



Wassily Kandinsky—Concentric Circles  
by Room 1

### Diary Dates

**May 11-21**  
NAPLAN

**May 13**  
Healthy lunchbox  
presentation  
1:30-3pm @  
Loxton North  
School

**May 19**  
National  
Simultaneous  
Story time

**May 21**  
Assembly 9:00am

**May 25**  
Preschool Pupil  
Free Day

**May 28**  
No OSHC Bus

**June 3-4**  
Mobile Dental care

**June 11**  
School Pupil Free  
Day

**June 14**  
Queens Birthday  
Holiday

**June 18**  
Assembly 9:00am

**July 2**  
Last Day Term 2  
Early Dismissal  
2:15pm

### From the Principal's desk

Dear Families, We were delighted to have Mem Fox come to our school to promote the Premiers Reading Challenge. She is an amazing author who certainly knows how to write books and read them with passion and conviction. Students experienced this first hand and were mesmerised by her love and passion of reading.

Mem Fox pointed out to students that when you have choice in what you read and find you're not enjoying it, STOP reading it, and find a book that captures your mind, 'never lose the love of reading'. She finished her visit by getting on her hands and knees begging the students to keep looking for books to read, never get discouraged.



Playgroup also had a treat with Mem Fox reading "Good Night, Sleep Tight" Her strong words to parents were, 'if your child knows 6 nursery rhymes off by heart by the age of 4 they will be a great reader'. What were your favourites that you have passed onto your child?

Our **enrolment drive begins for Preschool 2022**. If you know of any child who turns 4 before 1st May, 2022, please remind them it is time to register their interest or complete enrolment forms ready for round 1 offers. Aboriginal children can start when they turn 3. Organising this early enables families to prepare their child for transition to preschool and we encourage building this connection by coming to playgroup, occasional care or exploring the playground over the weekend. Help us promote our amazing preschool, I am happy to show families around during school time or after hours to accommodate working families.



Welcome to Kayla Fielke, our Occasional Care educator. Children are loving playing with her as they explore and interact while learning through play. This service is open to any family across the Riverland, Tuesday and Thursdays, 8:45-11:45am.

Congratulations to Daisy who is now qualified as the 4th educator in the Preschool! Daisy is a golden retriever who has completed her training and is enjoying being part of the learning and well being program.

**Regards Vanessa**





## Music Education

More and more research is identifying the benefits of music. **Dr Anita Collins** renowned researcher shared key findings about the benefits of music on the brain.

They've discovered that we are born with our personality, hearing music lights up the entire brain, people who have a music brain are more connected and synchronised and that **SONG is the first language**.

The early years of a child is so crucial, having songs sung to children is **soothing and calming, also separates the sounds in our English language**. If children can't hear the language sound they can't speak the sound, then they will have difficulty reading.

**Early music intervention** enhances social skills and prepares children for reading. Some key activities for 3-5 year olds are keeping a beat, repeating a pattern using music equipment, singing (children struggle with singing in tune until they are 8 years old) and tone activities where they distinguish what equipment made the sound. This highlights the importance of having your child's **eyes and ears checked** at such an early age.

Another key piece of research is that to increase a child's ability to learn and manipulate knowledge (cognitive ability) they should **learn a musical instrument** by a trained person, minimum of 3-5 years. This will create great brain health, enabling all functions of the brain to connect and work with each other at high speeds.

The school is embracing the **Music Education Strategy** Our preschool's in the 2nd year of mentoring in teaching music, our junior primary involved in the Charanga music program ; students listen and appraise musical activities, create and exploring through singing and performing. Year 4-7 students have the opportunity to be involved in the Festival of Music and access to music tuition.

Music is now in the playground! This week our school leaders opened our '**Orchestra Pit**' unveiling a babel drum, xylophone and hand pipes. Experimenting with beats and patterns creates beautiful melody's. More music equipment will be installed in the coming weeks in the preschool and under the lone pine tree.



To find out more about Dr Anita Collins research like Bigger Better Brains on Facebook or search for videos on you tube by googling her name Dr Anita Collins—The importance of music education.





