



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 5

Tuesday 26/2—School Photos

Thursday 28/2—Courier Cup

Week 7

Monday 11/3—Adelaide Cup holiday

Week 8

Tuesday 19/2—Governing Council - 7pm

Thursday 21/3—Volunteer Induction

Friday 22/3—Year 7—Aquatics

Week 9

Thursday 28/3—Principal's Tour

Friday 29/3—Year 6 Aquatics

Week 10

Friday 5/4—Sports Day

Week 11

Newsletter

A Community of Successful Learners

Term 1 — Week 4

Our Year 7s students wearing their snazzy new jumpers!



Home Reading Tips

The following information is designed to help you support your child's reading development at home.

It is important to understand that there are two levels to reading. The first is at the text level where students use a range of skills to read and decode the words. The second level, and the real purpose for reading, is comprehending information and building on your current knowledge. It is useful to remind your child why we read, and encourage them to use a range of self-monitoring strategies such as re-reading and self-correcting, to ensure they understand the text.

There are two levels of comprehension we look for including literal and inferential understanding of a text. Literal meaning refers to facts and information that can be easily located within the text, while inferential meaning requires students to think at a deeper level about a topic and use their own knowledge or do further research to find the answers. It is this deeper level of understanding that we aim to develop through our guided reading program, and it is here we teach the skills required to infer information.

For this reason, the reader that your child brings home is deliberately designed to be an easy read. We want to remove the high level of processing skills required to decode the text so that students can focus on understanding the text at a deeper level. When students feel confident with their home reader, they are more likely to practice the skills they have learnt at school. Please keep in mind that at school your child will be reading at a higher level in their reading groups. We call this their instructional level, and it is at this point that we teach them the skills required to develop a greater understanding of the text.

Principal: Jo Simpson

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Reading tips—continued

There are many things you can do to support your child's reading development at home:

Encourage your child to keep their reader and read it a minimum of 2-3 times. This may take a week. The more they read the text the richer their knowledge of the text will be.

After the second or third reading of the text you can begin to ask your child a range of questions. You can ask them to:

Retell the story or facts in the correct order and with as much detail as possible.

Answer literal questions about the text, relating to the characters and events that happened.

Infer information that requires them to think more deeply or draw on their own experiences about a topic. If we are told without seeing, that one of the main characters is furry and barks, then we infer that the character is a dog. You can ask, do you know of a similar character/event? How is it similar/different? What type of personality does the main character have? What tells you the main character was angry/worried? How do you know that? Did the characters change throughout the text? How does the author show you this?

Locate information within the text such as, can you show me a place in the text where the author wanted you to know the character was upset? What words did the author use to show you that?

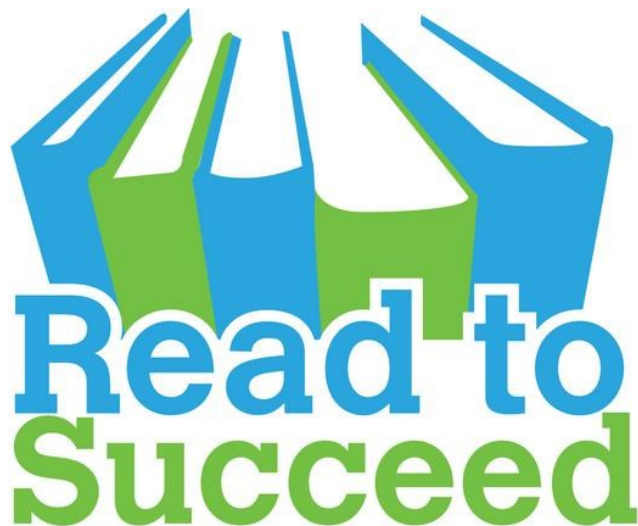
Identify vocabulary in the text as you read and ask your child, what does that mean? Discuss the word and encourage them to ask for help when they come across an unfamiliar word. The aim is to broaden their vocabulary or word knowledge.

Read to your child and demonstrate what smooth expressive reading sounds like. You may read the whole book or take it in turns to read a page. Use a range of voices to show how the characters might sound and find the cues within the text that gives you this information such as exclamation or question marks.

Most importantly make reading fun and informative, never a chore.

It is important to make the focus of reading about understanding the text rather than reader levels. Successful reading is about far more than being able to read words on a page. It adds value and purpose to our learning. When students understand this, they have greater access to all areas of the curriculum, including Maths and Science where the language becomes more complex and technical, requiring an even greater level of understanding.

