Dear Families and Friends of Reynella East College

It certainly has been an exciting year with many special events and programs to promote and showcase learning. The inaugural P-12 Sports Day Carnival, Remembrance Day ceremony and program, the many Drama, Musical and Media productions, the Hairdressing Run-way shows and the many Celebration Assemblies and Graduation Ceremonies across the College just to name a few.

The Pre-schools' recognition of Excellence in National Quality Standards and Platypus and Wombat concerts were also particular highlights for the Early Years.

This year the Middle Years Review recommendations shaped significant changes to the structure of the College and next year 6-9 students will be grouped into learning communities and benefit from up-graded facilities and more flexible learning spaces. We have introduced a new Learner Management System to track and monitor student attendance and achievement and we’ve been gearing up to open the parent portal to provide easy access to attendance, assessment and achievement information for parents in 2016.

The P-12 Outdoor Learning Project has made steady progress with the official opening of the Early Years Nature Garden and development plans approved for the sandpit redevelopment to commence construction over the Christmas holidays.

The Panalatinga Partnership of Schools and Pre-schools conducted its first combined professional learning program for over 500 staff and performed very well in the external review process.

Finally we say a special thanks and farewell to a number of staff who retire at the end of this year, after many dedicated years of service to education at Reynella East College and other schools across the state: Jeni Davies, Wendy Toogood, Kevin Bartlett, Martin Forsyth, Lee Bonner and Nandita Dasvarma.

Other staff who are leaving due to end of contract or taking up other positions elsewhere are: Beck Truran, Alicia Read, Catherine Burns, Sam McIlvar, Heidi Warnes, Andy Sommers, Michael Ferris, Tom Jolly, Emma Mundy, Justin Schultz, Cameron Hunter, Nicole James, Lauren Shippey, Ben Forster, Zac Marshall, Lydia Sulda, Jim Vinecombe, Nicole Jefferies, Marjolein Douglas-Broers, Alex Moncrief, Luke Rosie, Reena Aftab, Tamara Tane, Cathy O’Brien.

We also wish to thank the many contract SSO’s for their hard work and commitment to REC. (We hope that many of these teachers and SSO’s will return on contracts again in 2016).

I look forward to working with you all again in 2016, and on behalf of the staff I wish all families a safe and happy holiday.

Caroline Green
Principal
### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2 Dec</td>
<td>Preschool (Platypus) Xmas Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7/8 Transition Day 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 8 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7 Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Dec</td>
<td>Preschool (Wombat) Xmas Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Dec</td>
<td>P-7 Assembly, 9.00am</td>
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<td>Fri 11 Dec</td>
<td>End Term 4, (1.00pm finish)</td>
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### February 2016

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1 Feb</td>
<td>Day 1, Term 1 (Yrs P-8 &amp; 12 only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 2 Feb</td>
<td>Day 1, Term 1 (Yrs 9-11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9 Feb</td>
<td>Yrs P-7 Acquaintance Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 15 - 18 Feb</td>
<td>Yr 6/7 Aquatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 16 Feb</td>
<td>Yrs 10-12 Acquaintance Night</td>
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### March 2016

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11 March</td>
<td>Sports Day Carnivale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 14 March</td>
<td>Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 15 March</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 22 March</td>
<td>College Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 23 March</td>
<td>College Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25 March</td>
<td>Public Holiday - Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 28 March</td>
<td>Public Holiday - Easter Monday</td>
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### Wishing all our families a Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year

### Fee Collection & Uniform Shop Special Opening Times

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<tr>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>8:30am – 2:30pm</td>
<td>10:00am – 6:00pm</td>
<td>8:30am – 2:30pm</td>
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EFTPOS facility is available at the school for your convenience. Alternatively you may wish to pay your invoice over the Internet at www.reynellaec.sa.edu.au
Another incredible REC Remembrance Day was enjoyed by our community last month in week 5. Primary Student Leaders lead the ceremony that included speeches, a Catafalque Party, a minutes silence with a bugle solo, the laying of wreaths and beautiful songs sung by the children and College Choirs and played by our College Band.