## Room 5 Daisy

Daisy had her first day at preschool with the preschool children on Friday and had a wonderful day. Each child introduced themselves to Daisy in a safe manner by approaching her calmly, asking if they could pat her and then letting her sniff their hand before they pet her.

Learning the basics of dog safety is really important so children are aware they cannot pat all dogs they meet. Any dog can be unpredictable, so looking for signs for if a dog is feeling anxious, scared or angry is really important too.

Daisy happily wagged her tail constantly during the day to show she was happy and excited to meet everyone. She came out of the preschool office at rest time and calmly laid down amongst all the children and listened to the relaxation music and guided meditation.

We look forward to Daisy returning to preschool and having opportunities for each child to develop a connection with her. Her presence here has many possibilities for each child's wellbeing and development and we are excited to see how her role develops at our school.

Amity: I was patting her.  
Good, she was fluffy.

Aubree: I like her  
because I love her.

Easton: Her was very soft  
and hairy on her tail.

Harley: It was fun.

Jake: I patted her.

Keanu: It was really  
good. I love her because I  
give her pats. Daisy decided to lick me so she did, only  
once.

Mia: So, I really loved her sniffing me and when I putted  
my knuckle out.

Sadie: Her was  
soft.

Zoe: We just pat  
her and she was  
making me happy.  
She liked a lot of  
pats and she loved  
it 'cause it was  
very very good.



## Room 3 Beautiful Birds

We are learning to create art works using different materials and mediums. For this learning we used pencil and water colour paint.





## Room 6 Harvest Festival

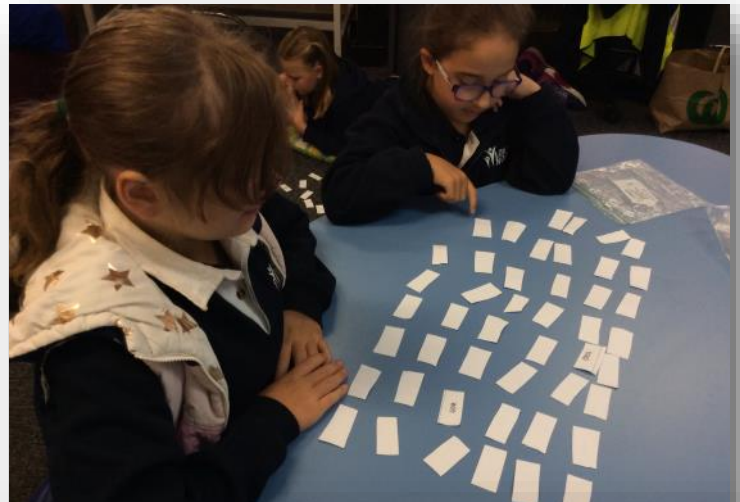
**What you didn't see!** Year 5/6/7 had a great day picking grapes to help celebrate this years Harvest Festival Great Stomp. Some students worked out that the grapes underneath the vines had the biggest bunches. While others chose a different approach to picking and some people might have eaten a few grapes. After a very hectic morning and lots of sticky hands, there was a chance to celebrate the picking of bucket loads of grapes. Total amount raised from all Harvest Festival was \$2 980.00.



## Room 1 Spelling

We use 'Words their Way' for spelling. Some of the activities are hands-on which allows students to see patterns in words by looking at graphs, digraphs and trigraphs. Students manipulate and sort words into different sound categories when doing this they analyse, examine, and compare the patterns in words promoting higher-level thinking skills.

Last week the children played 'memory' game, this is an activity you can do with their words for homework.



We used our learner disposition of 'think' and 'persist'.



## School Information

### School Fees

Preschool and School fees need to be paid by the end of this term. Payments can be made by bank transfer, eftpos or cash. Please make contact with Sophie— Finance Officer if you need assistance with school card application or set up a payment plan so the balance is paid by 1st July, 2021.

The school bank account details are:

**BSB: 105 059**

**Account No: 245 255 540**

Always write your surname when making payment.

