From the Principal,

Although the end of the year is approaching it seems that things are getting busier and busier! We have recently had the launch of the new boat in the front lawn area. The area created comes complete with a water section and a beach. The children are already loving this space and you would be amazed at how big the fish are already.

We have 106 new children currently transitioning into the JP from Preschool at the moment and we are really excited to have them beginning their school journey with us in 2017. If you know that you are not returning to us for Year 1 or 2 next year and you have not as yet let us know, can you please give us a call or inform your child’s teacher. That way we are able to open up placements for people who are waiting patiently in ‘the wings’ hoping for a spot open up for them.

Five of our teaching staff and myself have recently been involved in Yumi Deadly Maths training provided to Port Lincoln Partnership by the Queensland University of Technology. This is such an exciting math program that fits incredibly well with what we already do at the Junior Primary but the beauty of it is that it involves body, hand and mind in the consolidation of the Math concept. This group ran their first training for our whole staff last night and you could really feel the buzz. We look forward to sharing this with our parent community in 2017.

There are many dates to remember as we head toward Xmas so may I suggest keeping a list on your fridge so you don’t miss any of these precious moments.

We look forward to seeing you all at Carols, Graduation, parent volunteer morning tea, special recess...........

Kathy Davison

Upcoming Events for Term 4
Tuesday 6th December - Carols Night @ 5pm
Wednesday 7th December - PLHS Performance
Tuesday 13th December - Year 2 Graduation
Wednesday 14th December - Volunteer Morning Tea
Friday 16th December - End of Term 2:30pm

The Sandbar

Sue Ashman and her room 4 children have been working hard over the past few months to add a boat to our yard. On Sunday they held a working bee and what a fantastic turn out. Thank you to everyone for being so generous with your time and muscles! On Tuesday we had the official Boat Launching and naming ceremony. The boat, which was donated by the George family had originally been used for many years by Brooklyn George as a holdfast trainer and has now been re named the Sandbar and re homed on our front lawn. The children are very excited to have a boat as part of their play experience.

We now have a Facebook page.

Like us @
www.facebook.com/portlincolnjuniorprimaryschool

Principal: Kathy Davison
Address: P.O. Box 1785, Adelaide Place, Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Telephone: 08 86 82 1226 Fax: 08 8682 5866
Email: dl.1277.info@schools.sa.edu.au Web: www.lincolnjp.sa.edu.au
**MURAL**

Have you seen our beautiful Aboriginal mural in the playground? The story behind it is "The journey of a child’s learning in the community." this project was a combined effort of JP staff, community artists and our parent community. Come and have a look. Its amazing!

---

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Have you bought your raffle tickets for our Christmas Raffle? Tickets are 50c each and available from the front office. There are 4 prizes and the raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 6th December.

---

**CAROLS NIGHT**

Carols night is on Tuesday 6th December, 5pm for a 5:15 start. Sausage sizzle & drinks will be available. Bring a picnic rug or chair and enjoy.

---

**PENCIL GRIP**

Pencil grip is one of those things that is really hard to re-teach if children initially learn it incorrectly. Though every child will end up settling on a pencil grip that works best for him or her, introducing the standard “tripod” grasp (pinching with thumb and index finger while resting on middle finger) is a good place to start. Given the tricky nature of pencil holding — and its impact on children’s handwriting skills here are a few ideas to help them along.

- A shorter pencil means less space for cramming in unnecessary fingers. It basically forces kids to pinch with thumb and index finger.
- Try having children hold something under their pinky and ring fingers. These two fingers are supposed to bend toward the palm while the thumb, index, and middle fingers do all the work.

---

**END OF YEAR ANXIETY**

It is hard to believe we are closing in on the end of another school year. Changes can be challenging for children, especially the end (and beginning) of a school year. Often children become anxious during this time of the year. Stomach pains and headaches are common ways that anxiety or stress can manifest. So what can we as parents do? Slowing down will help ensure that life isn’t so hectic that you miss some signs of stress. The majority of young children aren’t able to communicate feelings of anxiety or stress, so look for other signs such as behaviour changes. Keep the communication lines open — make sure there are opportunities, maybe before bedtime, for your children to talk about their days and how they are feeling. All children react differently to change and crave consistency to varying degrees. Some can’t wait for school to end, but for others it may be harder to say goodbye to the routine and to friends. It could also be mixed with anticipation of the next year, change of classroom and teacher and especially if there are significant changes like moving schools. The best thing parents can do is be there to listen, reassure and help children develop coping strategies so that the transition to school in 2017 is smooth and stress free.

---

**Contact your friendly Sherpa Kids team:**

A friendly Sherpa Kids Team member will collect children from the Port Lincoln Junior Primary School meeting area and walk children to After School Care!

**Director - Megan Beard**

**Phone:** 0419 524 563

**Email:** ptlincoln@sherpa-kids.com.au

**LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED**

---

**Enrol Now**

Sherpa kids St Joseph’s School after school care is now OPEN to all families in Port Lincoln.