Term 2, 2017

Students Representative Council (SRC)

Every term, students elect representatives from their class to attend the SRC meeting, which meets weekly with Ms Koul, Mr Paul and Ms Ros to discuss important issues for students, the school and the community. This term the SRC raised funds through the casual clothes day for the Brien Davies Fund and also to donate $235 to the Australian Red Cross. Ms Ruth Pares from Red Cross attended the final SRC meeting to explain the school’s humanitarian work of this organisation. SRC representatives Nabilla and Balkees (class 34) presented a donation cheque on behalf of the SRC and thanked Ms Pares.

Mr Coats

SA Refugee Week Youth Poster Awards

For the past 7 years the Australian Migrant Resource Centre together with the University of South Australia have organised a Youth poster award competition and exhibition. Each year students from many schools design and contribute personal works of art. Usually the work is focused on multiculturalism and how our differences are a major strength.

Hala Naji (class 34) was a finalist in the competition this year and attended the awards ceremony with her family, making them and us very proud.

Congratulations Hala.

Term 3, 2017 Dates

Monday 24th July First Day of Term 3
Thursday 24th August Governing Council Meeting
Thursday 7th September Student Free Day
Friday 8th September School Closure
Tuesday 19th September Student Achievement & International Peace Day Assembly
Tuesday 26th September Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thursday 28th September Graduation Assembly
Friday 29th September Last Day of Term 2

Radio Interview

Following on from the school’s Syrian exhibition at the Migration Museum, called Planting Dreams in a New Land, two students from class 5 (Ali Al Ghati) and class 7 (Suhriman Abdul Rader) went to Radio Adelaide on 22nd of May with their teachers Mr Bottroff and Mr Parkin for an interview to talk about the exhibition. The interview was unrehearsed and was only done once, but the students did a fantastic job of talking about what they did for the exhibition and what it meant for them as new arrivals in Australia.

Well done to the students and staff (especially Paul Coats and Sarah Wilson) involved with the project, and to Suleiman and Ali for being great role models for their community.

Mr Bottroff and Mr Parkin

Youth Support

As the school wellbeing officer I facilitate two well-being groups, a junior and senior girls group once a week. With approximately 10 students in each group, we explore well-being, safety, ways to relieve stress, future career opportunities, cyber bullying and safety and we finished this term with a group party sharing different cultural dances.

Our groups provide friendship and social support and are culturally sensitive. This term our activities have included a Street Smart Self Defence session from the Self Defence Academy. The instructor Jenny taught us how to stay street smart on public transport. We also had visits from SA Police Multicultural Unit, teaching us about laws and the role of police as well as how to keep ourselves safe.

Ms R Singh

Student Behaviour Education Surveys

This term, a student behaviour survey was completed involving a few classes and students from different nationalities. The survey results are a snapshot of how students are feeling about the school environment. This graph shows that close to 90% of students surveyed feel safe at school and this is reflected in their cheerful and positive demeanour while at school.

Mr Bottroff

As we come to the end of another term, we farewell students from 6 classes and welcome new students and their families to the school.

We are expecting a large intake of international students early next term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents/caregivers for their ongoing support, in particular those parents/caregivers that were involved in CIS interviews and have made a commitment to attending Governing Council meetings. Finally, I must acknowledge the wonderful work staff at ASSoE do on a daily basis to ensure student learning and wellbeing needs are met. This course of work was recently re-affirmed by our CIS visitors.

Antip Macri

Acting Principal

On the 20th of June, we celebrated Refugee Week with an assembly followed by classroom visits by parents/caregivers in the afternoon. As part of classroo visits, parents were involved in a range of activities including Maths, Music and Art classes. Our guest speaker at the assembly was Dr Nina Maadad, a senior lecturer at the University of Adelaide, who has written several books on Multicultural Education and her research interest includes identity of new arrivals and refugees.

Nina also spoke about her own experiences as a new arrival to Australia trying to communicate in another language.

An example of the dedication of staff was highlighted when ASSoE hosted the first Community of Practice for EALD teachers organised by one of our teachers, Dr Nishani Singh earlier in the term. The forum enabled teachers from our school and others from a range of metropolitan schools to come together and discuss successful teaching strategies for EALD students, as well as discussing some of the challenges encountered. A second meeting has been scheduled for Term 3 where Mr Thomas Parkin, also a teacher at ASSoE will share ICT strategies he uses to enhance literacy development. As a school, we are very fortunate to also have a number of exceptional, dedicated volunteers who have made a commitment to give up their time on a weekly basis to work with students and staff. Students had the opportunity to show their gratitude as part of National Volunteers Week by writing thank you cards and through a range of activities earlier in the term.

