



Mark Oliphant
College

Early Years

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, WEEK 6

11 MARCH 2016



“The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.”

- Sydney J. Harris

KEY DATES...

- 14/3: Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
- 17/3: Governing Council Annual General Meeting – 6:30pm
- 18/3: National Action Against Bullying Day
- 21/3: Harmony Day
- 25/3: Good Friday Public Holiday
- 28/3: Easter Monday Public Holiday
- 31/3: EY Assembly
- 6/4: EY/PY Exhibition of Learning
- 14/4: Last Day of Term 1
- 15/4: Pupil Free Day

A NOTE FROM EARLY YEARS LEADERSHIP

Camp Australia runs a wonderful Out of School Hours Care Program here at MOC, based in the Children's Centre. It operates from 6:30 in the morning until the school gates open at 8:30. OSHC runs after school from 3:00 until 6:00. OSHC is also offered in the school holidays and on Pupil Free Days. **Please note the next Pupil Free Day is on April 15.**

If you want to make a booking or find out more about OSHC ring 1300 105 343 or go online at www.campaustralia.com.au.

The MOC school gates open at 8:30 in the morning. Please do not drop your children off at school prior to 8:30 as there is no supervision for children who are not attending OSHC. The car parks on both Douglas Drive and Newton Boulevard can become very congested and unsafe for children who are playing unattended.

Our focus on attendance, in partnership with parents and families, has made a huge difference over the last year and a half. Thank you for making the effort to get your children to school every day – and on time every day! When children arrive late, they are asked to enter school through the front office and sign in. This allows us to record who arrived late even if they have already been marked absent through the class role. When children sign in at the computer in the front office they are asked to choose a reason for being late. These reasons include: Family/Social, Illness, Home Study, Leave/Return and Not approved by Parent/Guardian. The very first one on the list is Not Approved by Parent/Guardian, which is the least likely reason for children to be away. If you are supporting your child to sign in, please help them choose the right reason! If you are unsure, the friendly SSOs at the front desk will be delighted to help.

Kim Cooper
Executive Leader B-6

GATES NOTICE:

Gate opening and closing times are changing – beginning Tuesday 15th March.

Gates will be open between 8:30am and 9:05am for morning arrival and then re-opened for afternoon pick up at 2:45pm.

The reception area can still be accessed via the main doors at all other times, yard access is restricted to gate opening times.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain the safety of our children.

FACEBOOK REMINDER

If you don't receive our Facebook page updates – don't forget to like our Facebook page so you can keep up with all our fabulous learning.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/MOC-EY/412189298843129>

THE UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS

Monday 2.30 - 4.30pm
Wednesday 8.30 - 10am
Thursday 8.30 - 10am

MEET THE STAFF

Lea Curtis

"Hello everyone, Here we are into Week 6 already and I haven't even introduced myself!

My name is Lea Curtis, and I am settling into the EY Student Counsellor role with some wonderful support from the fantastic EY Team here at MOC. I have lived up in Port Augusta for the last 22 years and am really enjoying lots of new MOC staff, children and their families this year."



EARLY YEARS LEADERSHIP

Kim Cooper

Executive Leader B-6
E: kim.cooper@moc.sa.edu.au

Linda Rich

Senior Leader -
Learning and Early Childhood

Candice Horton

Senior Leader - Head of Early Years

Lea Curtis

Leader - Learning and Wellbeing

Jacki Magin

Leader - Learning and Explicit Teaching

Sallyanne Lowe

Leader - Learning and Mathematics



www.facebook.com/pages/MOC-Preschool
www.facebook.com/pages/MOC-EY

READING IN THE EARLY YEARS

All parents/caregivers in the EY will be aware that each child brings home a reader each night in their communication/reading folder. Several times throughout a term the classroom teacher will do a Running Record on each child's reading. This form of assessment ensures each child is reading at an 'Instructional Level'. This Instructional Level is displayed in the common areas of both buildings 6 and 8 on a rocket themed display, enabling each child to proudly present their progress for their peers and families to see. The readers that come home each day in the communication/reading folder are a slightly lower level than the Instructional Level to enable each child to read the text independently.

Candice Horton, Head of Early Years



CHILDREN'S CENTRE – MOBILE JUNK AND NATURE PLAY

At MOC Children's Centre we had two visits from 'Mobile Junk and Nature Play' during week 5. These visits support our strong focus on recycling and sustainability, and provided the children with a fantastic opportunity to be creative with a wide range of recycled and natural materials. We use recycled materials, containers and boxes throughout the centre and Art Studio, and we look forward to building our collection of larger recycled and natural items in the outside play areas.

We are so proud of the creativity and ideas that our children share with us every day at the Children's Centre. We strive to nurture and encourage this, and one way that we do so is by ensuring that they have access to 'loose parts'. Loose parts are materials of any size or shape that can be moved, organised, carried, arranged, pulled apart and put together in the way that children choose. Using loose parts rather than plastic toys and pre-made games encourages children's imagination and creativity, as well as developing motor skills, thinking and learning strategies and inter-personal skills like team work, co-operation and resilience. We were excited to see so many different loose parts during the MJNP visits, and to observe the ways that the children used them. What a fantastic week!



CLASSROOM CONTRIBUTION: MRS MARRONE

In Mrs Marrone's Foundation class we have been busy bees, adjusting to school. As part of our morning routine, our families support us to learn how to write our name, recognise and name the letters of the alphabet and learn our sight words. The students love having their family members support their learning in the mornings and it is a delight to see so many parents staying to help.

During Maths, the students are learning about numbers. They are experimenting with how to read, record and count numbers from zero to twenty. They have also been working in small groups and pairs, which is promoting respect and collaboration.

As part of Project Based Learning, the students have been learning about themselves and their families. They have started working on their project designs and are excited to share their learning during our Exhibition Night in Week 10 this term. (See more images on cover page)



BUCKET FILLING

We had our special 'Bucket Filler' awards assembly on Thursday where we acknowledged and celebrated the efforts of our EY children who show care and respect for others, and also protect one another from the effects of bullying. Based on the concepts of 'Bucket Filling' (positive) and 'Bucket Dipping' (not so positive), the children learn about the following goals:

1. how to reach out and express love, respect and appreciation to others
2. become other-centered rather than self-centered
3. express their feelings (good and bad) in a healthy manner
4. understand where feelings originate and how to protect their feelings from being hurt
5. establish a framework for more constructive words and actions and less bullying
6. create more positive home and school environments

Please come and chat with us if you would like to know more about our Bucket Filler awards or other wellbeing programs in the EY.



Lea Curtis, Leader Learning and Wellbeing

10 What Questions to Develop a Growth Mindset in Children

1. What did you do today that made you think hard?
2. What happened today that made you keep on going?
3. What can you learn from this?
4. What mistake did you make that taught you something?
5. What did you try hard at today?
6. What strategy are you going to try now?
7. What will you do to challenge yourself today?
8. What will you do to improve your work?
9. What will you do to improve your talent?
10. What will you do to solve this problem?