



Principal: Belinda Krollig

Governing Council Chairperson: Deb Schutz

Respect Responsibility
Persistence Confidence
Care Honesty

23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie, SA, 5330
Phone: 85412733
dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au, www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au

Term 1, Week 10 – Wednesday 1st April

No 5

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 3 rd April	Students finish school for term 1
Monday 6 th April – Thursday 9 th April	Student Free Days
FUTURE DATES	
Monday 24 th April	Term 2 begins

Principal

Dear school community

This is an unusual time in our lives and things are changing on a daily basis. We are all experiencing some or all of the following: confusion, worry, anxiety and a deep sense of sadness at what is happening in our world.

We want all of our students to feel comforted, loved and emotionally well.

Next week staff will use the student free days to prepare for *Learning at Home* and *Learning on Site* programs. Yesterday you would have received a letter via email that is asking you to inform us if your child/children will be *Learning at Home* or on *Site* in term 2. This is also posted on Facebook. This information will support us to prepare for both modes of learning. We fully understand that it is hard for parents to make this call with a month before school returns.

In the near future you will receive information on *what* and *how* the *Learning at Home* will be delivered or what will happen when your child comes to school in term 2. We are investigating using the Seesaw app to communicate with families who have chosen *Learning at Home*. *Learning at Home* will be supported by hard copy materials for those families who require them, we are still working out how you will receive the materials and return them for marking and next steps in learning. Student learning at home or at school will be aligned. However we understand that the home structure will be quite different from a classroom.

Please be patient as we work through these processes, the Department for Education is working very hard to support schools with information and resources. Information is coming to us on a daily basis.

I understand that some families may change their mind about the option they have chosen as the weeks pass and this is fine, we do ask you to let us know through the WaikeriePrimary.PS926@schools.sa.edu.au email so we can make changes. You may also return your child to school at any stage in term 2 if your circumstances change, again please contact us so we can plan for their return.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or need clarification on anything. We will keep you updated with new information.

I wish to thank the caring and flexible staff of Waikerie Primary School and you the school community for your understanding and kind words of support we have received over the past few weeks.

Take care and enjoy Easter and the holiday break.

Belinda

Deputy Principal

The Premier's Reading Challenge plays an important role in promoting the love of reading and this year more than any other, students will find joy, continuity and comfort in books! With your continued support, our students will keep reading and participating in the Challenge! In order to make the Premier's Reading Challenge achievable for all in this extraordinary year, we will be doing the following:

- Rules** – students will still need to read 12 books by September. However, they can be ALL FREE CHOICE. We understand that it may be difficult to get to libraries so any book students choose to read will be accepted –



whether on the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist or not.

2. **Collecting reading records** – students will still need to submit their records. We will accept a scanned copy via email to this address (eg teacher email address).
3. **Awards** – we have been informed that awards will be sent to our school in November as in previous years.

If you are in search of reading materials, our school will support reading via our library by doing the following...

Please consider [SA public libraries](#) are free to join and they provide access to the OverDrive service, where there are thousands of eBook titles (and Audiobook titles) using the very user-friendly [libby](#) App. This collection has more than 4,000 different children and young people's titles and includes many Premier's Reading Challenge books. There are other free services for younger readers such as [Brightly Storytime](#) on YouTube and online story reading at [Story Time from Space](#) and [The Big List of Children's Authors Doing Online Read Alouds & Activities](#). Good luck with the Premier's Reading Challenge this year and please contact us should you need any support.

SAPSASA Cricket

Congratulations to George and Isaac on being selected to play in the Riverland SAPSASA Cricket State Carnival. The boys played extremely well both taking two catches while Isaac also took two wickets.



I wish all families the very best over the coming weeks and thank you for the many ways in which our school community have continued support and care for each other.

Take care, Megan

Long Sleeve Polo Tops

Due to circumstances beyond our control our yearly order for our long sleeve polo tops has been cancelled.

Student Wellbeing Leader

I extend my thoughts to all families at this challenging and unusual time we are experiencing right now! The past couple of weeks have been a whirlwind for staff and no doubt stressful for many families, for a number of reasons, be it mentally, physically, financially, or socially. We have all felt the impact in some way!

