

MARION PS NEWS

2022 Issue 8 E: dl.0993.info@schools.sa.edu.au Ph: 08 82772293



Term 2 Week 6

Courage Harmony Integrity

Thursday June 9 2022



DATES TO REMEMBER

June	
Monday 13	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 14	Student free day
Friday 24	Sports Day
July	
Friday 1	Movie night in the library
Wednesday 6	Reports home
Friday 8	End of term 2.15pm dismissal

From the Principal

Phone lines down - update

As communicated through email and our school messaging app, our school phone system is currently offline. Through extensive investigations conducted throughout yesterday, it appears that there is a connection issue at the NBN level which is causing the problem. I am advised that this will not be remedied quickly and may take a little time.

In the meantime, our Dept for Education telecommunications team has provided a mobile phone number that we can use until our system is up and functional once again. This interim school contact number is: 0498 358 531

With only one school contact number currently available please understand that there will be times when the line is busy and it may take a short while to get through to us. I would ask for your patience at this time.

Our OSHC service can continue to be contacted on the regular OSHC mobile number: 0428 257 789

We hope to have our full phone network restored and operational as soon as possible. NBN, Telstra and the Dept for Education are working together on a resolution. Thank you for your understanding while this is being resolved.

Payments

As you know, the new state Government recently announced the introduction of a **\$100 discount** initiative in relation to the **Materials and Services charge** for eligible families for the years 2022 and 2023. There is a lot of organisation still to be completed and schools are working with the Dept for Education finance unit to bring this initiative online. Melissa in our finance office will continue to provide updates and information as it becomes available to us.

In the meantime, if you have in previous years been approved for **school card**, please be aware that this application has to be re completed each year as it does not roll over from one year to the next. Application and additional information is available at www.sa.gov.au or contact the School Card Section on free call 1800 672 758. A paper copy can be requested at the front office if required or applications can be processed online.

Coffee Mornings commencing

Commencing next Wednesday morning and then fortnightly thereafter we would love you to join us for a coffee or a hot chocolate in the front foyer of the gym. I am very aware that with the last three years of COVID interruptions to our normal way of school life, this has resulted in a level of disconnection as a community. From 8.30 next Wednesday we will be looking to start to reconnect over a hot cuppa. Please join Mrs Sifa and myself along with any staff who may be able to drop in from time to time for a cuppa and a chat. We look forward to seeing you there.



Marion Primary School@MarionpsSA

<https://www.marionps.sa.edu.au>

Next Issue: Term 2 Week 8

Midyear intake for preschool from 2023 and reception from 2024

Attached with this newsletter is a flyer advising changes to pre-school intakes from 2023 and school intakes for reception from 2024 with the introduction of midyear intakes. Please see the flyer attached of more information.

Officeworks Competition

We are currently taking part in a recycling competition coordinated with Officeworks. We are collecting used pens, felt tips, highlighters, markers, mechanical pencils, correction tape, liquid paper, fountain pens and ink cartridges. We need to fill a box and return full every term to go into a draw to win \$250.00. We would love your contributions from home so if you fancy a sort over the weekend/holidays we will gladly take them. The box is situated in the front office for your convenience.

Uniforms

We have a surplus supply of second hand uniforms. Please ask at the front office and a (cheaper) price can be negotiated for these items. We are looking for any donations of second hand long trousers/tracksuit pants to keep as spares throughout the colder months.

School of languages

Attached with this newsletter is a flyer for the school of languages. If your child is currently in year 6 and is interested in studying a language not offered at your chosen High School then the school of languages is for you.

Relationships Australia Services – Children’s Counselling Service at Marion Primary

Hello Marion Primary families, I’m Carolyn Markey and I run the free counselling Outreach service at the school on Tuesday mornings.

When hard things are impacting on families and children, change for children only happens with the support and understanding of parents and adult caregivers. I saw this happening with over 15 families I consulted with last year. Thank you for letting me into your world!

Since I began working professionally as a teacher in the 80s, I changed professions and studied and practiced to become a Family Therapist in many non-government Organisations and Schools in counselling positions. I’m a parent of 2 big kids – no longer doing the school /childcare / kindy runs!