Following the formal proceedings families were free to join in with the primary students for some fun and games, visit the many classroom displays and enjoy a break in the famous ‘Red Poppy Café’. The ‘Poppy Trail’ was a new concept introduced this year to keep the children busy, and it certainly exceeded that goal! The activities along the trail were fun and educational and enjoyed by all the families.

Funds raised on the day totalled $3580 which are being directed towards the Outdoor Learning Project; specifically the primary sandpit redevelopment. Feedback from our community has once again been overwhelmingly positive. Local MP Nat Cook was so impressed with the event that she plans to share her thoughts of the occasion in Parliament.

Thank you to everyone for coming together to ensure this event was once again an amazing occasion.

Remembrance Day Committee
Master Chef Callum Hann visits

Callum Hann was the runner up for Master Chef 2010 and the winner for Master Chef All-Stars. Callum donated his winning money to the Cancer Council and has his own cooking school called “Sprout”. He entered into Master Chef since he needed something to do during his Uni holidays and ended up doing really well.

Today Callum and his assistant had a visit to our school and taught all our Year 6 and 7 students about nutrition and eating healthy. He cooked us up 2 dishes, Chicken Jungle Curry and Ricotta Mousse. He used alternatives to unhealthy ingredients such as salt and sugar he added pineapple, honey and vanilla for sweetening instead of sugar and ginger and lemon grass for flavour instead of salt. He also taught us other things like the negatives and benefits of eating and also seeing what we know. Some lucky students also got to try his cooking and of course they all enjoyed it.

It was a pleasure having him here and the primary students were privileged to learn from him and try cooking in their life.

Lance M – Primary News Crew (Year 7)

Primary Peer Mediators

During terms 3 and 4 this year one of our Interns Sarah Nursey-Bray has been working with a group of Primary Peer Mediators. This is a group of approximately 12 students representing all grades in the middle and upper primary who have come together to talk about how they, as Peer Mediators, can help other students to problem solve and to promote a safe and positive school community. One of the practical examples of this is promoting the ‘Buddy Stop’. The students worked together to create Buddy Stop posters which will be used in primary classrooms to give children an idea of what they can do if they are struggling during break time, but also reminds older students of their role in offering peer support to younger students who may need a friend. We had help from the Student Voice photographers and then worked together to make the posters. Well done everyone!

Sarah Nursey-Bray – Flinders Uni Intern

Transition Day

On Thursday of week 8 we welcomed 225 Year 7 students for their second visit to high school. Highlights included PE, Home Economics, Technical Studies, Media Arts and a forum run by our Year 8 students where they offered their advice and answered questions from the Year 7’s. The Year 9 Peer Support team (who will be our Peer Support Leaders in 2016) did an amazing job and are a true credit to our school.

50 new primary aged students also enjoyed a 3 hour orientation visit to their 2016 classes.
Year 6/7 Design & Technology

In Design and Technology this term, our 6/7 classes (Mr Wall, Ms Lush and Ms Read) were given the task of making their own side-show games for Remembrance Day.

“We were put into groups of four or five. In our groups we were required to discuss possible game choices and skills required for our games. To help us choose we discussed The Royal Adelaide show games and researched how these games worked and whether or not they were effective.

Once we had planned and designed our games, we moved on to creating our games. We used recycled boxes and used whatever sources were available at the time. Once we had created our masterpieces, we tested them out with other upper primary classes. They were all effective and fun to play. We then had to evaluate our games by developing an investigation on how we worked as a group and if the game was effective.

Remembrance Day finally came around and we set up our games up under the COLA in front of the McClure unit. All funds raised by our games went towards establishing Nature Play spaces within the school, creating a great, fun atmosphere for the day.”

Khaffia A – Year 7

RED CARPET EVENT

If you missed it, you missed out on something really special! Our secondary ‘Red Carpet Film Event’ held early this term was a huge success with approximately 100 people filling the Helpmann Theatre space. Our audience enjoyed 2 hours of student short films completed in the past 18 months in Media Arts, Drama and Multimedia classes. Our audience was thrilled with the film noir, comedy, action, horror and high drama in our creative short films. The theatre and foyer were transformed into a classy cinema and our students, families and staff enjoyed a very entertaining night.

