During term 4 all of the students at Mt Barker South PS have been immersed in the science of Chemistry. Chemistry is considered a physical science and is closely related to physics. Sometimes chemistry is called the "central science" because it is an important part of other major sciences such as biology, Earth science, and physics.

Changes are happening all around us. Chocolate melts in the sun, water evaporates from puddles and cement hardens in the open air. Predicting the changes that can happen to everyday materials is important in understanding the best way to manage things such as, food handling and cooking, construction and packaging.

We are surrounded by mixtures – the air we breathe and the food we eat and drink. The students have learnt about materials that don’t mix well, and others that are difficult to separate. Physical and chemical change explores the world of matter and particles and how they are constantly moving and reacting with one another in fascinating ways.

This year has been another successful and exciting year in science as our students explored, discovered and engaged in the wonderful and stimulating world of science.
The Junior Primary Rainbow class have been learning the pairs of numbers to 10 and 20 in maths. They have become proficient in both addition and subtraction and some have extended this on to numbers to 20. The younger students have extended their knowledge of one to one correspondence to bigger numbers and have enjoyed working with a variety of maths games and equipment to achieve their individual goals. We are now starting to work on doubling numbers to 10 and 20. In literacy we have continued on with our Jolly Phonics and Oxford word spelling program and all students are making terrific progress. We have had two of our older students complete this program recently and move onto the ‘Words Their Way Program’.

We have continued to develop our understanding of procedures through our weekly cooking sessions which the children always look forward to. So far this term we have made some delicious muffins, chocolate chip biscuits and icy-poles.

This term we have moved to sharing on specific topics. Many students brought in pictures of their ‘Favourite under water sea creatures’ and some even brought in toys and accompanying information relating to their favourite Sea Creatures.

Buddies has been a highlight for the students this year. They love joining with Mrs. Castleton’s class on a Monday afternoon and have been engaged in a variety of activities such as Art and craft activities, games and stories. They have particularly enjoyed our recent Christmas craft activities. We shared a beautiful afternoon last Wednesday with Miss Nolan and Miss Pilla’s class. Student’s moved with their buddies through a variety of activities set up in the playground. They had many options including tennis, soccer, basketball, the nature play area or the larger playground. A big thank you to Miss Nolan for organising this.

The new Nature Play area is a big hit for our students. They love getting out there and climbing the trees, digging holes and making delightful looking mud cakes.

Things we have enjoyed this year:
“I like doing free reading because I get to look in lots of books, I really like the song books” Charlotte
“I really like Maths and trying to count up to 100” Holly
“I have really enjoyed drawing, I’m really good at it” William
“The nature play area has been heaps of fun, the climbing wall is my favourite” Cody
Room 8 have achieved so much learning this year. I am so proud of their accomplishments and the effort and hard work that all the students have put in this year.

Mikayla: “I am proud of my goals of sounding my words out in reading.”
Jet: “I am proud of my sentences when I was writing about African elephants.”
Espen: “I am proud of writing my Bs and Ds the right way around at all times.”
Khole: “I’m proud of being able to count in Spanish from 1-50.”
Kristy: “I am proud of me having a go with my writing without the teacher helping.”
Emjay: “I’m proud of being able to count to 100 in Spanish.”
Jacob: “I am proud of moving up in levels in my reading.”
Sophie: “I am proud of being able to count numbers to 100.”
Shaniya: “I’m proud of my work in maths, especially working in groups playing the maths games.”
Blade: “I enjoyed doing all the experiments with Ms Hill in Science.”
Derrick: “I liked learning about snails in Science.”
Chase: “I am proud of the sentences I have been writing African Elephants.”
Mason: “I’ve enjoyed learning how to play the drums, I feel more confident playing.”
Tyeson: “I’m proud of having heaps of friends. I am also proud of my learning with making number out of MAB and doing bundling in maths.”
Tarlo: “I know more sight words and this has helped me with my reading.”
James B: “I’m proud of my reading because I can read a level 9 book.”
Prisha: “I am proud that I can read easy books.”

We have had such a brilliant Term 4 so far with an exciting trip to the Adelaide Zoo and some wonderful Outdoor nature play sessions. Students are achieving learning goals every week and our Information Report writing has been impressive and at a high standard. To extend on from the learning we had at the Zoo, students have learnt to classify animals into scientific groups and find similarities and differences. We have discussed two of the mammals so far, giraffes and pandas, and learnt to form factual sentences that share and inform a reader. Please see some of our zoo photos over the page.

