



# MURRAY BRIDGE SPECIAL SCHOOL

RESEARCH INTO ACTION

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AN ANXIOUS CHILD IS NOT A LEARNING CHILD

## Murray Bridge Special School Newsletter



The Winter break commences this Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of July for our beautiful young learners. **School finishes one hour earlier.** We all wish you a wonderful and safe time during the break with your families. **School recommences Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of July** (due to a pupil free day on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> of July). See you then and stay warm!

### Term 3 Dates For 2020

**Term 3 – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020**



### Important Information

Murray Bridge Special School's Pupil Free Day is: **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020.** The school will be closed on this day.

**\*\* Every effort is made to support families who have children attending State schools across different sites in Murray Bridge particularly Murray Bridge North Primary School. Therefore the date for our pupil free day has been selected to coordinate with the Murray Bridge North Primary School.** The day will schedule time for individuals across the site to work on identified priorities including communication/literacy systems and numeracy. This will be an invaluable time for staff to engage in an extension of their knowledge, skills and abilities developing intellectual stretch for our young learners with complex multifaceted disabilities.

## **COVID-19 Update**

Gradually and very carefully our school is getting back to business as usual. In order to keep moving forward there are still a number of practices we need to maintain. Although the size of gatherings that can occur has increased significantly, there is still a restriction of one adult per 2 square metres. This means for now we will need to continue to **stop adults gathering in the foyer area of the school** at drop off and pick up times due to the small size of the area - there simply isn't enough safe space.

Physical distancing continues to apply and probably will for some time. **Face to face meetings, including with your child's Learning Facilitator can now go ahead**, however don't forget to negotiate a time first as the Learning Facilitator will need to book an appropriately sized space. **Good hygiene practices are essential, including frequent effective hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes.**

Protecting the health and wellbeing of our precious learners continues to be a priority. Our learners may have fragile unpredictable health concerns or require frequent ongoing medical assessments or appointments. **It is important our learners attend only in appropriate circumstances.** For example if a learner is unwell or significantly stressed; is recovering from a recent illness; has had recent surgery or hospitalization, or requires a standard of health or psychological care outside of the duty of care abilities of teaching or school support staff, then it is not in the learners best interests to attend, and if they come to school you will be contacted to take them home where they can receive the care and attention that cannot occur in a school setting.

**It is my understanding the additional cleaning of the school and the school play equipment will continue in term 3.** Kirsty our super school cleaner has been doing an extraordinary job and many thanks go to her for continuing to assist keep our precious learners safe.

Thank you to the many parents and carers who are respecting and helping us with the school entry rules and are also building their own children's independence and resilience. I do wish to thank everyone sincerely; including our incredible learners, their families and our wonderful staff for their patience and understanding as we negotiate our way through previously uncharted waters. **Everything will be okay in time, we just need to keep supporting one another and demonstrating the overwhelming patience and kindness I am witness to every day!**

## **Year 7 to High School Update**

As you may know, **year 7 is moving to high school in 2022.** This means that if your child is in year 5 or 6 this year, they will graduate from primary school next year. Having two year levels graduate at the same time is a unique situation and we want to assure you that our learners will experience a positive and successful transition from primary to high school. Each of our precious children has individual learning and care requirements, and the same will apply to developing individual transition plans in preparation for 2022.

If your child is one of those who will graduate from primary school next year, your child's Learning Facilitator will be contacting you early in 2021 as transition goals will need to be included in your child's One Plan.

**From 2022 our school will cater for enrolments from reception to year 6.** We will provide you with further information about our plans as they become available.

## Swimming cancelled for the remainder of the 2020 school year.

We have just been informed by the Department for Education swimming instructor coordinator at the Murray Bridge Hydrotherapy Pool, Jenny Duffield that the pool will not be open in term 3 and therefore the **school program will be cancelled for the remainder of the 2020 school year.** This is not surprising considering the significant impact to health and wellbeing COVID-19 may have. I will keep you up to date should anything change.

## A Reminder - School Fees

If you are eligible for School Card, please **complete an application on line** as soon as possible. The online application is available at **[www.sa.gov.au/ education/schoolcard](http://www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard)**

**If you need any assistance applying online, just contact Donna at school and she is very happy to help you complete the application. Donna has done this with other families and it only takes approximately 10 minutes.**

# APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL CARD



## All types of School Card applications are now online.

You can access the online forms from any device that gets internet, including mobile devices, such as tablets and smart phones, as well as laptops and computers.

Applying online is easy! Simply follow the steps below.

- STEP 1** Visit **[sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard](http://sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard)**
- STEP 2** Select the type of School Card you would like to apply for (for example 'Type A') and follow the prompts.
- STEP 3** Complete all mandatory fields.  
*Please note: you cannot submit your application unless all mandatory fields are complete.*
- STEP 4** Once you have completed a page click on the 'NEXT' button.
- STEP 5** Once you have filled out all pages click the 'SUBMIT' button.  
*Please note: if you exit the form without clicking 'SUBMIT' your details will be lost.*

You can save the form, and return to complete it at another time, by clicking on the 'SAVE' button.



[sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard](http://sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard)



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

## Murray Bridge North School OSHC

Before School, After School and  
Vacation Care Programs.

### **Catering for your needs on your local school site**

Open daily 630am and close 6.30pm

*This service will operate a 6am start if there is a demand. Please contact the service or school to register your interest.*

Quality care, competitive prices, fun activities, friends to be made, games, arts, crafts, good food and special events all in a home like environment.

**Contact OSHC 08 85310179 or 0417825455**

**“When little people are overwhelmed by BIG emotions it’s our job to share our calm,  
NOT to join their chaos”** L.R Knosk Child Development Researcher U.S.A

**Enjoy Every Precious Moment Together!**



Warmest Regards Always,  
Vicki Smith  
Principal  
July 2020



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education