Our teachers were among 270 Yorke and Mid North educators who attended training with Professor Di Siemens from the RMIT, Melbourne, last week. Di’s extensive research into and passion for quality teaching of Mathematics was evident throughout the day as she profiled the Big Ideas in Number: the key ideas students need to know to understand, reason and problem-solve fluently. Our practice was at times confirmed and at others challenged. Throughout the day Di repeatedly reinforced that for quality mathematics teaching ‘concepts need to be experienced, strategies need to be scaffolded and everything needs to be discussed to learn with understanding’.

Cheers, Dzintra

KESAB Clean Up Day
We had fun as we cleaned various spots in Blyth last week. The kinds of litter we found changed from place to place - cigarette butts outside the hall, food packaging near the playground, building materials like plastic near the estate and bottles and cans along roadsides. We dedicated an hour and a half to the exercise and filled all of the bins at school on our return.

Interviews
Interviews are scheduled for Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th April. We encourage students to attend so that they can be involved in reporting on their learning and setting future goals. If you are on Governing Council, please avoid scheduling an interview time for Monday evening as this clashes with Student Centred Funding Model training at Clare High School.

SRC Iceblocks
The SRC will be selling iceblocks on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 50 cents each, or 25 cents for half an iceblock.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diary Dates</th>
<th>Harmony Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 21st Mar</td>
<td>Curriculum Committee, 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Governing Council, 8pm</td>
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<td>Tues 22nd Mar</td>
<td>Parent Club meeting</td>
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<td>Mon 4th Apr</td>
<td>Parent/teacher/student interviews</td>
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<td>Governing Council training, Clare HS 7-9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 5th Apr</td>
<td>Parent/teacher/student interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 10th Apr</td>
<td>Family Fun Day, 2pm</td>
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Harmony Day
We are celebrating Harmony Day next Monday morning between 9.00am and Recess Time. We will be participating in a range of music, art and literacy activities as we engage with the theme Everyone Belongs. Parents, Grandparents and Community members are most welcome to come along and join in. One of the activities we would like to do, is to compile a map which indicates the heritage and culture of families at the school. It would be appreciated if you could complete the slip which goes home with this newsletter to help us with the map.

It is not essential, but it would add to the spirit of the day if students wore something orange instead of school uniform.

Solar Power Generation
Since our solar panels were installed in June last year 9,739kWh of power have been generated.

Attachments with this newsletter
- Interview Request Notice
- Family Heritage Slip for Harmony Day
- Parent Club Minutes
- M&S 2011 Statements for unpaid Invoices
**Sensational Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MP Class</strong></td>
<td>☺ for every single student achieving full marks in the weekly spelling test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Pratt</td>
<td>☺ for helping younger students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus Kennett</td>
<td>☺ for effort and creativity in his work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Bertelsmeier</td>
<td>☺ for a great effort in Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charli Jacka</td>
<td>☺ for a great effort in Reading</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parent Club**

Please note that our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22\(^{nd}\) March at 10.30 am to 12 noon. A lunch will be supplied. The Internet session is planned from 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm by Gavin and will be on Internet Safety, issues and questions answered.

Thankyou to all those who have offered their time at the Easter Races to collect cans. We are still looking for a few more helpers. Please contact Valerie as soon as possible if you are able to help.

Minutes of last meeting are attached.

Valerie Carling, President, Parent Club

**Christian Pastoral Support Worker News**

Hello families,

A little about our lunch time activity on Tuesday:

I had not planned a specific activity, but decided to play ball with any interested children. This is always a fun thing to do, and children love to join in.

We played with a large, smiley faces ball, which when positioned differently (as one student showed me) shows a sad face. This led on to some talk about sadness and stress. The children asked if they could make stress balls, so we ended up in the sandpit, filling balloons with sand. I reminded them to talk to parents or trusted adults if they have any issues, which is a very good way to relieve stress.

Teachable moments can eventuate from doing ordinary, everyday things.

I know parents do this naturally with their children. Value those moments: they are important and often special.

More information about stress and many other topics specially written and illustrated for children can be found at Kids Health on the Child and Youth Health website at [www.cyh.com](http://www.cyh.com)

Take care, families,

Mignon

**Rec-Year 2 News**

I hope that everyone enjoyed their extended weekend with their children!

Last Monday was “Clean up Australia Day” with all of us heading into the streets armed with gloves, tongs and bags! We collected a large amount of rubbish, both recyclable and non-recyclable. The students again represented the school very well.

