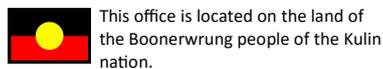




12 Margaretta Street  
 East Bentleigh 3165  
 Tel: 03 9563 8139



This office is located on the land of the Boonerwung people of the Kulin nation.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### MAY

Wednesday 31st  
 Bringing Up Great Kids Program

#### JUNE

Wednesday 7th  
 Bringing Up Great Kids Program

Monday 12th  
 Queens Birthday Holiday

Wednesday 14th  
 Bringing Up Great Kids Program

Wednesday 21st  
 Bringing Up Great Kids Program

Thursday 22nd  
 Parent Conference

Friday 23rd  
 Curriculum Day 3

Wednesday 28th  
 Semester 1 Reports issued

Friday 30th  
 Last Day Term 2

#### JULY

Monday 17th  
 First Day Term 3  
 Monday 31st—August 4th  
 SSG Week

#### AUGUST

Saturday 19th  
 Kids Space Birthday Party  
 Thursday 31st  
 Father's Day Stall

#### SEPTEMBER

Friday 22nd  
 Last Day Term 3

#### OCTOBER

Monday 9th  
 First Day Term 4  
 Monday 23rd—Friday 27th  
 SSG Week

# What's News

TERM 2 ISSUE 3 WEDNESDAY 24TH MAY 2017



## Principal's Report

### Future Vision for SAS

Unfortunately, the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff has not been matched in the current round of government funding for improving our facilities. Nevertheless, our enrolment growth will continue along with crowding of more buildings and students onto our current site. We will continue to meet with region representatives and the local member to press our issues and endeavour to realise the "Vision for SAS" as having exemplary autism specific programs and wrap-around wellbeing services.



Clare O'Neil, Federal Member for Hotham, recently visited to discuss the impact and issues of NDIA for families

### Curriculum Day

Staff feedback from our recent Curriculum Day has been universal in recognising the value of "Video Self Modelling (VSM)" along with "Structured Classrooms". VSM looks to be a powerful strategy for supporting students to understand behaviour expectations by actually seeing themselves engaging in the required behaviour. It will take clever role play and editing to compile the 30 second to two minute videos with the potential 80% success. Using iMovie, it takes Social Stories to the next level in providing the visual of the student already doing the target behaviour.

"Structured Classrooms" workshop was delivered by School Leader Natalie Walsh to demonstrate how EEP and Foundation are building student independent work using schedules. Seeing scheduling as a means of independence rather than compliance or comprehension will enhance the use and outcomes for all students.

### Secondary Expo

Last Thursday night's Post School Option Expo was an outstanding success with high parent turnout with lots of extended conversations. Great to see families of students from Year 10 starting to plan and consider future options. Congratulations to School Leader Cindy Longley for this initiative that is building in attendance and value.

### Thanks

Our now annual Mum's Day Stall was again a success for students and, hopefully, lots of mums received gifts.

Cont....

## Principal's Report cont...

Rochelle Pettit and Julia Morgan organised our third successful fundraising night, Bogan Bingo. Thanks also to those others who generously supported the evening, including staff from Crown Buses and a large contingent from the school. Parent Elena Cumming was the lucky winner of the generously donated new iPad. The evening raised just over \$2,800 which will be used towards "Video Self Modelling".

Hayley and Brad Steer and the Granville Rifle Club hosted the fourth annual Shoot for Autism fundraiser on Saturday. Competitors travelled from around the state to participate in an effort to win prizes in the best sponsored event in Victoria. This year saw a record number of entrants on what turned out to be a beautiful May day. Justin Walsh was invited to attend and was given the privilege of recognising all the generous sponsors that make this such a great fundraiser for the school.

### **Farewell to Bec Kriek and Jackie George**

Bec leaves enormous shoes to fill in our therapy team. She has been an outstanding contributor to building the autism specific skills of staff. Jackie is a soon-to-be mother who has been a highly valued experienced teacher. All at SAS wish you both the very best for the future.

**Jeff Innes**  
**Principal**



### **EEP and Foundation School News**

The entire school staff participated in Using Visual Supports within the Classroom at our recent Curriculum day. This complements the STAR program roll out across the school. Use of visual schedules and independent work stations lays down the foundation for STAR success.

The staff at SAS are continuing to work towards becoming a centre of expertise in the delivery of education for children with autism. The initial group of STAR trained staff are trialling the program with one/two students in their class. The school Leaders are supporting classes with implementation within their school groups. The main focus in these initial stages is on developing teacher and Educational Support staff skills. The staff are work on refining their skills at implementing the program to achieve fidelity of implementation. When the consistency of this evidence based model is embedded within our school program it will ensure explicit teaching practices are utilised and all students will benefit from it.

