STARTING MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY (WEEK 4).

Can you help?

The Reading Post program has been highly successful but the success relies on the support of our volunteer helpers. I am urgently looking for volunteers to help with the Reading Post program which runs at the school every morning from 8:50am to 9:05am. Details on enrolments and costs please phone 08 85310179 or mob: 0417 825 455 or call in to see us and we can assist your enquiries. Bev Walker—Director.

Do you require childcare before school, after school, vacation care or care for student free days? Murray Bridge North School OSHC offers quality care for primary aged children in a home like environment with dedicated, caring staff. OSHC operates from the “Old House” within the grounds of the North School. OSHC opens at 6:30am for morning care and closes at 6:30pm after school. Link SA buses are available from the North School to the South School in the mornings and return from the South School to the North School in the afternoons. Details on enrolments and costs please phone 08 85310179 or mob: 0417 825 455 or call in to see us and we can assist your enquiries. Bev Walker—Director.

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Reading Post

Reading Post is a daily reading program designed to give extra reading practice using levelled reading materials for students who need it. The program has been highly successful but the success relies on the support of our volunteer helpers.

Are you interested in playing soccer? Contact Grant on 0411 067 039 for further details.

Bridge Hoops: Term 1 will begin on Wednesday 2nd March—4th April 2016 at 5-6pm. Cost: $30 for 6 weeks. Registration forms available on the MBSPA website or at the stadium.

TRIVIA NIGHT: this Saturday 20th February. 7pm for a 7.30pm start at the Jervois Combined Sporting Club. For more information or to book a table contact Michelle 85729801 / 0412897742 or Jenni 0418 856680 or Sally 85723313 or 0427 181504.

Rammers Football Club: Meet the Coaches Day: Sunday 20th February at 1pm. Ramsey Street. Under 7’s through to U17’s. Bring the whole family. Food, drinks and fun for the kids.
Belonging at school makes a difference

Starting school is a big change for children. Not only do they have to cope with schoolwork and teachers, but they also have to get used to being part of a class and a whole school. A lot more is expected of children when they start school and there are lots more people to get on with. It helps children to know that there are people at school who will look after them and care about their needs.

Belonging improves mental health, wellbeing and learning. All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Belonging is very important for children’s mental health and wellbeing. Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed and have fewer behavioural problems than other children. They are also more motivated to learn and be more successful in their school work. Research into children’s mental health has found that a sense of belonging and connectedness at school helps to protect children against mental health difficulties and improves their learning.

Making friends and having positive relationships with teachers helps children develop a sense of belonging at school. Having older ‘buddies’ to turn to helps younger children feel that school is a place where they can get help if they need it. Looking after younger children encourages caring and helping in older children and helps to reduce conflicts and bullying. These are some of the ways that children’s sense of belonging at school can be supported.

More ways schools can help create a sense of belonging:

As part of KidsMatter Primary, schools look closely at ways they can continue to build strong positive relationships with all students and families. This includes things like:

- making the school environment welcoming for all students and families
- encouraging teachers to get to know all their students and their families
- identifying ways of improving communication with families
- focussing on child and family strengths
- making sure that school policies on safety, welfare and discipline are clearly communicated and support a sense of belonging for children and families.

What parents and carers can do:

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home. It also makes it easier to pick up any problems early when they are easiest to resolve.

- Find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions
- Make time to listen to your child tell you about what he or she is doing at school
- Let your child’s teacher know if he/she is having difficulties and discuss what kinds of things you can do at home and school to help

For more information go to https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/.

SUE THOMPSON—Deputy Principal

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Darnell (C1) 15th February
- Annabelle (C6) 18th February
- Delfina (C1) 21st February
- Phoenix (U5) 19th February
- Jayden (C10) 22nd February
- MJ (C2) 22nd February
- Quan (C2) 3rd February
- Alara (O9) 23rd February
- Clara (C10) 24th February
- Rizzah (C5) 25th February
- Scarlet (C6) 27th February
- Callum (C9) 28th February

PARENTS/CARERS COFFEE ’N CHAT ACTIVITY ROOM EVERY MONDAY MORNING AFTER SCHOOL DROP OFF 10:00AM

ALL WELCOME!!

Keep your kids smiling

Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.

Please call now for an appointment. Murray Bridge School Dental Clinic Phone: 8631 9300

School Fees

Invoices have been sent home with students last week. Please make sure you have received this from your child. (If you have already paid or applied for school card this year, you may not receive an invoice). Please pay your School Fees as soon as possible to enable resources to be purchased for the students. We welcome payment by instalments if that is more convenient. Invoices can be paid by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, EFT Direct Credit or arrangements can be made to use the Centrepay facility.

If you think you are eligible for School Card for 2016, or wish to know more about it, please ask the front office for an application form as soon as possible.

If you pay your fees in full or apply for school card (if eligible) by Friday 25th March 2016, you will automatically be entered into a FREE raffle to win a $50.00 meat voucher.

Michelle Currie—School Counsellor

Drug and Alcohol Education

Make time to listen to your child tell you about what he or she is doing at school

Find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions

Make a visit from Part Power players Karl Amon, Aidyn Johnson and Robbie Young. It was awesome!!