### Mobile Dentist

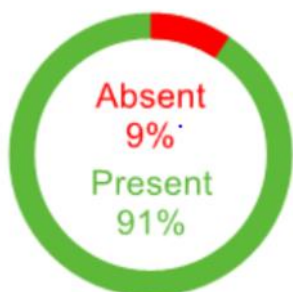
It has been great to see families utilise this service again at the school, they will come annually to ensure follow up on treatment and care of your child's dental needs. Last day to complete forms is 13th May, there are no out of cost expenses and you are informed every step of the way.

The Dentist will be visiting on the 3rd and 4th of June.

### Attendance

**Attendance is crucial! Being at school on time is crucial! And being ready to learn is crucial!** Creating good routines and a strong work ethic starts at an early age. If you are having difficulties getting your child organised in the morning or attending regularly please make a time to talk with the Principal to look at ways we can work on this together.

The Department considers 4 days absent a term significant. We are finding some students are having a number of days off are for family reasons. **Having a day off for a birthday, shopping or a rest day with mum or dad is not OK.** Missing out on learning makes it harder for the student to catch up and as they get older these poor habits can increase the gap in learning, often resulting in more days off to avoid work.

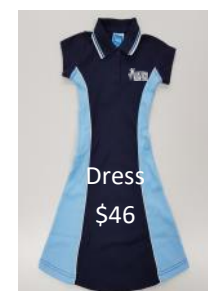


### Pedal Prix

Due to the postponement of Pedal Prix at Loxton we are excited to be holding our own Pedal Prix event. Students from Rm6 will be involved in regular fitness training, Sunday practices with the pedal prix cart, and the final race event being held at Glossop High School bus interchange in Berri on Sunday 27 June. There will be a separate note to go home to Room 6 families with further information.

### School Uniform

Wearing school uniform in public creates brand recognition for our school; this builds awareness of Loxton North School in the community. SRC and staff are investigating more uniform options, if you have any feedback please pass onto front office staff.



## Community Information

### MOIRA Community

#### In Conversation with James Hunt - Stories About Autism



A free, interactive conversation with James Hunt, father and award-winning blogger, on the highs and lows of parenting children with Autism.

James joins us online from the UK to help connect and support parents and carers, and share his personal experience on a range of topics including:

- The emotional journey from diagnose to now
  - The joys and challenges of caring for children with autism
  - Hopes and dreams for the future (and the worries)
  - Carer wellbeing
- + Answer your questions in a live Q and A.

Date: Friday 14 May  
Time: 10.00am - 11.00am (AEST)  
Where: Online - Zoom

[Register here](#)



1300 666 472

[hello@moira.org.au](mailto:hello@moira.org.au)

[moira.org.au](http://moira.org.au)

#### HOW TO PREPARE

### Healthy School Lunch Boxes



Presented by Lynley Seaman, Nutritionist

Join us for a cost-free, informal and interactive education session targeted at parents and care-givers, about how to pack healthy (and fun) school lunch boxes. The session includes tips, resources and information presented by a qualified Nutritionist.

This session is part of FocusOne Health's brand new Healthy Habits program, a service supporting Riverlanders to live their best life.

Loxton North School

Thursday 13th May 2021, 1.30pm to 3pm

Register via the QR code or contact FocusOne Health 08 8582 3823

Creche available for 2-5 year olds



Funded by  
phn  
COUNTRY SA  
An Australian Government Service



FocusOne  
Health

Lynley Seaman  
NUTRITIONIST



Healthy Habits



### ASSISTING ARTISTS WANTED FOR 2021 RIVERLAND PRIMARY SCHOOLS' MUSIC FESTIVAL!



The Riverland Primary Schools' Music Festival is looking for Assisting Artists to perform at the Chaffey Theatre, as part of the Festival, from 10th to 12th August, 2021.

Assisting Artists are dancers, bands, ensembles, soloists, duets etc from Riverland and Mallee Primary and Secondary schools who perform between choir items.

As it is the Festival's 25th Anniversary, we are also inviting former Assisting Artists (who are no longer at school) to audition to be return guest performers at the Festival.