This service can be accessed by ringing Marion Relationships Australia on 83775400. Your child’s teacher or school leaders might remind you of this service if you need a bit more support. 1st appointments are always with parent or caregivers only, in this consultation I will describe the counselling approach used and ask you about the big picture of your concerns, what you’ve been trying and your hopes for change.

Whether it be school related problems, changes in the family, concerns about the impact of grief, unexpected loss, illness or other traumatic events – children always have skills and knowledge that I can gently help them find and build on with your care. Many of the appointments are held with parents. There is a 7 session limit and I can see children at the school face to face and also from the Relationships Australia Marion office at the Shopping centre. Look forward to collaborating with you to help your child be in a better place!

Regards

Carolyn Markey

BA., Grad dip. Ed., Ed Counselling ., Masters Narr, Therapy

Sports Day (reminder)

Notes went home both on paper and electronically with Sports Day information prior to the last newsletter. All students are assigned to a sports house and this information went home with the paper note and included your child’s sports house colour.

Sports house teams and colours are:

Waratah – Red

Wattle – Yellow

Banksia – Green

If you are unsure of your child’s sports house colour please check with your classroom teacher or the front office. Sports day will look a little different this year as we trial completing events for students in years 3-6 in age based groups rather than class groups. There will be a fun sense of competition along with determining the students eligible to move on to represent the school and compete in their age division at the SAPSASA District Athletics day to be held early in term 3 on Thursday August 18.

Our fundraising committee will be holding a BBQ on sports day and more information will be distributed shortly.

A reminder that events conclude at 2:00 and children can depart school at this time if they are accompanied by a parent/carer. Students not leaving school at this time will return to class and be supervised by staff. Students may not leave on their own (eg walking or riding their bike) until the end of the regular school day at 3.15pm.



Focus On Learning

Jigsaw Puzzles and the benefits to learning

In a slight break away from our series on the Big Ideas in Number, I want to share a look at how jigsaw puzzles can assist with learning and development.

Firstly, some science:

In the article “Jigsaw Puzzling Taps Multiple Cognitive Abilities and Is a Potential Protective Factor for Cognitive Aging”, it is stated that: “jigsaw puzzling may demand multiple cognitive abilities including visual perception (e.g., recognizing objects, patterns, and orientation of lines), constructional praxis (e.g., integrating visual and motor information to assemble pieces), mental rotation (e.g., mentally rotating piece’s orientation to fit them to other pieces), cognitive speed and visual scanning (e.g., sorting puzzle pieces), cognitive flexibility (e.g., switching attention between different strategies, between different puzzle pieces, and between puzzle shape, image, and color), perceptual reasoning (e.g., integrating different perceptual information to develop strategies and plans how to solve the puzzle), and working and episodic memory (e.g., keeping the association between spatial location and visual patterns/images of puzzle pieces in working memory and long-term memory).”

That sounds like a lot but what does it mean? There are many articles available online that discuss the educational benefits of completing jigsaw puzzles. The extract below is from the website:

<https://theparentswebsite.com.au/putting-the-pieces-together-10-ways-jigsaws-boost-child-development/>

Young children’s brain development is influenced significantly when they act on or manipulate the world around them. Jigsaw puzzles provide this key opportunity. Studies have shown that hands on, playful learning experiences will provide the opportunity for young children to see learning as positive and joyful, and therefore something they will want to continue for the years ahead.

What is it then that makes jigsaw puzzles such a wonderful tool for children’s overall development?

1. Hand-eye coordination

Jigsaw puzzles are particularly effective at helping young children with their hand-eye coordination. A relationship must be developed between children’s eyes, hands, and brain.

Children visualise how the puzzle should look on completion and their eyes and hands work together to achieve this goal. The ability to coordinate what the eye sees, the mind wants to do and what the hands can achieve requires practice and jigsaws are ideal in allowing this to happen.

2. Fine motor skills

This ability to coordinate what the eye sees involves small movements that use the wrist, fingers, hands, feet, and toes. It takes time to develop. The muscles in young children’s hands need lots of practice holding and moving small objects. Jigsaw puzzles provide the opportunity for children to develop fine motor skills that are necessary for handwriting, drawing, learning a musical instrument or even playing sport.