The variety of entertainment flowed, with vocalists Jack Spurling, Kelsey Graham and the Year 11 drama class who performed a scene about how to market a film.

Best Director and Best Film on the Night Awards were won by Caleb F (Year 10) for a Film Noir Detective Film.

Julie D’Lima - Arts Cooordinator
Ritsumeikan Junior High Visit

During Weeks 6, 7 and 8 a class of 16 students from Ritsumeikan Junior High School in Kyoto have been at Reynella East. They have learned about life in Australia, including Australian wildlife, sport, cooking, dance, and Indigenous culture and art. They also spent a day with 3 primary classes, sharing some of their own culture, including Japanese games, writing and arts. They have been accompanied by their teacher, Mr Hiromichi Ozasa. We hope they enjoyed their time with us and wish them all the best on their return to Japan.

Andrew Smith - International Coordinator

REC Homestays NEEDED

Are you interested in becoming a Host Family for International Students?

We are always looking for new Homestay families who ideally live close to Reynella East College and are interested in sharing their Australian lifestyle with an International student. Visits can vary from 10 days to a full year. A generous allowance is paid.

Contact: Carole Edgeworth - Ph: 0403 605 979

School Community Rewards

Supporting your school is as easy as:

WIN a family Zoo pass!

Join School Community Rewards by 31 January 2016* and you’ll go in the draw to win a 12mth family zoo pass!

Call Mark on 8202 7675 to find out how you can help support your school.

*The prize is one 12mth unlimited family pass to Adelaide Zoo, Monarto Zoo and most major zoos in Australia valued at $285.90. Being a member of Credit Union SA and participating in School Community Rewards as at 31 January 2016, you will be automatically entered into the draw. The draw will be conducted on 6 February 2016 at 10:00 am at Credit Union SA, Level 3, 400 King William Street, Adelaide. The winner notified within 7 days of the draw. The promoter is Credit Union SA Ltd, 400 King William Street, Adelaide.

Credit Union SA Ltd  ABN 36 087 651 232 - AFSL/Australian Credit Licence Number 241066 - Level 3, 400 King William Street, Adelaide, SA 5000

INSPIRING SUCCESS

6
Preschool Concerts

On Wednesday 2nd December, the Preschool had its first of 2 end of year concerts.

The Platypus Group invited their friends and families to come back to the Preschool at 5pm for a Picnic dinner. We then all moved to the Dance Hall and the children performed their songs.

The children worked so hard practicing for the night and they did such a fantastic job. The families all had a great night and there were even some tears when they saw the slideshow of photos from the year.

It was a great way for the year to end and the children were all proud when they received their portfolios.

On Wednesday the 9th December, the Wombat Group will get their turn!

Preschool Team

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge

We are pleased to announce that 377 students completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year in the Primary Classes and the students will be receiving their Certificates or Medals over the next few days. Thank you to all the parents who have encouraged and supported their children by listening to them read at home. This is a wonderful way to improve your child’s literacy and nurture the enjoyment of reading.

Mrs Lee’s Class were the major prize winners as the first class to have all students complete the Challenge and they were excited to receive a small reward each for their effort.

The other classes to achieve outstanding results and receive individual rewards were Ms Connell’s Year 1, Mrs Bradley’s Year 2 and Ms Lush’s Year 7 students. Well done to all students that completed the Challenge and we hope they participate again next year.

Christmas in the Library

We are celebrating Christmas in the Library by sharing some magical Christmas stories on the iPad in our beautifully decorated ‘Christmas Nook’. The children have enjoyed ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas’, ‘Jingle’, ‘Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer’ and ‘Russell’s Christmas Magic’. These interactive stories are all available from the iTunes Store.

Library book and Text Book Return

All student loans are now due to be returned to the Library. It is necessary for all books to be returned or losses paid for to ensure that your child is able to continue borrowing from the Library at the start of the 2016 school year.

