Principal's Report
Welcome to week four!

I can’t believe how hectic the term has started, nor how quickly it is flying by and we are barely into the start of the school year. Last Thursday all the students met their Indonesian Open Access teacher, Jodie Edwards. Jodie worked with each class for approximately half an hour. In that time, the students learnt how to greet one another and also reply to that greeting. It was great to watch the students become so involved in the impromptu lesson and pick up some of the language so quickly. The students will officially begin their lessons in week 6. What is also great to see, is that the students will be able to see most of the adults in the school (and a few family members) are also learning Indonesian. It will be a case of the students learning alongside the adults and it shows the students that adults never stop learning also.

As a staff we elected to hold off the student Indonesian lessons until after swimming lessons next week which are going to be messy to say the least. Accompanying the newsletter this week is a copy of the swimming timetable. Students will be swimming several times a day so will either need to remember to pack two towels or endeavour to hang their bathers out between lessons. Due to the availability of the swimming instructor, I have had to squeeze two weeks of lessons into 4 days.

As advance notice, I need to inform the school community that I will be away for two days next week at a conference and a dental appointment, and at a conference in Adelaide for two days the following week. I am sure that any urgent matters can be addressed to either Ros, Karen or Ros or alternatively wait until my return if they are not urgent.

Last night we held the 2011 AGM and had our first Governing Council meeting. I wish to thank the following people for being on Governing Council and for accepting positions.
At last night’s Governing Council meeting, the Mid Murray Sports day was discussed. There will be a meeting at the school on Tuesday 1st March to discuss catering activities for the school. If you would like to be on this steering committee and have some ideas to share or are willing to help out, come along to the library at 3pm and be involved. We welcome as many helpers as we can as many hands really do make light work!

A reminder that Canteen orders for next Thursday (3/3) need to be received by this Friday 25/2. Unfortunately late orders cannot be accepted. Please refer to the menu choices sent home recently as to what is available.

Have a great week.

Jason

**Milk Cartons Needed – URGENTLY**

As part of the Splash Carnival next week, the Years 4-7 students will be competing in the Milk Carton regatta. To enable this to be successful, we need as many milk cartons as possible to build two rafts. Milk cartons can be either long life, cardboard or plastic in what ever size is available. The only request we have is that they have been rinsed out. Please send any milk cartons in with your children ASAP and feel free to ask your friends and neighbours if we can have their clean milk cartons too! Thanking you in advance!

**University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**

Once again we are offering all parents of Year 3 and above students the option to have their children participate in the 2011 ICAS tests. There are six tests which parents can choose from. Below is a table containing the subjects available, the sitting date and the cost of each test. Entries and the associated fees need to be received at the school by not later than Monday 28th February.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>24/5/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>8/6/11</td>
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<td>Spelling</td>
<td>21/6/11</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
<td>21/6/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2/8/11</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>16/8/11</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
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**Blanchetown, Cadell and Morgan Splash Carnival**

Advance notice that we are holding the combined small schools splash carnival at Waikerie again this year on Wednesday 2/3. (see attached programme) The day will commence at 9.45am and will conclude around 2.40pm. Students need to bring with them their bathers, a hat, sunscreen, towel and shirt/ rashie. A reminder that the onus is on the students and the families to arrange transport to and from the Waikerie town pool. If you are unable to transport your child to Waikerie and have exhausted alternative arrangements (asked another family to take them), please let the school know ASAP. We
want all students in attendance on that day and don’t want anyone to miss out on the fun and camaraderie of the day.

**Mid Murray Sports Day at Blanchetown**

This year we are hosting the Mid Murray Sports Day on WEDNESDAY 13\textsuperscript{th} April. Please note that the date has changed from what was originally advertised as District Athletics Day was moved to Thursday 7\textsuperscript{th} April. To ensure that this event is successful, we need help and lots of it. Being a small school we rely on our parent and community helpers to assist. Once the steering committee have determined what action needs to be taken (Tuesday 1\textsuperscript{st} March), we intend to allocate all families a task or job on or for this day to assist. This may take the form of helping set up for the event, marking lines, selling drinks, assisting with catering etc. We intend to have a roster in place so that no one will be ‘stuck’ on a stall etc. Many hands really do make light work and we appreciate your support in this matter.

**Eggs for Sale**

A reminder that we still sell eggs from the school chooks. All money raised goes back into the school, so by buying the eggs, you are supporting the school! Cartons of eggs are available for $3 a dozen.

**Play Centre**

The Blanchetown Playcentre meets once a week on a Wednesday morning from 9am – 12pm during school terms.

- Children only need to bring a hat, a drink and a snack. Cost is $1 for one child or $2 per family per week and a one off yearly fee for insurance.
- Come along and enjoy a catch up with other mums. Hope to see you there! All welcome.

Ina Reynolds

**Community Notices**

Rivmics Dance

Classes for pre-school will be held on Thursday afternoon at the Lutheran Hall, Waikerie. Fun Dance for beginners gives children confidence to explore movement and music in a fun way.

Adults Fun Dance classes will be held on Tuesday evening. A great way to keep the body moving.

Rivmics also offers classes in Modern Dance, classical and Tap

For enrolment or more information contact Carole Walker 0417 414102 – 85414100
Rosie's Corner
Lunch Order
Thursday 03/03/11

Name: __________________________

I would like to order the following:  

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TOTAL: ........................................

Choices for 03/03: Zucchini slice + grated carrot, grated beetroot, chopped celery $3.50

##### OR something from the weekly menu####

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Lunch Order
Thursday 03/03/11

Name: __________________________

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TOTAL: ........................................

Choices for 03/03: Zucchini slice + grated carrot, grated beetroot, chopped celery $3.50

##### OR something from the weekly menu####
ICAS Tests – Reply Slip

Name……………………………

I would like my child/ren to sit the following tests:

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Total cost:........................................