Dear Parents,

Winter is certainly upon us now but we did manage to escape the showers when on camp and so a great time was had by all. Camps are such an important part of the school curriculum for so many reasons. We were able to directly link our learning to hands on experiences – for example in our unit of work on Ancient Civilisations for the upper class, students saw first hand primary and secondary sources in the Egyptian section. The teacher at the museum was very impressed with the knowledge the children had on this topic. Another example occurred in the Migration Museum where children took part in an activity which clearly illustrated how the White Australia Policy worked. Social skill development is always high on any camp agenda. It was terrific to see how the youngest students in particular quickly adapted to camp procedures. I am sure they were full of stories when they came home. As a school we received positive feedback during every session and I was impressed by the student’s attention and response to questioning as well as their respectful behaviour. Special thanks must go to Matthew Pointon for his great support and also to Peter Germane for great driving and assistance with camp operation (I think he has done this before!!)

Yesterday I attended the second conference in two years around the topic of Building Resilient Learners. A body of world wide research demonstrates very significantly that having resilience makes for better learning outcomes. Key note presenter Andrew Fuller (Director Resilient Youth Australia) clearly demonstrated how resilience and well being data has the potential to inform teaching, learning and leadership. In the next few newsletters I will include some handy information you may like to read on a range of topics. At school level we will continue to rigorously work on actions that focus on this important area.

Until next Time

Rosie Harden

PARKLANDS PROJECT AND COOKOUT

In the next week or so the children will be busily preparing for the cookout and also getting reading for the parklands day in Term 3. Each child will be assigned to a group and as a team they work out the menu and what each member is going to do to contribute to the team effort. Please look out for the rubric coming home and instructions that go with that. Being economical with spending will be a focus this year so the children will need to discuss this with you carefully. Good Luck!
Relaxing at camp headquarters

PE with a difference

Port Adelaide

Fun at St Kilda Playground

Learning at the Maritime Museum

At the Zoo
YOUTH ENVIRONMENT LEADERS

As part of the Session 2 Environmental Leaders day activities for our Year 6 and 7’s, the children had to write a newsletter article. Once this has been successfully completed the children have earned their second badge of attainment for the year. Here are some examples of the children’s work.

On the 7th of June 2016 we went to Stansbury Primary School for YEL. I learnt that a glass bottle takes one million years to break down. I also learnt that hooded plovers lay their eggs in little ditches in the sand. From this I learnt because they are endangered, it is important to walk down on the wet sand and to keep your dog on a leash. If not the eggs and young plovers can be killed. It is also important not to drive on the dry sand because you can’t see the nests and might run over them.

YEL is teaching us a lot about how to care for the environment.

Archie Year 6

On the 7th of June on Tuesday, it was Youth Environmental Leaders at Stansbury. There were students from Stansbury, Minlaton, Pt Vincent and Curramulka. First we watched a slide show about the hooded plovers and the oyster catchers.

We learnt to help the hooded plovers you must; drive on the wet sand, keep your dog on the leash and don’t go in the protected areas.

The most important task we did was the marine debris. That means you walk on the beach to pick up all the rubbish you see. We did a decomposing time line after where we were all surprised because a glass bottle takes an estimated time of 1 million years to decompose.

On the day we also made badge and presented our leafy sea dragon research to the whole group. Stansbury kids also took us on a guided walk of their school.

The next workshop is at Curry where we will present our project for the year. YEL is important because it teaches people how to help the environment and also teachers leadership skills.

TommyLee Year 7

On the 7th of June the year 6/7s went to Youth Environmental Leaders workshop at Stansbury. The schools that were there are Stansbury, Minlaton, Pt Vincent and us. First we all listened to a slide show about hooded plovers and how you should drive on the wet sand because they put their nests in the dry sand.

The best part of the workshop was when we had to work out how long it takes for things to break down. Did you know that styrofoam will never break down. We should try to recycle and reuse things rather than throw them in the rubbish bin.

We went to the back beach to identify different beach birds that were there. We saw pelicans, white faced herons, Pacific gulls, cormorants and seagulls. You can identify them in many ways like their shape, beak, feet and colour.

We are learning how to sustain the environment.

Maggie Year 6

On the 7th of June we went to Stansbury for our term 2 Youth Environmental Leaders meeting. The whole day was based on marine habitat and the beach. We started the day by being shown a presentation on the beach habitat. It started with the hooded plovers and how many are left in Australia and in every other state. Then it went on with marine debris, which we did at the back beach. Besides collecting litter we spent 40 minutes bird watching. After we discussed how long it takes the debris to decompose.

Each school then presented research they had done at school on the leafy sea dragon. Leafy sea dragon is the animal name of our YEL group. We learnt that only twelve percent of one hundred and fifty leaf sea dragon eggs survive. Leafy sea dragons are protected and are the marine emblem of SA.

After lunch each school group had to speak about what YEL badge they had achieved. Our group did the class sharing badge. This was followed by an interesting speaker who told us about the work she is doing as a volunteer helping on Troubridge Island.

YEL is a valuable program where leaders share what is happening at their school to sustain the environment. Saxon Year