On Melbourne Cup day, students enjoyed an Art and Design activity where they designed a jockey silk and helmet and came up with a horse name. The designs were absolutely amazing and so colourful, good enough for a real horse race! Here are some of our designs:

These are some of our short term learning goals and other achievements so far this year, as well as some highlights and memories of the year:

Mitchell – “I have enjoyed the experiments and excursions this year.”
Aiden – “I enjoyed Art and our excursions. I can write a Procedure now.”
Will – “I have achieved learning lots of my lines for the play. I know almost every single line off by heart.”
Georgiana – “I have enjoyed Maths and learning how to measure objects.”
Chloe – “I like doing really fun maths with Miss Pilla, I have learnt to measure in formal and informal units.”
Maya – “I have enjoyed doing Art, like when we did the owl pictures.”
Room 5 Photos

Owen finding fractions of whole numbers in MFL.

Teddy and Teddy and Harrison creating a board game together.

Selena helping her Rm 8 buddy work on one of his literacy goals.

Gabe sewing a t-shirt for a bear in Shared Reading.

Room 8 at cricket lessons
The year 3/4s in Room 5 have come along in leaps and bounds over the year and have become a far more confident, independent and resilient group that seek challenges and strive to progress. Their individual strengths are seen in different areas of the curriculum. Some of them shine in MFL, with fluency with sums and ways of new concepts, others are strong in literacy as shown in their narrative writing, some are talented drawers, some are athletic and show their skills in weekly PE lessons and others have in depth knowledge of history that they’ve shared with peers during lessons related to the First Fleet and Ancient Egypt.

Below are some individual literacy and numeracy achievements that students are proud of.

*My numeracy goal was to tell time to the minute. I practiced my times individually then Mrs Taylor checked and gave me feedback. She was happy that I had a growth mindset and didn’t give up when I got some of the times wrong.* Jamo.

*I am proud of learning to set my own literacy goals. I set a goal to research questions about World War 2. I learnt what caused the war, when the war started and ended and the weapons that were used. I used the internet to research the answers.* Nick

*I am happy to be in the Extension literacy group because I can be challenged and I have learnt to set my own goals like how to build the plot before writing a narrative and including more emotive language.* Chloe.

*I am proud of creating a t-shirt for a calico bear. I worked in a group and learnt how to sew to make the t-shirt. Then I wrote a procedural recount about it.* Chase.

*My goal was to read level 30 readers. I achieved this because I learnt all the sounds I didn’t know like ew. ai and tch. I did this by making flashcards and revising the sounds every day.* Jess

As we come to the end of another incredibly busy year I always like to reflect on what went well and what did not go so well. This year we have had two buddy classes which we have really enjoyed, with one group we have mainly been the younger students which has enabled us to play some of the more complicated social skills games while with the other class we have been the older buddies which has enabled us to show our leadership and role model skills. We have played more sport this year than ever before including cricket, dance and rugby. We have had some new students join us throughout the year and I have been really proud of how the class has welcomed and accepted all our new students so readily. We really have been a positive class community this year.

These are some of the things that the students have said about the year:

*I have loved the new yoga balls because I can bounce while I work which helps me to remember things.*

*In Science we have done lots of experiments and we have been able to get all messy and no one cares.*

*When we are with our buddy class we use the nature play area and we climb trees and I climbed all the way to the top of the climbing wall and then back down again all by myself. I did it 3 times!!*

*I love playing cricket with the year 7’s it has been lots of fun and I have made lots of new friends.*

*I wish this school had a High school as well so I did not have to leave this year. If there was a High School here I would stay at this school forever.*
Well what a rollercoaster of a ride Room 15 (and I) have had! We have undergone so many changes within, what seems like, a short amount of time but Room 15 have grown into a wonderful and caring class where their progression is at the forefront of their minds. As the class teacher I can honestly say that every single member of the class has grown in some way, whether it is academically, emotionally or socially (in most cases all 3!) and they have all worked extremely hard to do so. My Room 15 highlight this year has certainly been watching the growth of all the children and how proud they all are of their achievements this year.

Although term 4 always brings a time of reflection, we still have just under half the term to go and with that a lot of exciting things coming up. Room 15 have their excursion to the cinema to look forward to, their swimming program to complete, as well as, the excitement that always occurs on the build up to Christmas. I am hoping the next 4 weeks are as rewarding for the class as the rest of the year has been which I’m sure it will be.

I’d finally just like to thank all the parents for all of the support and understanding I received throughout the year, especially when I first begun teaching Room 15 where the transition was sudden and unexpected.