The wellbeing of our students, staff and parents/carers is now more important than ever. It's imperative that as a school community we continue to support each other, check in on each other and as difficult as it is – stay connected! For families that are self-isolating, please know that we are thinking of you – your children haven't been forgotten and we want you to stay connected, whether it is through an email or phone call. Please feel welcome to touch base with the school to say hi and let us know how you're doing. When time permits, Shazz (our Pastoral Care Worker) and myself are intending to check in with families via a phone call and are available, if needed, to point parents/carers in the right direction for support services that may assist at this difficult time.

Self-isolation is a massive change for adults, let alone children! We are all experiencing a new way of life, there is no hand book for what we are going through right now, so please be kind to yourself and know that you are managing the best you can! As difficult as it may be now, life will not be like this forever and we will all come out of this with a little more gratitude and loads of resilience! Take care and stay connected!

Alison Pietsch

YET News

Hello Waikerie YETies! I just finished sorting the first of your trap samples (I've still got one here to do, hopefully today!). Thought I would give you a bit of an explanation of what has happened to the samples so far.

I tipped out the sample (this one is the one that was up from the 3-18 March) into a sorting dish.

Then it was time to sort the sample to Order level – this means putting the different sorts of insects into different vials so that future researchers can find the specimens they need easily.

Sorting takes a really long time – I pick out the obvious things by eye first, then head over to the microscope to pick out all the very small insects. Because your sample had SO MANY FLIES, I ended up just picking out everything that was **not** a fly.

The Orders of insects that were in your trap were:

- Diptera (flies)
- Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies – there were lots of little moths)
- Blattodea (cockroaches – there was one!)
- Hymenoptera (bees, ants and wasps)
- Hemiptera (true bugs, with sucking mouthparts)
- Coleoptera (beetles)
- There were also some spiders – which are not insects (8 legs, instead of 6).



Why were there so many flies? Well, it makes sense that there would be lots of flies in your sample, because we set it up in near a wetland. There is a group of flies which includes the midges and mosquitoes, that have larvae (the babies) that are aquatic – they need to live in water. Our trap would have caught lots of the adults of these groups because of where we put it. Different traps in different locations catch different sorts of insects.

The picture above is one of the super cool wasps that you caught in this trap! Cuckoo wasps are named after their sneaky habits, similar to that of the cuckoo bird! Cuckoo wasps lay their eggs inside the nests of another species of wasp. When the cuckoo wasp larva hatches, they attack and eat the host provisions or larvae of the other species! The adult cuckoo wasps are able to roll into a ball and use their thick exoskeleton as armour to protect them if they are caught invading another wasp's nest. You can find them throughout Australia, often in urban areas like gardens.

Oliphant Science Awards to go ahead in 2020 – a great idea for learning at home

The SASTA Oliphant Science Awards is South Australia's biggest science competition and has been a stalwart for science education in schools for nearly 40 years.

The South Australian Science Teachers Association understands the impact that Covid-19 in having on teachers and students – and is endeavouring to assist teachers however it can.

Based on feedback from the science education community, SASTA believes that now, more than ever before, this competition is a special and important tool to assist and motivate students to learn about science.

This type of student-centred learning offers a model for flexible teaching programs.

The inquiry and project development skills utilised to create and finish an **Oliphant Science Awards project can be easily directed and managed through remote/online learning.**

The SASTA Oliphant Science Awards website has comprehensive information about the competition for teachers including explanatory videos and a comprehensive Teachers Resource Kit, and free worksheets for students that promote self-reflection and give students direction with their project.

For more information, go to www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au or contact the SASTA office on 8354 0006.

South Australian Science Teachers Association
249 Henley Beach Road, Torrensville SA 5031
PHONE 8354 0006 FAX 8354 0008 EMAIL office@sasta.asn.au WEB www.sasta.asn.au
ABN 22 938 317 192
To opt out of future fax promotions from SASTA, contact marketing@sasta.asn.au



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