Don’t be tempted to step in when children are completing jigsaw puzzles, or you will rob them of this opportunity. There are many other ways to offer your support and encouragement. This is an ideal time for positive chatter or soliloquy. You could for example say, ‘I love the way you are looking closely at the pieces. Granny/Mummy likes to first sort them by colour’.

3. Spatial awareness

Spatial awareness involves being aware of yourself in your immediate physical environment and recognising how other objects relate to you and each other. While completing jigsaw puzzles, spatial awareness, sometimes called spatial perception, comes to the fore.

Children learn to identify which pieces will fit together by analysing their colours and shapes. They turn pieces around to find the correct fit. Slowly they learn to do this in their heads rather than by trial and error. University of Chicago researchers found that children who play with puzzles between ages 2 and 4 later develop better spatial skills. These skills help when driving a car, using a map, or learning and following dance moves.

4. Improved concentration and patience

Completing a jigsaw puzzle requires children to focus for increasing periods of time and, as there is very little we can do in life without concentration and focus, jigsaw puzzles can be the perfect tools to develop these skills. The ability to capture small details when working on a jigsaw puzzle can also support learning. Patience is also improved as children become absorbed in the puzzle, another skill which is useful as children move through life. There are no ‘short cuts’ here as there is no way to cheat.

5. Memory

Completing a jigsaw puzzle reinforces connections between brain cells and improves mental speed. Jigsaw puzzles keep children’s minds active and dynamic which is especially advantageous for developing their short-term memory.



A flicker of colour on a piece might remind the child to remember a colour already seen. Such experiences can increase the speed of connections in the brain.

A further way to boost memory is to assemble the jigsaw over and over, with the aim being to complete the puzzle more quickly each time. This might even lead to eventually entering the [National Jigsaw Puzzle Competition](#). Yes, you read correctly. The aim of the competition is to complete a jigsaw as fast as possible. No experience level is required, and the winner wins two return tickets to represent Australia in the World Jigsaw Puzzle Championships in Spain in 2022.

6. Problem-solving

Effective problem-solving is a valuable and important skill. Jigsaw puzzles teach children to use their own minds to figure out how to solve problems and think in a logical and critical manner. Children take different approaches as they assess different pieces. This helps their brains formulate theories, test hypotheses and change opinions and perspectives when something doesn't work.

Sorting strategies inherent in solving jigsaw puzzles assist children to break down a large task into smaller ones, an important problem-solving skill for school and beyond. They also learn to self-correct, another great exercise.

7. Language

Research has repeatedly shown that children need to be spoken to very often, especially in the early years. This exposes them to new vocabulary that can be used as they move through life. Terms such as above, below, beside, to the right of, along with many others, can be used in discussions about the image generally or about specific pieces. Jigsaws can provide an ideal avenue for extending young children's vocabulary.

8. Self-esteem

Completing a jigsaw puzzle can be a wonderful chance for children to perform a task on their own, thus generating a sense of accomplishment. With an age-appropriate puzzle, children will not require adult help. Such independence will improve their sense of self-worth and lead them to pursue new challenges. Determined and confident, they will delight in their persistence paying off.

9. Social skills

Alongside the many benefits of completing jigsaw puzzles independently, are benefits resulting from completing them as a group. They are a great way for parents to connect with their children or to help children bond and build friendships. They are also perfect for practising social skills and resolving disagreements with others.

Why not start a jigsaw puzzle and leave it on the table as an invitation for the whole family to participate?

10. General knowledge

Jigsaw puzzles cover many topics so can assist children to learn more about the world depending on what picture/theme involved. Not only will children's general knowledge be broadened but their vocabulary will be too, as you chatter together about the outcome. Look for images that make you and your children happy or curious.

Good for the mind, body and spirit

For children and adults alike, doing a jigsaw puzzle is good for mind, body, and spirit. There is a view that the jigsaw experience generates much the same benefits as meditation, with both involving focusing on an image for an extended period, without extraneous thoughts entering the mind.

Stress levels are reduced as our brains go from Beta or awake to Alpha, as when we are dreaming. This shift in consciousness comes with many benefits, such as the ability to make deeper connections, improved mood, increased self-confidence, along with the reduced stress.

