Our School Vision: Empowering all to reach their potential.

Sister Pat’s Quote of the week.
Why is it that no matter how busy we are, we always find time to worry?

Year 7 Camp - Errappa

On Tuesday 27th May, Ms Gardner’s Year 7 class set off for Iron Knob to acquire leadership, team building, self-esteem and a sense of responsibility and respect for one’s self and others in the community at the Errappa Blue Light Camp run by the SA Police Force. This was accomplished by working together to complete team games and by encouraging each other to overcome fear and attempt a high ropes course. Not only did the students climb on ropes, they also played laser tag, went bowling and swimming and had a bonfire.

Overall, the students enjoyed their week away and demonstrated the school’s values of respect, responsibility and persistence.

A big thank you to Andrew Swanson and Chris Jones for accompanying and encouraging us throughout the week.
**Australian Curriculum Planning Day:** At our most recent Student Free Day (SFD), on Friday 23rd May, staff from all the sites in the region (Andamooka PS, Woomera AS, Roxby Downs Kindergarten, Roxby Downs Area School and St Barbara’s School) met at the Roxby Downs Area School site and worked together throughout the day on planning and programming for the Australian Curriculum (AC). Angela Thompson and Leah Kennewell (AC Facilitators) led the planning sessions throughout the day, assisted by Dave Bennett, who worked with the secondary staff on some numeracy initiatives. In Term 3, we have two SFD’s planned. On Monday 4th August we will be running our 2nd and final AC planning day for the year and on Friday 29th August we will be running a T&D session on the Child Protection Curriculum.

**Congratulations to Ann O’Sullivan who has been appointed the Deputy Principal position for 2015.**

**Governing Council For 2014:** At our most recent meeting on the GC on Tuesday 13th May, all the roles and committee responsibilities were finalised for 2014. I would like to thank the members of the GC for taking on the following roles in 2104:

- Di Gardiner – Chair person
- Karena Scott – Vice Chairperson
- Miriam Alford – Secretary, IT Committee
- Kylie Dospisil – Treasurer, Finance Committee
- Vern Kruger – Grounds Committee
- Jo Gordon- Uniform Committee
- Emmanuel Ofori – Trade Training Centre
- Michelle Hales – OSHC Committee
- Tanya Parker – Canteen Committee

**Cyber Bullying:** I am grateful that the number of incidents in which parents have used ‘face book’ to deal with issues of frustration or grievance are on the decline, but respectfully I would ask that we all work together to eliminate this practise totally. Issues of grievance should be dealt with in a pro-active way, by contacting the school and organising a time and place to have the concerns discussed. If you see inappropriate comments posted, please be proactive and ask for the comments to be removed. We will continue to send the information to the police if and when it occurs.

**New School Logo:** As part of our move towards developing a new uniform for 2105, the school has recently gone through a process with staff and Governing Council to update our school logo. The main school logo has undergone some minor changes, and we have developed a smaller version of the logo which will be used on the shirt, dresses and jumper of the new uniform.

**NAPLAN Tests for 2014:** The NAPLAN tests for 2014 have come and gone, with the normal range of publicity in both the print and visual media. The tests went well from a school perspective. The results for these tests will become available to parents and teachers in late September, to be used and analysed in preparation for setting programme goals in 2105. It is important to make the following key points about the NAPLAN testing:

- The tests are only one of a whole series of test and data sets our school uses to support your child as learners.
- NAPLAN is used by governments, education authorities and schools to determine whether young Australians are meeting important educational goals in literacy and numeracy.
- As your child progresses through their school years it is very important that checks are made along the way to see how well they are learning the skills of reading, writing, and mathematics - essential skills that will set them firmly upon the path to success as adults.
- It is important to know that NAPLAN is not a pass or fail test. It simply looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against the national standards and compared with their peers throughout Australia.
- Parents of children who sat NAPLAN in Year 3 in 2008 and are now sitting NAPLAN in Year 9, by later this year they will have four NAPLAN reports for their child

**Attendance:** We had an average attendance in Term 1 of 90.7%, which was an increase on our 2013 average by 1.4%, but this has been quickly removed by lower attendance rates for the first 4 weeks of this term. Unexplained absences are now very low and so we thank parents for their support in this area. A reminder to all parents that by replying to the SMS message you receive if your child is away is the quickly and most effective way of letting us know the reason for the absence.

**Absence data for 2104:** 2013 Average attendance: 89.3%  **DECD Improvement Target:** 93%

**2014:** Term 2: Wk 1: 88.27%  2: 89.85%  3: 87.24%  4: 89.93% **Average to date in 2014:** 89.80 %
ROXY DOWNS AREA SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTRE

Miss Grillo’s R/1 class
Too Many Elephants!!!

RESOURCE CENTRE OVERDUE ITEMS

Due to the establishment of the Roxby Downs Resource Centre, as a separate school entity from the new Community Library, certain administration practices are being reviewed.

In an attempt to keep better track of valuable school library resources, invoices are now being raised for items that are over four weeks, overdue. The children receive a weekly overdue slip through their classroom teacher, showing their borrowings and following four weekly reminders, invoices will now be raised from central administration to recover costs of missing items, allowing for them to be replaced, where possible.

If you receive an invoice and subsequently find the library book, please pop into school and either return the book to the office, or the resource center and the invoice will be cancelled. Alternatively, if you have searched for the book and it is not found, could you please arrange payment of the invoice at the front office by the due date.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this ‘new’ procedure. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to see Annie in the front office or staff in the Resource Centre who are happy to help in anyway.