Gayle Sutter - Library Manager
Middle School Re-structure 2016

We are now entering a very exciting phase in Middle School reform at Reynella East College. From 2016, students in Years 6-9 will be part of our Middle School.

Six composite Year 6/7 classes will be located in Braes and Carew creating a Middle Years’ learning team. This new Middle School structure will provide students with exposure to a greater range of subjects such as French, German, Japanese, Specialist PE, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Dance, and Visual Arts. Many of these subjects will be taught by specialist secondary teachers in specialised learning spaces.

These changes all support Middle School research about effective transition by providing:

- early experiences in new routines and future learning experiences
- opportunities to build relationships with a wider range of teachers
- structures for learning that are closely aligned within familiar sub-school environments

Year 8 & 9 classes will be located in four Learning communities in Malbeck with the aim to create flexible, innovative, shared learning spaces for students to work collaboratively or on individual research tasks in each space. Some of these shared flexible spaces will be created by shifting lockers back outside. Consultation is occurring with DECD facilities to design innovative and engaging learning environments. We will then tender the process and hope to get renovations underway in the term 1 holidays.

Clayton Disley - Deputy Principal

Headstart for Research Project

Over 70 students took the initiative to kickstart their first Stage 2 subject by attending the Year 10 Introduction to Research Project Holiday Program offered in week 8 for two hours each morning, Monday to Thursday.

Research Project is a compulsory SACE subject that students must pass by the end of year 11. Therefore, it has been very encouraging to see the number of students taking up this opportunity to choose their topic, refine their research question and develop a range of sub-questions with which they can spend the holidays compiling their sources folio. They will definitely feel less pressure next year when official classes start.

Other opportunities students were able to capitalise on were being able to listen to and question previous successful research students through the Flinders Uni Ambassadors Program, given valuable resources, study tips and guides and for those who attended the Tuesday session were able to sign up to gain access to the Flinder Uni Library. In 2016, students will be able to access extra study sessions after school and lunch for continued support.

Students were challenged and motivated and left the workshops with optimism and USBs full of resources.

“Coming back to school to attend information sessions on Research Project gives you a real insight into what to do and what direction I’m heading in.” Gemma Phillpotts Yr 10

Thank you to the following Research Project staff who facilitated this program: Amanda Chandler, Michael Ferris, Lynne-Marie DuRieu.

Kate de Smit - SACE Coordinator
Hairdressing **RUNWAY SHOW**

**Set, Spray, Tease, Pin, Perfect!**

This was the formula the Pre-Vocational Hairdressing students used to create their innovative styles for the semester two Runway Show. The final assessment in the Hairdressing course involved students working as part of a group to create a themed show incorporating hair, makeup and fashion styling. It is designed to allow the students to demonstrate all of the skills which they have acquired over the duration of the course. This semester the students used the drama theatre and selected accompanying music, lighting and visual backdrops to create the perfect mood for their catwalk.

The themes were diverse, yet all executed with precision and professionalism, which was even commented on by the TAFE lecturers in attendance. This semester’s themes captured a multicultural element, not seen in previous shows. This was brought to the stage by a group of Japanese students in the class, who decided to create a traditional Japanese theme by dressing their models in kimonos while modelling to traditional music with cherry blossoms featuring in the background. This was followed by a traditional Pakistani bride and other traditional wedding looks from various cultures. Other themes included The Day of the Dead, mythical creatures, the 60’s, a gothic look, Greek goddesses, bohemian and a unique meditative Zen theme to finish the show.

The students developed real life team work skills and most importantly how to compromise with one another. All students agreed that their planning of the hair and makeup, as well as practising on their models ahead of time allowed them to create their looks efficiently and with ease. Many students reflected on the experience in their folios: “It was the time where we were able to put our skills to use and show everybody what we were capable of.” “On show day I had a mixture of nerves and excitement……and I am very thankful for everyone who helped me and for my model being brave enough to walk the runway for me.”

