Congratulations to all of the staff who have “stepped up” to take on new challenges. Gabrielle and Cheryl are taking part in a SPELD longitudinal study of the effectiveness of teaching Jolly Phonics, Kate is organising a school choir for the Festival of Music, Jillian is providing input from her class into a trial of the Australian Curriculum units for Year 7 students as well as being a Science Facilitator and Bec has been appointed as Acting Principal at Koolunga Primary School for the remainder of Term 1. It’s wonderful to see the staff giving of themselves to support both the students in our school and those across the region.

Cheers, Dzintra

**KESAB Clean Up Day**

Students and staff will participate in Clean Up Day on Monday morning. After moving into class and taking care of notes and lunches, we will clean up some areas in the township and after lunch we will focus on the school. Many hands make light work. We would love your company and help as we clean up on Monday morning. Please provide your child with gardening/rubber gloves and old tongs if you have them.

**AGM**

Many thanks to Ian Roberts who presented an outline of the community mosaic project for the fence at Padnaindi Park. It should look fantastic when finished. Thank you also to the parents who attended and to those who have offered to give time to the school by becoming members of the Governing Council.

**2011 Governing Council**

Gavin McElroy: Chairperson
Greg Toholke: Vice Chairperson
Andrew Clarke: Treasurer
Sonja Conlon: Secretary
Council members: Charmain Angel, Phillip Bigg, Valerie Carling, Brad Kennett, Sarina King, Corrina Lewis, Sue Pratt and Fiona Walkley.

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**Diary Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7th Mar</td>
<td>KESAB Clean Up Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9th Mar</td>
<td>OSHC Committee, 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11th Mar</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 14th Mar</td>
<td>ADELAIDE CUP HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18th March</td>
<td>Young Leaders Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 21st Mar</td>
<td>Gov Council Meeting</td>
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</tbody>
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Staff Reps. (alternating) Kate Harvey and Gabrielle Silvester.

**Governing Council Committees**

Governing Council has committees to support its work. Most committee meetings are open meetings that anyone in the school community can attend. If you have any suggestions or questions for Governing Council, please feel free to contact any member of Governing Council. All parents are invited to join a subcommittee of Governing Council or come along to Parent Club meetings. Please contact the school for more information.

**Curriculum Committee**

Charmain Angel, Sarina King, Sonja Conlon, Fiona Walkley, Dzintra Richards

**OSHC Committee**

Brad Kennett, Tamara Pyrke, Deb Tobin, Heather Hancock, Dzintra Richards

**Grounds Committee**

Phillip Bigg, Greg Toholke, Kathryn Clarke, Dzintra Richards

**Finance Committee**

Andrew Clarke, Gavin McElroy, Kylie Williams, Heather Hancock, Dzintra Richards

**Attachments with this newsletter**

- Tuck Day Notes – return by 4th March
- Parent Club “Internet Session” & reply slip
- Parent Club – Fundraiser – Clare Races – return reply slip by Mon 7th
- Mate Helping Mate flier – Fri 7th March
- Book Club Brochures – return orders by Thursday 10th March
SRC
Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to SRC in 2011.
Reps: Rohan Angel, Wade Angel, Joel Bertelsmeier, Mitchell Clarke, Jeska Griffin, Emilee Pyrke, Barnaby Toholke, Tara Walkley.
Deputies: Scott Agnew, Alex Lewis, Julique Stanton, Leah Van Ruth.

M&S Charges 2011
Please note that all M&S charges are now due (3rd March, 2011). Thank you to all those who have already paid or made arrangements for payment.

Visit from Rotary
Barry Smith visited the school on Friday morning and collected another box of ring-pulls at assembly. He talked about how useful the metal is for prosthetics and said that for a school of our size we are doing very well with our collecting. Barry also recommended that children do not attempt to take ring-pulls from the lids of food products because they are difficult to remove and can cause serious cuts. To date we have collected 27 kg of ring-pulls

SAPSASA Swimming
Congratulations to Eli Greet, Jasmin McElroy and Emilee Pyrke who represented our school yesterday at the Burra Swimming Pool. We hope you had a good day and were able to do your personal best.

