Diary Dates.
11th and 20th August Jane on a panel in Pt Pirie [Kim Black in]
11th August Gym Jams and Minlaton Kindy Visit
13th August Literacy and Numeracy team Karen Bond and Louise Hanrahan visiting
14th August partnership meeting Jane at Minlaton
25th August Literacy and Numeracy race at Area School
1st Sept Excursion
2nd Sept Photo Day bring your best smile!
2nd Sept GC meeting/ staff meeting
7th Sept partnership meeting Jane at Minlaton
10th Sept Pupil Free Day.
21st Sept Andrew Fuller conference at Minlaton [Author Raising Boys] Building on resilience and well being.
21st Oct GC meeting
25th Nov GC meeting/ End of Year dinner

Welcome to Term 3. You would have received this by email today instead of hard copy. Please let me know by replying that firstly you received it and whether this would be the best way to receive our news. If families do not reply I will catch up with updating email address and can provide a hard copy if preferred. Please let me know your thoughts.

We would like to welcome Sonya Priori and her family to our Kindy. We hope you will enjoy your time here. It is also a little sad time to say goodbye to Penni and her family and thanks to Amanda for being a GC member and taking on the role of secretary. We wish them all the best in their new adventure.

What a wonderful end however to last term with the PJ day with lots of fun and excitement. We raised $50 for the Ardrossan Hospital who were very thrilled to receive the donation.

As a partnership which involves all leaders on the SYP we have been involved in a comprehensive performance review with 2 sessions which concluded on Tues. Thanks to Pam for filling in for me.

On the Staff front Belinda has recovered well from an operation in the holidays and also attended some worthwhile sessions to help her studies. Kristin has had some tragic news with a cousin recovering in hospital and a brother in law who died and we offer our support and sympathy through these times. Kali also had a scare hitting a kangaroo on the way to work but luckily not too much damage done. Lets hope that’s all for now.

Looking at the calendar it will be a very busy term. Please remember to send the assessments books back ASAP if you have not already done so. I am conscious I will be missing a few sessions over the term due to being on a panel in Pt Pirie but I am confident Kim Black will fill my spot with ease.
What Have we been doing?[Our overall term program has been included as an attachment]
We have been

- Visiting the hospital with Kim and Belinda, singing songs, sharing books and enjoying a drink and fairy bread Yum!
- Raising money for the Ardrossan Hospital with our fun PJ day. Total raised was $50. A great effort.
- Finding out what we could do with boxes. Children crated cars, dinosaurs, stoplights and a robot. The creations were fantastic and were developed over a few days.
- Thanks to the catering leftovers we had a fantastic meal of sausage rolls, quiches and cakes
- Exploring with bamboo and rolling balls with lots of problem solving
- Enjoyed filling balloons with flour and lentils.
- Printing in different ways, car wheels, fruit and kitchen utensils.
- Making houses for fairies and discovering fairy dust in them the next day
- Building with Magnetics and making paths for marbles

Review of Philosophy Statement and Policies/Procedures
After consultation with staff, GC, children and families we have decided to stay with the Philosophy statement and Grievance procedures but have a shorter version of a Guiding Children’s Behaviour Policy which was accepted by the GC and is included for your information.

Change of Kindy days
After council last night we are going to trial changing the half day on a Wednesday to a Full day every second week as we feel some children are not attending due to issues of picking them up. This means that in weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 there will be no Kindy on the Wednesday but there will be OC as usual. On these days Kali and I will be using our Admin time. In weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 there will be full day Wed Kindy and OC. In week 9 which is the last week of the year we have decided to swap the Wed for the Thursday to allow a presentation/ BBQ farewell to happen on the same night and educators to use the Thurs to Pack up for the end of year. This also will fit in with the Transition Program for School. A full and more detailed program including Transition will be emailed at a later date to help keep track. We would appreciate your comments especially during the trial as we hope to continue the process next year. Please let me know if you have any concerns and I hope to gather your feedback before the Pre-entry meeting.

Parent Survey
Thanks to all who participated in the Parents survey. There is still time to put them in until August 20th so if you did not get around to it and would care to contribute please do so. Many thanks.

Photo Day
Photo Day will be on Wed 2nd September so bring on the lovely smiles. The photographer is wonderful and will take quite a few shots playing as well as a group shot. There is no need to pay until the photos have been viewed and it will be a no obligation pay and take opportunity when they arrive. Flyer coming.

Gym Jams and Minlaton Visit
Gym Jams is on 11th August and Minlaton will be visiting us for Snack Time on the same day. Kim Black will be nominated Supervisor that day. Please return forms and $6 by 5th September

Literacy and Numeracy race.
On Tues 25th August we are invited to participate in the Literacy and Numeracy race at the Area School. We race around the school in small groups consisting of Preschool to year 2 children completing tasks using literacy and numeracy skills. A fun day of learning. A BBQ lunch will also be provided so keep an eye out for further information.
Home Visits Excursion Tues 1st Sept
We are hoping to visit every child’s house this term and will walk to all the houses in town but will take a bus to visit all the houses in other places. Many thanks to Deanna Harvey Johnson for volunteering to show us her Aboriginal Artifacts and to Michelle and Greg Wheare who have offered to have a sausage sizzle at their house to conclude the visits. If anyone would like to offer a place to have a snack that are out of town please let us know. Our main aim is to get a photo in front of everyone’s house but if you are able to show us around even a quick look in their bedroom or anything interesting eg vege gardens, town highlights etc please let me know. Hopefully the visits will open up conversations about where we live. More on this later.

Literacy and Numeracy Plus Team
DECDS have initiated a project to improve Numeracy and Literacy in our schools and Karen Bond [Area School] and Louise Hanrahan [Maitland children’s Centre] will be visiting to discuss our progress on the 3th August. Staff are also familiarizing themselves with the new Numeracy and Literacy indicators which will be included as curriculum next year.

Mark Armitage Conference
Our conference and Pupil Free Day is on 10th Sept with Mark Armitage with the topic The Do Approach to Play Part 2.

Andrew Fuller Conference
On the 21st August there is a conference with Andrew Fuller who is the author of books Raising Boys. He looks at resilience and wellbeing for children and we are very privileged to have him come to Minlaton. I think all schools will be having a pupil free day for all educators to attend but of course it does not affect us as it is a Monday.

Regards,
Jane, Kali, Kristin and Belinda.