Kind regards, Annette Blackett ☺

Teacher Librarian - Roxby Downs Area School
Reconciliation week at Roxby Downs Area School!

**National Reconciliation Week** is an annual celebration marking the anniversary of Australia’s most successful referendum. May the 27th 1967, saw over 90% of Australians vote to give the commonwealth power to make laws for Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islander people and recognise them in the national census. The week **May 27th to June 3rd** celebrates the rich culture and history of the First Australians and focuses on working towards **mutual respect, goodwill and equity**.

The theme for this year is “Let’s Walk the Talk”—with a focus on the Australia constitution.

Throughout the week classes were involved in activities in their classrooms and in the Yakarti Room. We also had Peter Burgoyne (Sodexo – Aboriginal Liaison Officer) come in to the school to do a power point presentation on ‘Reconciliation’.

We also had giant footprints and small footprints around the school for everyone to write on, sharing what Reconciliation means to them.
Reconciliation Week

Mrs Jordan’s year 4 class really enjoyed the activities organised by Mrs Monti and Sandy from the Yakarti Room. They were first asked to draw on a foot what Reconciliation meant to them and when they were all completed we placed it on the wall outside of the library.

In the Yakarti Room, the students first acknowledge the traditional owners of the land and learnt why we say this. They were then read a beautiful story by Sandy. The students were super excited to find out that Mrs Monti and Sandy had supplied them with their very own boomerang to paint. They could then practice dot painting using a variety of colours. Mrs Monti and Sandy have a whole school quiz competition about Reconciliation, and the students are using a variety of sources to answer each question. It has been an amazing week and our class are thoroughly enjoying it. Well done Mrs Monti and Sandy for a fantastic week.

NEW DRINKS IN CANTEEN!!!
Flavoured Pump 700ml = $3.90ea
Flavoured Iced Tea = $2.90ea
Pop Top Juice = $2.70ea
Mick’s message:
Hi everyone, I have recently been on a fantastic year 4/5 camp at Wallaroo. We had really good feedback from the people who organised the event which shows how great the Roxby Downs community is. Thanks to all those involved.

‘Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it.’ –Charles Swindoll

Life has its up’s and down’s, it is how we react to those circumstances that makes the difference.

Choose to react well to the bad circumstances that come your way and you will thank yourself for doing that in years to come.

Michael Cantell
RDAS Christian Pastoral Support Worker.
Providing pastoral care and support to students, staff and families
At school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
Tel: 86710011
Email: Michael.cantell237@schools.sa.edu.au

QUICKSMART Program 2014

RDAS are currently in their 5th year of running a maths program called Quicksmart for years 5 & 6. This program aims to improve speed and accuracy in the 4 main aspects of maths (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and develop automaticity. “When students have automaticity, they have immediate recall of basic information, enabling them to free up working memory for problem solving and multiple computations. These students also become more confident in many of their classes” said Mrs Prosser.

On Wednesday 7th May our Quicksmart students invited their parents to an open evening in the Quicksmart room. Parents had the opportunity to chat with the instructors and co-ordinator and take part in activities that the students do in their classes. It was a fun night with students timing Mum or Dad on flash cards and testing them on the computer. Competition was loud at times as parents and students played the “3 in a row” maths game.
Dear Parents / Caregivers

The RDAS Parents and Friends are hosting another

**Fashion Show “Fashions on the Field”**

as our major fundraiser of the year.

The show will be held on **Saturday 28th of June 2014** from 7pm and will feature a range of fashions by South Australian businesses.

In addition to the Fashion Show the evening will include games, lucky door prizes and raffles.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would make a **donation** that we could use for prizes. Contributions could include chocolates, wine, beauty products, kitchen ware, magazines, books (e.g.: cookbooks, craft etc.) or giftware.

Could you please deliver your donations to the front office by Wednesday 25th of June 2014.

**All money raised will help us to buy resources for our school and the education of our children.**

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to seeing you at our Fashion Show.

Vern Kruger - President
RDAS Parents and Friends

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*CEG RDAS Certificate 3 WORK HEALTH SAFETY 2014.*
Hi, we are the Student Voice representative’s for 2014. R-12 Student Voice reps meet fortnightly in the Library at lunch time. We have been discussing our class issues and then resolving them in Student Voice meetings with the help of Mrs Beth Elliott and Mrs Kate Bennie, our two school counsellors, and other student voicer reps. We have been meeting as a whole student voice cohort.

This semester we have split into three groups. ‘ Beautify the School’, ‘ Fundraising and us’, the ‘ Shout Out Group’. The Beautify the School group ran a ‘Decorate the Bin competition’ last year where people from each year made a design or two to paint onto the bins around the school and hopefully this year they plan to paint the bins.

The Fundraising group is currently working on a ‘Pyjama and Crazy hair day’ which will be held on Friday Week 8, the 22nd June.

And then there is the Shout Out Group. We are the ones who let everyone know what’s going on. We write our newsletter articles, we raise awareness of our school and class issues and organise guest speakers. We are the ones who speak at assembly and represent our school at events.

We hope that you now have more of an idea of what Student Voice is up to.

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**RDAS Student Voice Present**

**Pyjama & Crazy Hair Casual Clothes Day**

**When:** Friday week 8 – 20th June

**What:** come dressed in your PJ’s & crazy hair

**Bring:** Gold coin donation

**Order:** pre-order a Smiley Face Cookie (made by student voice reps) for $1