Last Friday was our staff training day with Di Siemens (Maths specialist) at Wallaroo. It was a long day and made us realise what a good job Bec Jamieson is doing here at Blyth PS with helping us all in the latest techniques to help our students learn maths and number. We are very lucky to have Bec based here.

Gabrielle and I have both been busy implementing the Jolly Phonics spelling program into the classroom, and will both spend this Saturday in Adelaide learning more about it.

We have been learning about the letters “a” and “t”, incorporating them into our learning at every opportunity.

Until next time,

Regards, Cheryl Pyrke and Gabrielle Silvester.

**Year 3-4 News**

Hi everyone!

Well, the Middle Primary class is continuing to zoom through their work and are impressing me with their ‘critical eyes’. We are working on ‘good copy’ standard, and the extra effort that is necessary. The children are being very honest about their own work, and aiming for the best standard they know they can achieve.

We have begun looking at ‘part-part-whole’ in Maths. For example, 20 can be 10 + 10, or 10 + 5 + 5, or 6 x 3 + 2 more etc. This will support the children to develop more strategies for addition and subtraction in coming weeks using an open number line.

I hope everyone had a great long weekend!

Cheers, Kate

**Year 5-7 News**

In the last two weeks we have all been working very hard. In SOSE we have all been working on an individual project. We had to pick a country from Asia and study about it.

In Spelling we have been working on our spelling contracts.

We have been working on a persuasive argument in English, about how dogs are better than cats or cats are better than dogs.
In Science we have been learning about earthquakes. We researched the recent earthquake in Christchurch and have also discussed the earthquake which has devastated the country of Japan in recent days.

On Tuesday we made tomato chutney with Mrs Juett. It was delicious. We will be selling it as part of our Enterprise project.

By Tara Walkley

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Blyth Cinema
Fri 18th Mar  The Switch (M) Bookings essential
Sat 19th Mar 8.00 pm The Town (MA15+)
Thurs 24th Mar  World Premiere of Trapped - feature documentary by Rob George
Fri 25th Mar  The Sweeney - the life and work of Jim Sweeney
Sat 26th Mar  Clare Valley Short Film Festival
- 2pm Family Short Film Screening - $9 and children half price
- 3 pm Clewers Film Challenge Screening
FREE - RSVP essential
- 4 pm Competition Short Film Screening 1 $9
- 5 pm Home-grown Shorts - featuring Australian talent $9
- 7 pm Competition Short Film Screening 2 $9
- 8 pm Competition Short Film Screening 3 $9
- 9 pm Awards Gala and reception sponsored by Grosset & Mt Horrocks Wines RSVP $18
Each screening appro 45 min.
CHS students 50% discount pass to Thursday and Friday screenings only

LOST
Black sports bag taken from SAPSASA Tennis selection trials at Clare Tennis Courts, Tuesday 15th March. Brisbane football Guernsey, shorts and football boots inside. Please contact 88492013 or 0437913148.

Dealing with Loss and Change in Life.

No one is immune to the experience of significant loss. Change and loss will be experienced many times during a person's life, ranging from the small, to significant losses such as a death.
Unresolved grief, as a result of traumatic changes, can lead to the development of anxieties, which in turn can lead to depression, particularly in adolescence and adulthood.
To assist those experiencing change/loss in life, an information session will be held at:
Baptist Church Hall, 173 Main North Road, Clare on
Monday 28th March  7.30 pm to 9.30 pm
Presenter: Patricia Williams
Member of the Good Grief Organisation
Vic & SA State Coordinator of Seasons for Growth Program
Cost: small charge to cover expenses, including journal
Supper provided
If you wish to attend, or for enquiries contact:
Brian Wundke 0428462027
Mignon Ottens 88462164, 0427001738

BLYTH SNOWTOWN CATS

Football: Auskick, Minis, 14U & 17U
Netball: J1-J5 & Net Set Go
TRAINING COMMENCES
with a COME & TRY SESSION
Thursday 24th March, 2011, 5pm at Snowtown
FREE Sausage sizzle for parents & players at 6pm
Football & netball juniors also receive a FREE fruit box

More players are needed & new families welcome
All primary aged girls who attend netball Come & Try will receive a FREE LIP GLOSS.
$15 discount on subs for each junior netballer holding a Student Conc. Card
ALL J1-J5 JUNIORS WHO REGISTER & PAY THEIR SUBS IN 2011 RECEIVE A FREE NETBALL
For more information please contact:
Football: Simon Goldsmith 0428 859 754
Netball: Simone Bigg 0412 755 748