

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2017



School holiday program to bring generations together

A school holiday program that brings primary school students together with older South Australians has secured a State Government grant.

Port Noarlunga Primary students will visit Perry Park Residential Living twice during the October holidays as part of the Connexion program created by Flinders University social work student Jasmine Daws.

Jasmine piloted the program in July and has been awarded a \$1,668 grant to continue the program in October.

Minister for Education and Child Development Susan Close said the State Government was proud to support ACH Group to deliver the project.

“The Connexion program is a brilliant initiative. Its popularity with both generations is testament to its success and I want to congratulate Jasmine for creating such an innovative and thoughtful program, which is delivering such positive results.”

During the first program, Port Noarlunga Vacation Care students tried their hand at gardening, cooking, bead craft, collages and carpet bowls and battled it out on the ten pin bowling Wii game.

They also spent time in the on-site Men’s Shed where they made dinosaur models and set up a Scalextric racing car set.

“The main focus of the program is to share knowledge and skills across the generations,” Jasmine said. “I thought it was a good opportunity to promote intergeneration learning and sharing, connections and to promote wellbeing and active community support of residents.”

Port Noarlunga Out of School Hours Care Director Robyn Harris said the kids were looking forward to returning next month.

“A lot of kids don’t have extended families around any more,” she says. “They’ve really enjoyed spending time at Perry Park and many of them asked when they could go back. It was a good chance for these kids to practice kindness and empathy and work on their social skills.”

Resident Ina Kalnins, who grew up in Scotland, taught the kids how to make shortbread. “They’re lovely, they’ve been so well behaved,” she said. “It’s great for us because we’ve all got grandchildren and great-grandchildren but we don’t always have the chance to see them. I love spending time with these kids.”

Perry Park volunteers held a bake-a-thon earlier this year to raise \$377 so that the project could go ahead.

Caption: Perry Park resident Ina Kalnins enjoys playing lawn bowls with Port Noarlunga Primary School students Tatum and Lockie.

What: Connexion intergenerational school holiday program

When: Tuesday 3 and Friday 6 October, 9.30am to 11.30am. The program will also run in the January school holidays.

Where: ACH Group Perry Park Residential, 26 River Road, Port Noarlunga

End Media Release

About ACH Group

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952. As well as accommodation options across Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula and East Melbourne, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite and support services, help at home and social activities. Our 1700 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

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