Career education and making links with community organisations has been the focus for work studies classes this term. Students have been involved in Beacon Foundation speed career program and high impact programs where guest speakers gave an insight into their careers, pathways and job readiness skills. We have appreciated our guest speakers giving up their time and working collaboratively with our students sharing their experiences and responding to questions.

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Principal’s Report

An official report was recently received confirming the success of the Preparatory Evaluation visit and listed a range of commendations and a few recommendations for future actions. The report was complimentary of the school community and of the school’s commitment to continuous improvement finding the school to be very well aligned with the vast majority of Standards and exceeding a significant proportion of Standards at the Preparatory Evaluation stage. Staff were acknowledged for being highly dedicated and motivated ensuring student individual needs and wellbeing are catered for at a high level. The extent to which the school promotes, values and supports Australian and global citizenship learning was described as outstanding and the school’s focus on providing high-quality teaching of English as an Additional Language or Dialict (EALD) and personal learning and wellbeing was recognised as being at the forefront of all the school does.

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Ms Rydon & Ms Schipanski

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Marino Rocks to Hallet Cove

In week 9, students from classes 24 and 28 embarked on a challenging, clifftop boardwalk from Marino Rocks to Hallet Cove, a distance of about 7 kms. The view along the coastline was quite spectacular as we could see far into the distance. Although the weather threatened to change all day with scary, dark clouds not far out to sea, we were lucky in that the sun shone on us for most of the day. We walked along some very high cliffs and had countless steep steps to climb up and down. It provided a good workout for our leg muscles. The boardwalk is used by dozens of people to exercise and enjoy the beautiful fresh air. Many of these people had dogs with them. One was so large and grey that several students thought it was a donkey, but our teachers explained that it was, in fact, a Great Dane. The walk back through the Conservation park to the train station featured amazing geological formations dating back millions of years, including the Sugarloaf, which can be seen in the photo with class 28.

Even though it was tiring, a wonderful and satisfying day was had by all.

Mr Ellenbrook

Drumbeat

Students are learning about the rhythm of working together and solving problems through the Drumbeat program, which uses the African Djembe drums as a way to relax, focus and learn skills to cooperate. Every Friday a group of boys are meeting with Hayley and Mehak from Survivors of Torture and Trauma Assistance and Rehabilitation Service to learn drumming skills, share stories and experiences from their lives and consider the new problems they face. The boys will hopefully perform for an assembly in the future.

Mr Coats

Bird Box

At school my class and I made a bird box. A man came from the local council to explain what we do. We built the bird box, we used a hammer and nails to make the box. Then we painted it and finally we put the bird box in a tree. Half I was happy because we built a bird box. It was a really good feeling doing something to help the birds. It is something that can make them feel warm when the weather is cold and they can hide and shelter in it when it rains. Jawaher

Australian Migrant Resource Centre Excursion

On Thursday in Week 8 Class 17, Miss Phillips and Mr Paul went to Town Hall in the city. We went to an event called “In Our Own Voices” which was run by the Migrant Resource Centre. Some important people were there to support the event. We saw people from different countries do some dance and music performances. Then some people told us about their lives and how they came to Australia. They told us about how they struggled and how they became successful. We think it is important for people to share their stories so other people can learn from them. We also got to eat yummy muffins and drink some tea. (class 17)

Mr Wood

Integrated Learning

Integrated Learning is an optional SACE subject that students in Pathway B & C can choose to study in Advanced and Transition level. The students in this class organised a car wash after school, a movie and popcorn at lunch time and to collect donations from teachers and students to raise money to support the Red Cross. We raised a total of $413.10 which was given to the Red Cross. We raised $413.10 which

Work Studies

This term students from class 6 and 41 have been involved in paving the basketball court as part of their Group Project. Their focus for the Project has been: teamwork, planning, communication, developing new skills, collaboration and self-management.

Mr Wood

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

We have commenced the annual nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability (“the Collection”). This will involve the collection of: the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education and learning English on the same basis as other students

Under the Collection model the definition of disability is broad and includes learning difficulties and health conditions.

If your child is identified for inclusion in the Collection, the required information about your child will be included in this year’s data collection.

If you have any questions about the data collection, please contact Ms Ros Natt on 8340 3753.

Ms Robinson

School 27

In Our Own Voices

Natt on 8340 3733.

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