Adapted from a Reading Tips letter sent home to the room 9 students.



Sports, Sports, Sports

Last week, students from our school were involved in Rugby League school coaching sessions, provided by the NRL, in which they have learnt the basic rules and strategies behind the game. There is also an opportunity for anyone from the school, who may be interested, in being involved in an after school program which is commencing on Monday afternoon, the 18th February, on the Showground Oval and will run for 6 weeks from 3.30 – 4.30. For the \$60 registration fee, they receive some products as described on the website and of course the coaching program. To register go to www.playnrl.com, scroll down and click on Non-Contact After Schools Program, then on Register and it will take you to the sign up page. For any more information feel free to contact Dave Cohen on 0411 159 465. Hopefully the students would have brought home a flyer that explains all that.

We have supported Rugby League at our school over the years as it is an extremely well presented sport that provides students with a positive learning experience and I would recommend it to you.



Mitcham Girls High School

Open Day

For prospective students

Wednesday 10th April 2019 | 9:00-11:00am and 5:00-8:00pm

Principal's address and school tours during opening times

We specialise in:

- Girls' Education
- Gifted and Talented Program (Gift) Academic
- Gifted and Talented Program (Gift) Dance
- STEM Collaborative Inquiry

Parent Information Evenings

Thinking of enrolling your daughter in an all girls' school?

Mitcham Girls High School is an outstanding public school that is unzoned.

We welcome interested families to join us at any of the following locations, from 6:00-7:00pm, to hear more about our wonderful school.

- Wednesday 13th March** Mitcham Memorial Library
131 Belair Road, Torrens Park
- Wednesday 20th March** Woodcroft Morphett Vale Neighbourhood Centre
175 Bains Road, Morphett Vale
- Wednesday 27th March** Payneham Community Centre
374 Payneham Road, Payneham
- Tuesday 2nd April** Mitcham Girls High School Performing Arts Centre

Kyre Avenue, Kingswood, South Australia 5062 | www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au
Phone: +61 8 8272 8233 | Email: dl.0903.info@schools.sa.edu.au

A girls' school | A public school | An unzoned school | Achieving Academic Excellence



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Department for Education

A Community of Successful Learners

Library News

What a great start to the year. Thank you to all the families who have purchased books through Scholastic Book Club. We receive great rewards for our school to buy more books. Just a reminder that all orders are online. If you have any questions or problems with this please come into the library and talk to me, I will be happy to help you.

The Premier's Reading Challenge has started and some students have borrowed books with the correct stickers on them to write down on their individual forms. Once the students have completed the sheet they can hand it up to their teacher or hand it to me in the library. If you have any questions please let me know. There is a prize for the first student who completes the challenge.

During term two our school has a "Book Fair" in the library. It runs for a week, and in the past it has been very successful. The theme this year is "Catch the Reading Wave". There will be some exciting competitions leading up to this as the winners receive vouchers to purchase books and items from the fair.

There is a competition in the library. The students have to guess how many objects are in the jar. This is a starter kit full of stationary and other things. Students need to use their math skills and try to work out the answer. I will be announcing the winner at our next assembly.

Happy Reading

Suzanne, Library Manager.

SA Dental Service

SA Dental Service

Keep your kids smiling



Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics.

The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Call us now for an appointment!

Your local clinic is: Mount Barker School Dental Clinic

Phone: 8391 0858

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental

Kiss and Drop Reminder

Our Kiss and Drop Zone is located on Apollo Street. Please note the following information – The solid yellow line in front of the Staff Car Park (pictured below) means cars are not permitted to stop where there is a solid yellow line. Please do not drive through or park in the staff car park at any time.



The yellow dashed line on Apollo Street indicates where cars may stop briefly and pick up or let children out of cars. Drivers are not permitted to leave or park the vehicle. Please move to the front of the line when in the zone. If parents arrive and their child is not yet at the kiss and drop zone they will be required to do another lap to avoid congestion.



Kiss and Drop Reminder

The picture below shows the shelter and path leading from the school to Apollo Street. Staff will be on duty until 3:30pm in the afternoon to supervise children leaving the school grounds. Children will be allowed from the school grounds when parents arrive in the zone. As an added safety precaution, no child will be permitted on the footpath until parents arrive.



The map follow.



below shows the route vehicles need to