mark DeLaine and his outstanding group of adult helpers.

The list goes on with outstanding achievement by a large group of students in winning the South West District Athletics Championships and for a large group of students to go on to State Athletics Championships and do exceptionally well. Thank you, Huw Bowen.

To complete my memory bank, I am reminded of the outdoor education experiences of our students in Year 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; a truly unique opportunity for Primary School aged children to participate in such a rigorous and challenging program.

The final term for 2015 will see our Year 7s culminating their Primary School experience, the holding of a first Foundation event with the Long Lunch on Sunday 1 November, ongoing preparations for our Long Day Care Early Learning Centre commencing in 2016, and the usual opportunities to celebrate another year together. I look forward to celebrating in partnership with you all.

Christopher Prance
Principal
Future Play - Introducing our new look ELC in 2016

Playful, fun and inquiry based learning lays a perfect foundation.

"... The nature of the environments in which children spend their time – their relational and physical properties, and the learning opportunities they provide shape children’s development."

Understanding the nature and significance of early childhood: New evidence and its implications (Murdoch Children’s Institute 25 July 2014)

The St Peter’s Woodlands Early Learning Centre will ensure all children have the best start to their educational journey.

As an Early Learner at SPW our children are afforded every opportunity to grow into resilient and happy children by creating a proactive and engaging Early Learning environment which caters for their well-being and stimulates their natural inquiry.

With a relevant and personalised curriculum, small group sizes and a flexible environment for families, we will provide peace of mind for parents, and purposeful learning experiences for children, building upon individual strengths, needs and emerging interests.

Centre Overview
• The Centre will be open for 48 weeks per year. Families may enrol children for term time and then enrol for school holidays as needed.
• 2, 3 & 4 Year Old Programs run from 7.30am until 6.00pm, with the core teaching program running from 8.30am until 3.15pm.
• Families are able to select convenient days and times with additional casual days subject to availability.
• Fees include nappies and a healthy morning and afternoon tea.
• SPW is currently in the process of applying to be registered for the Childcare Benefit (CCB) so that families can receive a rebate for our new program.

2 Year Old Program: Children attend without parents. The minimum attendance is one day per week, which may initially be made up of two half-days (mornings). This program focusses upon providing younger children with a specialised transition into Early Learning at SPW by offering a manageable timeframe.

3 Year Old Program: Children attend without parents, with a minimum attendance being two days per week. A two day program enables children of this developmental stage with an opportunity to engage in social interaction and inquiry in some depth.

4 Year Old Program: Children attend this program without parents, with a minimum attendance being three days per week. At this stage of Early Learning the program offers a level of rigour and inquiry appropriate to the children’s developmental stage. The program promotes an increase in time which supports a smooth transition to school.

To find out more about Early Learning at SPW, please contact Joanna Gray, Admissions and Marketing Officer at jgray@spw.sa.edu.au, or phone 08 7221 6217

Gemma D’Angelo
Head of Early Learning
Integrating iPads into Reception Curriculum

The Reception children have had an exciting opportunity this term. We have been integrating the iPad minis into our daily curriculum and exploring the role that technology plays in our everyday learning environment.

We have been using a wide range of Apps to support our Literacy and Maths curriculum, and we have also enjoyed using them as a tool to transform our learning. The children have been making movies, recording documentaries and undertaking research.

The iPads were also used in our last Unit of Inquiry into Living Things to explore the concept of ‘observation.’ The iPad program provided us with a great opportunity to explore how our learning can be supported by technology and the opportunities that exist for making them part of a dynamic and progressive learning environment.

Maria Taylor
Reception Teacher

Star Awards—Term 3

Presenting the Term 3 STAR—Student Taking Action Recognition awards for Term 3. Congratulations to these students who were presented with a special badge and certificate at Assembly. The Star Award is a peer driven award. Children who show any of our four school values may be nominated.

Alex T  Thomas B  Florence T  Ginger T  Alexia F  Lillian J
Sebastian M  Jade S  Luke D  Freya P  Calum O  Cameron J
Senior Musical - Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat
Year 6 Masterchef

From the start of Term 3 the Year 6 classes have been working in design and technology lessons towards cooking for Mr Prance, Mr Theel and Ms Kelly for our Junior Masterchef Competition.

We sorted ourselves into 3 groups-entree, main and dessert, and we all brought 3 recipes to share with our groups. We then chose one that would be our 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.

Students made menus, placemats and decorations for our table arrangements. They also decided that we were going to wear costumes for when we were cooking.

On Wednesday night Week 7, one person from each cooking group walked with Mr Kennedy to Coles and bought all the ingredients with a budget of $50.

On Thursday morning at 11.30am we were called to the Canteen kitchen to start our preparation. We had half an hour to prepare our food; then served all the food in a one hour in the order of entree, main then dessert.

The judges liked the food all the classes served and were very happy to see everyone smiling. The Year 6 classes enjoyed the experience of having a cook off, and we hope it continues in the future.

Aneri S & Will E - 6MR

Specialist Netball coaching

Our Netball Specialist School has been fortunate to have inaugural Adelaide Thunderbirds coach Margaret Angove as their coach this winter season.

Marg has a wealth of experience as a Netball coach. She has coached the Australian team, National League teams, Commonwealth Bank Trophy Teams and State League teams. She has been awarded an OAM for Netball in the field of coaching, South Australia Coach of the Century recipient in 2011, Female Coach of the year in 2000, SASI Service Award in 2009 and the list goes on.

