



Warradale Primary School

Keynes Ave Warradale 5046 - (08) 8296 2678 - dl.0933.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

Teaching and Learning Update Friday 11 June 2021

KEY DATES & REMINDERS

Term 2 Planner 2021

Public Holiday - Monday 14 June (Week 8)

Student Free Day - Friday 18 June (Week 8)

Governing Council Committees - 7.00pm Monday 21 June (Week 9)

Governing Council - 7.00pm Monday 28 June (Week 10)

Why is vocabulary so important?

From Lachlan Davidson, Speech Pathologist

From birth through to adulthood we are constantly hearing new words. We go from having never heard a word before, to becoming familiar with the word and its meaning, and eventually using it in our talking and writing.

There are many different 'types' of words for children to learn. Think about the sentence 'The **hairy possum leaped down**'. To understand this sentence a child needs to be taught lots of **describing words (adjectives)**, **names of objects, animals, places (nouns)**, **action or doing words (verbs)** and **concepts**. Now think about the words we use when talking to our children (which is more informal) compared to the words used in books. Generally, books use a greater variety of interesting words, some of which can be really tricky to understand. Because of this, children that have been read to and exposed to lots of books, can generally understand and use more words than those who have had limited exposure to oral language and literature. If children only hear and learn words through everyday conversation, they are at a disadvantage to children that have been read to on a regular basis!

Research shows **there is a direct link between a child's vocabulary knowledge (that is, how many words they understand and can use confidently) and their reading and writing development.**

As children reach year 2 there is a shift from 'learning to read' to 'reading to learn'. It's really important to make sure that we explicitly teach our children to become '**word curious**' so they ask questions about the meaning of words and practice using them in their learning and daily lives. For students with learning difficulties (including dyslexia), they typically don't need anything different, they just need more intensive high-quality instruction and practice.

Next fortnight I will be providing some information and advice on '**how**' we **teach words**, including some demonstration videos for you to watch.



Meet our cultural support team

At Warradale Primary School we have students and families from over 40 different cultural groups and backgrounds. To support these students, we have an experienced and knowledgeable team of ancillary support staff who work under the direction of our teaching and leadership staff. Bilingual School Services Officers (BSSOs) work with individuals or small groups of learners, supporting them with all aspects of their learning and school engagement and providing English and First Language interpretation. Students are supported to discuss new learning, connect with familiar concepts and culture, and explore unfamiliar concepts, ideas and terminology in their first language.

Fatin Andrawos - BSSO

Fatin supports students with Arabic-speaking backgrounds. Fatin brings a broad range of knowledge, skills and connections from the Arabic community. She has supported many families in this area over a number of years. Her role includes collaborating and communicating with teachers about student needs and progress. Fatin provides outstanding support of communication between families, students and teachers.



Noriko Hills - BSSO

Noriko supports our Japanese students. She is passionate about her work at our site and shares many cultural experiences with students and staff. Noriko supports the students she directly works with to discuss new learning in their first language and assists in identifying and planning for students in need of highly differentiated learning programs.



Mubarka Janud - BSSO

Mubarka supports students who speak Hindi and Urdu as their first language. She has played a very active role in a number of our community and cultural celebrations recently, including our 60th birthday celebration and Harmony Week, sharing her henna art skills with numerous students and staff. Mubarka is passionate about supporting students for whom English is an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) to understand Australian society and develop the skills and knowledge required for lifelong learning and success.



Mick Kilsby - ACEO

Mick has recently commenced with us as an Aboriginal Community Education Officer (ACEO). He has been working as an ACEO at Goolwa Primary School for a number of years and has more recently combined his time there with an ACEO role at Allenby Gardens Primary. Mick works closely with our leadership, teachers and key staff to develop site and individual learning plans to improve Aboriginal students' learning outcomes and wellbeing. He is passionate about supporting teaching staff to develop and maintain relationships with Aboriginal students, parents and families, and promoting a safe, inclusive and culturally aware learning environment for all. In his spare time, Mick is a coach at West Adelaide Football Club.