Furthermore, when puzzles are solved through a flash of insight, the 'aha' moment, the mood-enhancing substance, dopamine is released and deep brain structures are activated, explaining the ecstatic joy that goes with solving a creative problem. It can feel great to place a piece in a puzzle.

From fine motor skills, to problem-solving, to self-esteem, the advantages of puzzles for children's development are numerous. What's more, they last and are inexpensive.

Jigsaw puzzles also provide an opportunity to unplug, individually or as part of a group, from the information overload that so often constantly weaves its way through the very fabric of our lives. A jigsaw puzzle requires full attention and therein lies the magic.

For more articles on the benefits jigsaw puzzles can have on the developing brain please check out the following websites and articles:

<https://www.officeworks.com.au/noteworthy/post/learn-benefits-of-puzzles-for-kids-toddlers>

<https://www.bkkkids.com/blog/10-reasons-why-jigsaw-puzzles-are-good-for-kids/>

<https://usborne.com/au/blog/post/tips-and-expert-advice/10-ways-your-children-will-benefit-from-doing-jigsaw-puzzles>



David O'Connell
Principal

Assembly awards

Each fortnight, class teachers select two students who are presented with a school Values Award at our school assembly. Values Award recipients from our week 5 assembly are listed below. Congratulations and well done to all students.

Week 5 Awards

ROOM	AWARD TYPE	STUDENT FIRST NAME
1	HARMONY	SCARLETT
1	COURAGE	ELLA
3	HARMONY	RHYTHM
3	INTEGRITY	ELOISE
4	COURAGE	HARSERET
4	COURAGE	ADDY
6	COURAGE	EBONY
6	COURAGE	OWEN
7	INTEGRITY	ZAC
7	HARMONY	JACOB
10	HARMONY	MANIT
10	INTEGRITY	MYRA
11	INTEGRITY	NICOLETTA
11	INTIGRITY	LEEN

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Hours of Operation	
Before School Care: 7:00-8:30am	After School Care: 3:15-6:15pm
Fees	
Before School Care: \$15	After School Care: Casual \$25
Pupil Free Day: \$53	Vacation Care: \$53 per day
Contact Details	
	Mobile: 0428 257 789
Email: Robyn.Shanahan17@schools.sa.edu.au (Please note: this is direct contact with Director Robyn Shanahan)	
Bookings / cancellations	
Cancellation and Emergency bookings can only be made through contacting OSHC directly on 0428 257 789	
Enquiries can be made directly to OSHC or through the school Front Office	

Hi Everyone,

A very exciting Vacation Care Program is happening in the July holidays. An excursion to Menz chocolate shop at McLaren Vale, followed by a drive to Goolwa to see the seals and then onto Victor Harbor for some whale spotting. Pupil Free Day coming up on 14/6/22. We will be open 7am-6:15pm.

Activities : Crafty fun, cooking pancakes and sport.

Please feel free to offer suggestions for activities for the program including art, craft, cooking, games, excursions and centre based activities.



OSHC Director
Robyn Shanahan



In the Community



nab AFL Auskick

KICKS OFF SOON!



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER NOW

For more information visit play.afl/auskick

FREE with the ORSR Sports Voucher

Marion FC Auskick Centre

May 6th - July 8th
Friday nights (5:00 - 6:00pm)
@ 262 Sturt Rd, Marion



Children and Family Counselling
at Marion Primary

Children and Family Counselling supports and strengthens family relationships, mental health and wellbeing.

It can help you:

- Feel less stressed or worried about your children or family
- Understand what your child is feeling
- Support your children with their emotions and life's challenges
- Be a calmer and more connected parent
- Manage problem behaviour.

This service is suitable for families with infants and children aged 0-12. Other family members can be involved if needed. Receive up to six ongoing sessions.

When: Tuesday mornings, during school terms | 9.00am or 10.15am

Where: Marion Primary School | Malcolm Ave, Marion

Cost: Free

For more information, or to book, contact Relationships Australia South Australia's Marion site. 08 8377 5400 | rasas@rasa.org.au

www.rasa.org.au | 1800 182 325

Relationships Australia
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



AURUGBY

JUNIOR RUGBY

WE WANT YOU!

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5.30pm
Waite Oval, Urrbrae

CONTACT: FACEBOOK.COM/AURUFC
aurugbyshortblacks@gmail.com