We are seeing fabulous learning and growth taking place with both teachers and students. We are lucky to have a great professional team here at SAS who are enthusiastic and committed to learning about evidence based strategies to improve the learning outcomes for your children.

### **Farewell Jackie George**

Jackie George (nee Walter) will be finishing up at the end of this week to commence family leave. We wish her all the very best on the birth of her baby and thank her for her commitment and dedication to the students she has worked with over the past four years here at SAS.

Liana Macklin will be replacing Jackie in room 201. She has previously worked as a teacher in New Zealand and England. We have been lucky to provide an extended handover with Liana working along side Jackie over this past week. This will help maintain consistency of programs and class routine for the students within the class to ensure minimal distraction. Welcome Liana, we are delighted to have you join our team!

**Natalie Walsh**



## Lower Primary School News

### Positive Behaviour Management

Each student will have a behaviour management plan, also known as a wellbeing plan. Plans are categorised into 3 tiers. Tier 1 encompassing general classroom strategies, tier 2 including general classroom strategies and other specialist interventions like Speech and Occupational Therapy, and tier 3, having specific behaviour management strategies, specialist involvement and support of the psychologist and social worker. This may extend to external services as well. Even though some students might not display any behaviours of concern, they will still have a plan as the information included in the document is vital to best support students, for example when there's a replacement teacher and/or students transition to other parts of the school at the end of the school year.

Information includes, but is not limited to:

- \* Parents/carers contact details
- \* Allergies/Medical concerns
- \* Objects and/or activities students find most motivating and engaging
- \* Transport details
- \* Medication
- \* Objects and/or activities students dislike
- \* Any sensory sensitivities e.g loud noise

All plans are continuously updated to ensure the information is current and relevant to the student. Every measure is taken to be proactive and positive to best support each individual student to succeed in the school environment. It is imperative that parents/carers communicate things that would help staff best support their child, for example:

- \* Did your child have a good night's rest?
- \* Was your child settled during the morning routine?
- \* Any changes in medications
- \* Did your child eat breakfast?
- \* Any changes in the family/home life e.g. dad might be on a business trip

By having this information, staff can alter their strategies, thus ensuring a smoother run of the school day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the classroom teachers at school.

**Denise Van Der Nest**  
**Lower Primary School Leader**



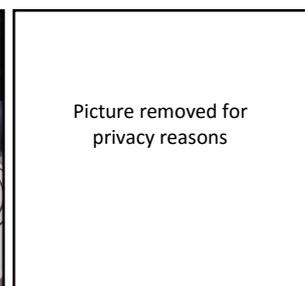
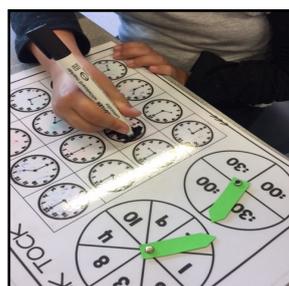
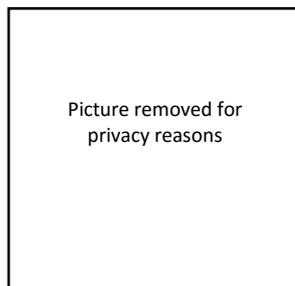
## Upper Primary School News

The Upper Primary students in room 4.01 are benefitting from a mentoring program implemented by the senior students. David, from seniors, comes to 4.01 once per week and supports the students with a variety of maths activities that he helps to devise and organise. This is a program that is beneficial to all and they are certainly enjoying the program.

The next group of teachers are beginning to get ready to implement STAR in their classrooms. They will be completing STAR assessments, setting up their classrooms and implementing STAR into their programs over the next few weeks.

Look out for RDA expression of interest forms in your child's communication diary this week.

**Nat Proctor**  
**Upper Primary School Leader**





## Secondary School News

### Post School Options EXPO

We had a wonderful turnout to our Post School Options EXPO on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Sixteen organisations were represented and the twelve families who attended were able to spend a considerable amount of time with each of the organisations. Thank you to the staff – Jessica Tang, Kathy Waugh and Halle Ladd who volunteered to support the event .



**Cindy Longley**  
Secondary School Leader

## Bogan Bingo Photos



## 35 Years of Service

Congratulations to Leanne Edmond who has completed 35 years of service with the Department of Education. Last week, South Eastern Victoria Region held functions in each Area to recognise and celebrate staff who have provided 35 years of service to the Department. This is a considerable achievement.

On behalf of the Department of Education and Training, your colleagues and many students - thank you!



