



Week 7 Term 2 Issue 276 June 14th 2018

**Address:**

Essington Lewis Drive  
RAPID BAY SA 5204  
School No: 0650

**Phone:** 8598 4062**Mobile:** 0418 849 865**Fax:** 8598 4116**Email:**

dl.0650\_info@schools.sa.edu.au

**Website:**

www.rapidbayps.sa.edu.au

**Principal**

Mark Shadiac

## Diary Dates

**June**

Wk 8: 18<sup>th</sup> Gov Council  
21<sup>st</sup> Crows Community  
Training Program

**July**

Wk 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Student Expo  
3<sup>rd</sup> Student Reports go out  
6<sup>th</sup> End of Term

Dear Parents,

### What does it take to have an effective learning program?

A key principle for learning at Rapid Bay School is modelling. In order for students to learn effectively, staff have to model the behaviour of effective learning. When modelling, one realises very quickly that 'talking or telling' must equal actions. I can think of multiple times during parenthood where one of my children demonstrated behaviours of mine that I found to be cringing material! Conclusion: we don't always do what we say but children pick up on what we do and copy.

For the moment, let us forget about children and think about us, as adults. What is it that drives us to learn new things? Surprisingly, the starting point for all learning is motivation. Motivation may arise out of personal need or purpose that could come from a range of scenarios – fear of failure, encouragement by another person, external reward, maybe even trauma or survival. These are valid reasons that result in motivation but not the reasons we particularly aspire to. At Rapid Bay, the driving force for learning is through intrinsic reward that is self-initiated/driven.

When learning is motivated by the learner, it is characterised by things like freedom, challenge, readiness, emotional involvement and a sense of achievement. This all sounds fairly logical but the reality is a large proportion of learning strategies seem to concentrate on the less desirable drivers that require constant surveillance and prodding of students. The learning program itself can be mundane and boring. Don't get me wrong, there are times when learning can be a grind, but I like to think of the grind of learning in association with conquering the challenges and solving problems.

With reports looming, the focus is on curriculum related achievement but more importantly, at Rapid Bay School, the focus is on lifelong learning. So there is a strong emphasis on student capabilities and mindset. Capability and mindset are skills and attributes for success in life, not just primary school!

### Tree Planting

Our tree planting extended this year to Wirrina, after a decade or longer of planting at Rapid Bay beach area. I would like to thank Darren Kennedy (Conservation Volunteers Australia), Corey Jackson (Coast, Estuary & Marine Officer), Yankalilla Council, Rebekha Sharkie (Member for Mayo), parents, students and staff helpers. The planting schedule was achieved so all in all, it was a successful morning.

Regards

Mark Shadiac

# TREE PLANTING





