COMING EVENTS

**Week 7**
- Fri -18/3 
  SAPSASA Swimming in Adelaide

**Week 8**
- All Week -
  3 Way Interviews 
- All Week -
  Swimming Rooms 11,12,6 and 5
- Tues 22/3 – 
  Parent Group, Governing Council

REMININDERS
A reminder to parents and caregivers that the disabled park in the staff car park area is NOT to be used for dropping off and picking up students unless you have a valid permit to do so. We thank you for your respect in this matter.

LOST
Lost from the Activity Room on Tuesday 15th March One Blue/Purple Coloured Bike Helmet belonging to Ebony Long. Please return to the Front Office if you find it. Thank you!

HARMONY DAY
MONDAY 21ST MARCH

Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March each year. It’s a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Students can wear orange on this day. The SAKG has set a menu which is set around indigenous foods as part of Harmony Day.

What is Reading?

The act of reading involves active engagement with the text. It needs the reader to make predictions, while drawing on his or her own knowledge of the world and of language. A person who can do no more than pronounce words in a reasonable way is not reading. Successful reading occurs when the reader generates meaning from print. A successful reader is able to decode the text; read with fluency and phrasing; and comprehend what they read. A successful reader comprehends the text at three levels:

- **Literal (HERE)** – the answer is easily found in the sentence in the text.
- **Inferential (HIDDEN)** – the answer is found by joining together information from two or more places in the text, or from information in the text and what we know in our heads.
- **Response (HEAD)** - the answer is in the reader’s background knowledge, what he or she already knows.

We read for a variety of reasons. We may read to gain insight into the values and insights of others or to understand the information used in daily life. Sometimes we read to gain knowledge of a topic; other times we simply read for enjoyment. Did you know that 90% of the reading that your child will do at high school will be non fiction?

At McDonald Park we aim to provide children with a range of reading experiences. Our focus will be on improving their comprehension skills with both fiction and non-fiction books. To measure their success we will use running records which provide information about how well children are directing their knowledge of letters, sounds and words to understand the messages in the text. Running records also provide a clear picture of each child’s progress and give us a clear indication of the child’s reading age. We will be using running records across all year levels on both fiction and non-fiction books and will stop using Lexile levels as an indicator of progress.

As a result of this you may find that your child is bringing home different books, including levelled readers. Children will be encouraged to read widely at each level with a strong focus on fluency, phrasing and all aspects of comprehension. Some children who were previously assigned a Lexile level in the early years of schooling will no longer have access to Lexile tests and quizzes until Years 4-7. This will be quite a change in headset for all of us, especially our students. We will continue to provide access to Lexile tests and quizzes for students in Years 4-7, as the levels do provide a guide to students when selecting reading materials from the library. We emphasise that the Lexile level is only a pointer and may show some variation.

We encourage you to continue reading with your child at home and ask lots of questions about what it is they are reading about. This will help them clarify their understanding, encourage them to predict what might come next and ask them why they make particular predictions. This will help them to use their own knowledge to interpret the text. It is also good to get them to summarise a story or information as this too helps them to understand the author’s message.
H2H is back out in the yard! Once again our Upper Primary students are eagerly running activities and supporting their peers in the yard during recess and lunch. This year we have 3 activities running every recess time as well as H2H members sitting under the Annex to listen to and help students with minor yard issues. We also have people moving around the yard promoting positive play and giving rewards to those students they see using their Keys to Success, their MARBLES and of course being honest, generous and respectful.

The H2H team was established at McIntyre Park to promote positive interactions between all members of our student body in the yard at play time. This group of leaders in our school are dedicated to ensuring a safe and caring school environment. H2H has become an important part of our school and the members of this team work hard to create and maintain the fun and safe environment every child at our school has a right to.

A HUGE thank you to all of the year 6 and 7 students who have been willing to support this initiative for 2011 and a huge thank you to all of the parents who have come with their children. For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website: www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au or phone 1300 135 796.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**BEDWETTING – CURED**

A new DVD based program, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children. For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website: www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au or phone 1300 135 796

**THE “Y” FACTOR – TALENT SEARCH**

The District Council of Grant Youth Advisory Committee will be holding a Youth Festival and the “Y” Factor Talent Search on Sunday 3rd April at the Allan Scott Glenburnie Racecourse from 10.00 am – 4:00 pm.

We are looking for talented singers, musicians, dancers, groups and bands aged between 12-25 to enter the talent search.

Free entry – drug and alcohol free event. Entries are limited, so register you interest early to:- Judy Goodman Youth Development Officer District Council of Grant 87210444 Mobile 0448 247 114