Auditions will be held at **Waikerie Lutheran Primary School** and **Rivergum College** in June. Video auditions will also be accepted.



Application forms are available from your music or dance teacher, or from Mrs Melissa Schmidt on 85412344 or [melissas@wpls.sa.edu.au](mailto:melissas@wpls.sa.edu.au).

**Applications forms are due by 4pm on Friday, 28th May.**



### Sat 29th May 10AM - 4PM

### LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE

**COME & SEE**  
Onsite  
10.30am - 1pm

- Rope Making
- Blacksmithing
- Whip Cracking @ 12.45pm
- 32 Volt display
- Aleck's Store operating
- Tractors & Stationary engines
- All usual buildings & exhibits open

**Morris Register Car Club  
SA Section**

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Phone: 08 8584 7194  
Allan Hosking Drive, LOXTON

[www.thevillageloxton.com.au](http://www.thevillageloxton.com.au)

### LOXTON LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRE

## RHYME TIME



Join us on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 18 & 19 at 10.30am for a special story and craft for this year's National Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime ...from space!

Give me some space!

Wednesday 19 May 2021 [www.slx.org.au/nss](http://www.slx.org.au/nss)

Enrolment Packs for students intending to enrol in Year 7 and/or 8 in 2022 at Loxton High School have been distributed:

to Loxton catchment area Primary schools (please refer to email below)

via siblings currently enrolled at LHS if requested

via post where requested

If you were expecting an Enrolment Pack but have not yet received one please don't hesitate to contact Loxton High School.

**ENROLMENT PACKS ARE TO BE RETURNED BY 21ST MAY**





# YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022



## Parent Update Week 3, Term 2 – 2021

### Our regional schools

We understand that regional communities have some unique needs and challenges. In preparation for the year 7 to high school move in 2022, we conducted widespread consultation with our rural schools and communities so they could share their hopes and individual concerns.

We heard from more than 250 individuals and received 25 written contributions, 4 of which came from peak representative groups. Many regional families and communities were excited about the opportunities of bringing year 7 into high school.

Having listened to the feedback, we are working with country schools to ensure they have the right support for the move, especially in terms of staffing, professional learning and transport requirements. This Parent Update will address some common questions raised by country families during our consultation.

### How will my child cope in a large high school?

For many regional students, starting high school means leaving a small primary school for something much bigger. We know from our pilot program that year 7s are well and truly ready for high school. The pilot is tracking the progress of students, families and staff from three schools that have already welcomed year 7s. One of them, John Pirie Secondary School, is regional. Feedback from pilot program students has indicated the vast majority are enjoying making new friends, trying new sports and activities, and learning in a larger, more mature environment.

### Will my child cope with a longer bus ride, alongside older teenagers?

We acknowledge that the availability of services in regional locations is a broader community challenge. Some year 7 students will have longer commutes to high school, as do their peers in years 8 to 12.

Feedback from students in our pilot program has shown they quickly feel comfortable in the company of older students. Our pilot schools established peer leadership and mentoring programs to help year 7s feel welcomed by older year levels. The older students played an important role in orientating them to the high school settings.

Orientation and transition activities are being organised by individual schools to suit their communities' needs, but peer mentorship will be a common feature of them. Contact your local high school for more information on orientation programs and activities they have planned.

### What if my local high school is more than 20km away?

By default, all year 7s will go to high school or area school from 2022. However, if your primary school is more than 20km away from your local area or high school by road, you are eligible to seek a 'by exception' exemption from your primary school principal to keep your current year 6 student in their primary school for year 7. These arrangements, which also apply to School of the Air, will apply for a transitional period until 2024, provided you attend one of 45 eligible primary schools. For more information visit our website at [www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS).

### What if my local primary school loses student enrolments?

The state government has made a commitment that it will not close schools as part of the year 7 to high school move. For the eligible primary schools mentioned above, we are also offering top-up funding to ensure they don't lose classes due to the departure of year 7s. The funding will be available up to and including 2024.

### Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: [www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS)

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: [Year7toHS@sa.gov.au](mailto:Year7toHS@sa.gov.au)