SPW offers so many fantastic opportunities and experiences for our students and this is yet another one. Marg also has a wonderful connection with our school as she was a former Netball coach at Woodlands CEGGS.
Walk a Mile with the SRC

On Friday, 7 August, the SPW community stepped up for South Australia’s homeless and ‘walked a mile’ in ‘crazy socks’ to support the ‘Walk a Mile in my Boots’ event. This event is an annual initiative of the Hutt Street Centre held during National Homeless Prevention Week (Monday 3 - Sunday 9 August).

‘Walk a Mile in my Boots’ was promoted to the SPW community by the Student Representative Council. The SRC worked collaboratively and put forward many fundraising ideas to support the event. After much discussion, it was agreed that ‘walking in crazy coloured socks’ would be the most effective, fun, and unique way to demonstrate support for the homeless. The SRC worked effectively as a team to advertise the event. The younger SRC members designed vibrant socks and displayed them on washing lines around the school. The older SRC members made banners with key messages about homelessness for students to carry during the event.

It was hoped that ‘Walk a Mile in my Boots’ would give everyone in the SPW community a greater understanding of, and empathy towards, those facing homelessness. The support and awareness the children demonstrated as they ‘walked the mile’ was inspiring. Students held their thought provoking banners with pride. They sported their socks with enthusiasm. With passion, groups of students marched together as they chanted ‘Hutt Street Centre’.

Donations from the walk totalled an incredible $7631. These funds will contribute to keeping the Hutt Street Day Centre open-often; a homeless person’s first point of call to seek help.

‘Walk a Mile in my Boots’ at SPW was a true representation of authentic and purposeful service—the vision of the SRC.

Barbara Saunderson
Year 3 Teacher
Year 5 Leadership Opportunities

The Peer Support Program is an opportunity for the Year 5 students to build their confidence and leadership skills. A Leadership training day was held at Partridge House at the beginning of term, led by Amanda Kelly and Fr Andrew Mintern, to work through some group management skills and introduce the program.

Over the remainder of the term the Year 5 Peer Support Leaders, working in pairs, facilitate a small group of 6-8 Junior Primary Students. The program consists of up to eight sessions dealing with social skills and self-esteem themes. The Leaders’ first step with their group is to establish some group rules which will enable everyone to get the most out of their time together. Themes for younger year levels include Communication, Sharing, Friendliness, I am Special, and the older year levels take this a bit deeper with themes like Decision-making, Peer Pressure and Bullying.

Here are some comments from the Year 5 students about being a Peer Support Leader which demonstrate the valuable leadership skills they are acquiring.

‘If they are struggling for suggestions in a discussion, always try and give them some extra help and if you have extra time at the end you can always come back to them.’ Molly

‘Sometimes when the children misbehave, I’ve learnt how the teachers must feel.’ Danny

‘If you use a lot of expression in what you’re saying, the children listen more easily.’ Zoe

‘It helps to say things like ‘if you do well with this activity then we can play a game afterwards.’’ Will

Father Andrew Mintern
Chaplain

SPW News
From the 8-11 September the Year 7 students embarked on a 3-night/4-day camp based on Hindmarsh Island. Each student experienced two nights at the base camp in dormitories and one night in a tent on the banks of Currency Creek while on expedition. The kayaking was the longest we have experienced yet and the students handled the challenge excellently. Activities on camp included a water based Save the Skier session, surfing at Goolwa Beach, kayaking, survival skills and the Great Southern Ocean Cultural Walk.

The campfire was a popular focal point for evening activities, singing and the obligatory roasting of marshmallows! While on expedition the students worked with a partner to cook their own evening meal on a trangia stove. Now in their fourth Wilderness camp there was a noticeable improvement in the quality of the meals!

It was wonderful to view students collaborating, learning and having loads of fun in a different environment to that at school.

Andrew Woodhouse
Year 7 Key Teacher

Student Camp Reflections

The most memorable experience was the bushwalking at Mount Remarkable. The view was beautiful and we were amongst natural wildlife. Some of the wildlife included kangaroos, rabbits, wombats and birds. The atmosphere around us was extraordinary and amazing to see. Alligator Gorge was great too! The experience at Alligator Gorge was a good skill to use in our lives.

Sophia S, Year 6 student

Everyone was very happy with the campground when we went to Melrose and Willochra for base camp and remote camp. The night games were a lot of fun and we played sardines and Spotlight. I really liked having the campfire and burning up marshmallows. I also liked looking at the atmosphere around me because it was really nice and I loved seeing everything that’s on this earth. The trangias were successful for my tent partner and I and our dinner was great.

Molly M, Year 6 student
Students Experiencing the Great Outdoors

Year 3 - Woodhouse, Piccadilly

Year 4 - Douglas Scrub, Blewitt Springs

Year 5 - Roonka, Blanchefield
Central Market and Fire Station

On Friday 24 July the Year 7 students spent the day in the city centre visiting the Adelaide Central Market and the Adelaide Fire Station. These visits linked with current studies of Food and Fibre Production (Design and Technology) and Liveability (Geography).

While at the Central Markets students went to several of the stalls and took part in the tasting of samples. Relevant issues were discussed including sustainability, waste management, seasonality, preserving foods and mindful eating.

Adelaide Fire Station is staffed by more than 130 full time firefighters, including Neil Manglesdorf (Gabe’s dad) who guided us through information sessions and a tour of the Station. The students were shown examples of how current technologies were being used in firefighting, including a yet to be worn fire suit.

Between the sessions we all enjoyed an ‘alternative burger’ lunch at the Market Kitchen prepared by Secondary students who are studying Food and Hospitality.

Andrew Woodhouse
Year 7 Key Teacher