The Pre Vocational Hairdressing course also has the aim to give students a sound skill base to take with them to further training and employment opportunities. Previous graduates of Aprils’ course have gone on to TAFE Noarlunga and excelled with their result - some recent comments from the TAFESA Hairdressing Coordinator have highlighted our students’ passion for hair and beauty; their high level of creativity and their exceptional potential for becoming employees in the industry; all of which is a great credit to our students and to April for creating a quality learning program for our students here at Reynella East college.

**April Gora - Hairdressing Teacher**
Outdoor Learning Project
‘The Garden’ Officially Open

This week we were pleased to officially open the Early Years Nature Garden. Many students have had opportunity to play in the garden in the lead up to today’s official opening, and it seems the name they have officially adopted for the space is ‘The Garden’.

Jason Tyndall from Nature Play SA joined us for an informal gathering in the garden where we were joined by 35 students, and staff team who have been working on this project: Gaby Phillis, Sue Matene, Tania Guest, Caroline Green.

Following the cutting of the hessian ribbon to declare ‘The Garden’ open, we all got busy building cubbies, and exploring all the imaginative play possibilities.

An on-line map of the REC Outdoor Learning Projects as they evolve is available to view:  
www.reynellaec.sa.edu.au/project-map

Jo Draper’s Award  
for Outstanding Commitment

As part of Physical Education Week, ACHPER (SA) - the peak body for Health & Physical Education teachers in South Australia granted an award of Excellence to Secondary PE Teacher, Jo Draper.

This award was for Outstanding commitment to the development of comprehensive relationships and sexual health education at Reynella East College. Congratulations Jo.
Secondary Sport

Year 9/10 Ultimate Frisbee Carnival, REC participated in a Frisbee Carnival with other schools Christies Beach, Woodcroft College, Tatachilla and Seaford. During the day students also took part in some coaching from The South Australian Flying Disc Association, including a player who represents Australia.

The Southern Vales Golf Competition took place at The vines Golf Club. 10 students from REC took part. They played 9 holes after warming up with some time on the putting green and driving range, well done to Adam T. who won the competition. (Photo's on the Sport at REC page)

Pacific School Games 2016

Congratulations!

A huge congratulations to these competitors for being selected to represent at the recent Pacific School Games:

Mitchell Rogers - Table Tennis
Montana Edwards - Softball
Natasha Strapps - Softball

Congratulations

Brayden Davidson

Elite Athlete with a Disability of the Year

You did it Brayden, well done!
Rio Paralympics here you come!

REC wins Principal’s Cup 2015

REC was awarded the Principal’s Cup for the Southern Vales and Fleurieu Zones and Achievement Award Trophy for the 4th consecutive year. Congratulations to the hundreds of students who have represented REC at zones sports in 2015.
School Holiday Activities with Onkaparinga City Council

There are a variety of child & family activities on offer throughout the City of Onkaparinga during the school holidays. See link below for details.

W: onkaparingacity.com/onka/discover/events_festivals/event_calendar.jsp

Urban Fire Prevention

Bushfires *start* when we *stop* paying attention

Prevention tips to keep your property safe from fire.


Public Transport Changes

On 26 January 2016, changes are taking place to public transport services. Full details available on Adelaide Metro website.

W: adelaidemetro.com.au

Free Career Advice for family members and friends

Career Partners Plus Inc are delivering free Career Services (guidance and support) to anyone living in the Holdfast, Marion, Mitcham or Onkaparinga Council areas. This service is suitable for anyone aged 17 – 70 (provided they are not in full time education/training).

There is no requirement to be receiving Centrelink benefits to access this professional service which is delivered by a team of experienced Career Practitioners; and you can be looking for part time or full time work.

Help can be provided with career direction exploration, resume preparation, cover letters, interview skills etc and based on individual needs.

Contact for Career Partners Plus to make an appointment on 8326 6545 or 0447 194 350 or email info@careerpartnersplus.org.au

A helping hand at Christmas

Thank you REC community for your support

With thanks to your generous donations, 12 gift hampers will be making their way to REC families in need this Christmas.

*Julie Clifton – Youth Worker*