Sensational Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas McElroy</td>
<td>☺ for trying very hard and helping in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashlee Rabig</td>
<td>☺ for always doing her best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara Walkley</td>
<td>☺ for great leadership skills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Agnew</td>
<td>☺ for always helping others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julique Stanton</td>
<td>☺ for a great start in her new school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby Jacka</td>
<td>☺ for conscientious work and helping others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathew Easther</td>
<td>☺ for building relationships with others and conscientious work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Club
Our last parent club was well attended and it was great to meet some new parents. We all enjoyed our tour of the school visiting the classrooms and seeing the children at work. The classrooms looked great and it was good to see the variety of work being done including Enterprise in the Upper Primary room.
Please refer to the attached note re invitation to our next meeting and workshop provided by Gavin on Internet Safety, issues and questions answered.
Also please see the attached note on our great fundraiser opportunity at the Clare Races in April.

Valerie Carling, President, Parent Club

Christian Pastoral Support Worker News
Hello families,
Each Tuesday I spend the last hour of the day with the Upper Primary students helping with Enterprise Education groups.
This week the gardening group had a productive and fun time cleaning out the shade house and potting up succulents.
I got to thinking about succulents, their many different shapes and forms, and resilience in different and challenging conditions.
During the drought years, I was given two pots of succulents. On their labels was the title 'Aussie Battlers - tuff plants for hot dry spots', and pictures of an Australian flag and a windmill. Sometimes life can seem like a battle as we try to meet the challenges it presents, so I encourage you to attend an evening with John Harper on Friday March 11th at the Blyth Football Clubrooms (or the Men's Shed Meeting at Whitehorn's farm, Koolunga, on Thursday March 10th).
He will share his program Mate Helping Mate, which helps to build resilience and mental well being in rural communities.
Please check the attached flyer for more details.
Take care, families
Mignon

OSHC News
We have had a busy start to Term 1. The children have been enjoying activities including making tote bags, mosaics, beading, masks, foam play, foiled fish and lots of free play with the new toys and equipment that has been purchased.
On Thursdays, the children have been able to join in with Footsteps Dance with the Active After School Programme which has been exciting.
We have welcomed three new families to OSHC this term and hope they are enjoying their time
at Blyth OSHC. It is great to see the numbers increasing. 

Cheers, Deb

Rec-Year 2 News
Already we are halfway through the term! It is hard to believe! Where does the time go? We have been working solidly on our work and showing great progress! In Maths, the children are displaying a positive improvement in their understanding of number. The children have also been busy learning about the letter ‘s’ including a walk around the school grounds to find as many things beginning with ‘s’ as they could. Our classroom is looking nice and “summery” with the artwork they have done, tying in with our “Summer” theme (which also this week ties in with our letter ‘s’). We are currently in the process of implementing a new spelling program, with both Gabrielle and I going to training on a Saturday in a few weeks.

Until next time,

Regards, Cheryl Pyrke and Gabrielle Silvester.

Year 3-4 News
The MP Class has been getting into our breakfast work. In Spelling we have learnt about ‘kn’ as in knife and ‘dge’ as in fridge and porridge. The children are really enjoying working on their spelling contracts! The children have completed magnificent water colour fruit paintings, and have created speech bubbles for each fruit ‘character’ imploring us to ‘pick that fruit’. This is the beginning of a unit on persuasive writing.

They have also practised constructing rectangular prisms ready to make their cereal boxes, which they have designed (with titles, slogan and mascot) in Design and Tech.

Last week we dehydrated fruit and honey - roasted nuts ready for when the students make their cereals next week. It was amazing to see the way the fruit changed shape and texture! The children have been researching the nutritional content of their cereal, so that they can create their own nutritional panel on their cereal boxes.

It is exciting to see this project coming together as well as the enthusiasm that has been displayed.

Cheers, from our busy classroom, Kate

Year 5-7 News
It is week 5 already! The students are settling in well but still need to work together as a team.

The Year 7s will be going to Adelaide for Young Leaders Day on Friday 18th March.

In the next few weeks the students will organise a sleepover to help build better relationships and bond as a group. We will send home information as soon as possible.

Regards, Jillian

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Blyth Cinema
Fri 4th Mar 8.00 pm The Ghost Writer
Sat 5th Mar 8.00 pm The Social Network (M)
Tues 8th March 1.30 pm Cairo Time (M)
Fri 11th Mar 8.00 pm The Social Network (M)
Sat 12th Mar 8.00 pm The Town (MA15+)
Fri 18th Mar The Switch (M) Bookings essential
Sat 19th Mar 8.00 pm The Town (MA15+)