Well another year is almost past and I know there are many highlights that stand out for our class, with also more to come, as mentioned in the Room 12 section.

As a teacher my highlights are all the different extracurricular activities and events that the students have been or will be involved in. School is much more than sitting at a desk and writing, it is about gaining life skills through learning whether this is in a written or practical form.

Here are a few comments from the students in the class about this term-

- I have loved the fitness trainings with Todd and Michael, they are hard but I know I will be a better football player.
- I loved going to the Rugby clinic- I didn’t even know how to play at the start of the term and on the day I scored a try.
- I have loved doing Quickmaths I am now fluent at my 2, 3, 4 and 5 timetables.
- I like the different learning phase groups we have in Literacy to help us understand key language features of a review.

These images are from our last buddy lesson of 2016.
Upcoming events

Year 7 Transition
Thursday December 8th
8:30am - 3:15pm
All year 7 students attending Mt Barker High School in 2017 will be attending the year 8 transition day. Students will need to find their own way to the High School and meet in the school hall at 8:30am. Students will work with their Care Group teachers, experience lessons with year 8 subject teachers and meet their fellow class members for 2017. Students will need to bring:
School bag, a drink, something to write on and something to write with.
Dress – primary school uniform.
Recess and lunch is provided (please inform the school of any special dietary requirements)
Additional transition visits for students will be held on the 24th November and 1st December. These are to be negotiated with the primary school staff and high school staff.

Room 12 and 13 Camp
Monday 12th – Wednesday 14th December
Wirraway Homestead, Strathalbyn
Please contact the office if you are enquiring about payment. Due to the students fundraising, we have been able to subsidise the cost to families by over 50%! This leaves families with a cost of $100 per student – not bad for two nights’ accommodation, food, transport, 3 days of lessons and equipment and access to the camps facilities.
If you require another permission form, please ask your child to collect one from their classroom teacher.

Year 7 Celebration Day and Graduation
Thursday 15th December
$22 inc. GST for meal and drinks
Dress – smart casual
Students will arrive at school by 5:40pm with the bus departing for dinner at 5:50pm.
The ceremony will begin at 7:40pm where family and friends are invited to attend. This will be held in the school hall.
A celebration day will be held during school hours on Thursday for year 7’s. Students are asked to bring a plate of food for a shared lunch and a spare change of clothes for water games.

Student Highlights

I enjoyed teaching the year 3/4 extension group, with other senior students, about how to write a narrative because I have seen the students improve a lot. – Zarriya, year 7.

One of my literacy goals was to know what the difference between conjunctions and connectives are and I achieved this by working on it in personalised learning. – Imogen, year 7.

I enjoyed being involved in the Remembrance Day assembly. I read a speech to the school about what Remembrance Day is and we had a 1 minute silence to recognise this special day. – Jay, year 7

I really enjoyed going to Uraidla in week 3 and competing in soccer because it was a different experience compared to playing basketball. – Akasha, year 6

I’m looking forward to going on camp as this will be the first time going to camp with a new school and friends and I’m looking forward to getting to know everyone better. – Diya, year 6.

One of my literacy goals was to read aloud and not go too fast and mumble. I have achieved this goal by practicing my reading with Zoe. – Chyane, year 7
Mount Barker South Primary School would like to welcome Lydia to our school community as our ACEO – Aboriginal Community Education Officer

Ninna Marni

Ngai nari Lydia Kartanya Agius

Ngai Kaurna Ngangiwumerri Narungga ngangki

Ngai taikurtinna Bookyanna Nauiyu unungku

Kaurna Translation

Hello

My name is Lydia Kartanya Agius

I am a Kaurna, Ngangiwumerri Narungga Woman

My family comes from Point Pearce and Nauiyu

My Daughter, Tarli Kartanya Kuranye started school here at the South this year and we love being a part of such a supportive and positive learning community. I also have two sons, Lewis and Tyson, who are 3 years old.

What I enjoy most is going on outdoor adventures with my kids and family, cooking, painting/art, reading and I love playing and watching sports.

I am really passionate about seeing all of our kids discover their inner strength to make positive choices, to love their learning and ‘Dream Big’ in terms of their future.

I will be at the school on Wednesdays and Thursdays (9am-2:30PM) for the rest of Term 4. My time here is focused on supporting the engagement in learning of our Aboriginal students, along with getting to know their families. Over the remaining weeks I will be spending time in our classrooms and our wider community.

I look forward to meeting everyone!

I am really excited to have the opportunity to work with our kids and families here at Mt Barker South Primary School.

Lydia [-O-]