## Feed Melbourne Appeal

We want to say a BIG THANK YOU to parents, staff, students and friends that have contributed towards the Feed Melbourne appeal for the month of May. We have had a great response with over 250 packets of pasta and rice collected so far. We are grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

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## NDIS Information Session

Thanks to all the parents who attended the NDIS information session last week. We had a fantastic turnout of over 50 families. The Association for Children with a Disability were our guest speakers and provided a very thorough and useful presentation on planning for the NDIS rollout. If you have any questions or need any information, please do not hesitate to contact Jessica Tang, SAS social worker.

## New Staff Members

Welcome to Menuri Gunawardhana, Education Support 308, Kate Munday, Education Support 206 and Liana Macklin, Teacher 201.



Menuri



Kate



Liana



## Senior School Parents: PARENTING PROGRAM for Term 2

**REMINDER TO ALL SENIOR SCHOOL FAMILIES: IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THIS GROUP, PLEASE RSVP.**

The Wellbeing Team is excited to be offering a parenting program in term 2 at Southern Autistic School. The program is based on the Australian Childhood Foundation’s evidence based parenting program ‘Bringing up Great Kids’. The major aim of the program is to promote positive, respectful parent/child relationships. Through the program it is expected that parents will come to:

- Learn more about the origins of their own parenting style and how it can be more effective.
- Identify the important messages they want to convey to their children and how to achieve this.
- Discover how to overcome some of the obstacles of being the kind of parent they want to be.
- Discover ways for parents to take care of themselves and to find support when they need it.
- Develop strategies to manage their parenting approach despite the mounting pressures on their time and role.

This program will be facilitated by the Wellbeing Team. We hope to create a relaxed and informal setting. This program will run over a 4 week period and attendance at all four sessions is essential:

**Session Dates: Wednesday May 31<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Session Times: 9.30-11.30am**

Please feel free to contact Jessica Tang on 9563 8139 if you have any queries about the program.



### Bringing Up Great Kids Parenting Program Enrolment Form

Name of Parent(s) Attending:	
Name of Child:	
Class and Teacher:	
Contact Phone number:	



## Parent Conference 2017

Limited places are still available to register for this day of workshops. This free conference is fully catered and a great opportunity to meet and share with other parents. Carers, grandparents and other key support people are also welcome to attend.

**When:** Thursday 22nd June, 2017

**Time:** Sign in from 9.00am, presentations from 9.30am– 2.45pm

**Where:** Kingston Art Centre, 979-985 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin (Cnr South Road and Nepean Hwy, 100 metres from Moorabbin train station) Melway Ref 77 D5

**Cost:** Free (morning tea and lunch provided)

**Parking:** Parking available on site

\*Please note that child minding for younger siblings will not be available during the conference (students attend school)

The 2017 Southern Autistic School Autism Conference is being coordinated by the Southern Autistic School Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy team. If you have any questions regarding the conference please contact the team on 03 9563 8139.



**RSVP: Please complete and return this to confirm your attendance by Friday 26th May.**

I would like to register for the Southern Autistic School Autism Conference.

Names of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any special dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

## Employable Me

### Are you living with Autism or Tourette Syndrome and having trouble finding a job?

Northern Pictures are making a documentary series for ABC Television featuring people with neuro-diverse conditions who have had trouble finding work and are keen to find a job that suits their skills and talents. We want to show that having a neurological condition can be viewed as a strength, not a disability in the workplace. With the help of experts and specialists in the field, this uplifting and insightful series will highlight job-seekers' skills and match them to roles that can harness their strengths. After all, we all deserve the opportunity to work for a living and pay our way. Our production company, Northern Pictures, has produced many award winning television documentaries for both Australian and international broadcasters. So if you are living with Autism or Tourette Syndrome and are looking for work, please get in touch! You can contact us via email: [EM@northernpictures.com.au](mailto:EM@northernpictures.com.au)

The series will be based on the television program, 'Employable Me', made for BBC2. If you haven't seen the series (which aired last year on ABC2 in December 2016), here is the trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBcsVBukrj8>



# Sleeping Sound Special Needs

### What is the project about?

The aim of this research is to understand sleep problems in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) aged between 6- 13 years who also have an Intellectual disability in order to inform a sleep treatment.

### What will I be asked to do?

Parents of children with a diagnosis of ASD and Intellectual disability will be asked to complete a survey about their children's sleep and behaviour as well as their own mental wellbeing. We will also ask your interest or preference for a sleep treatment. This will take around 1 hour to complete.

### Why is this project being run?

Many children with ASD have problems with sleep that affects their behaviour at home and school as well as their parents mental wellbeing.

### How can I find out more?

To participate in this study please contact Dr Nicole Papadopoulos  
Phone: 03 9246 8497  
Email: [sleepssn@deakin.edu.au](mailto:sleepssn@deakin.edu.au)  
Website: [www.ssn.com.au](http://www.ssn.com.au)

**Participants will receive a \$20 Coles gift voucher for their participation and time.**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY