From the Principal

Welcome to Prescott for 2005. To our new staff and students who have joined our school community, we hope that you will find the school a friendly and welcoming place and enjoy your association with the school. As a school community, we will have a chance to meet with you at our Welcome Back BBQ to be held on February 15. We hope many of you will take the time to attend this evening.

As a staff this year we have chosen the theme “Healthy World, Healthy Me”. Throughout the year we are planning activities that will help the children develop an understanding of the ways they can make a difference in looking after our world and its resources, as well as maintaining good levels of personal health and fitness. As part of our program we have been successful in winning some grants to assist us in achieving these goals. The first project involves our school being a “Catchment Connection” focus school, which will provide us with funds and resources to understand the local environment issues and participate in hands-on nature experiences. We have also been successful in gaining an Active After-school Communities Grant. This will be available to us for 2 years beginning Term 2, and children within the school will be able to participate in after school sporting programs for two days a week at no cost. Please take the time to complete the enclosed survey form to assist us in the implementation of this program.

The year has begun with an additional classroom being made out of the previous uniform room. A verandah and some walkways into the quadrangle are yet to be constructed, but should be completed by the end of Term 1. The addition of the classroom has created a few vacancies in the school, a rare event for Prescott, but one that will assist the school in establishing numbers to maintain a high school.

As we begin our school year we are thankful to God for His promise to be with us and know that He will be our strength and support as we begin another school year.

Have a great week.

Christine Clark

Calendar of coming events

Friday, 4 February
School finishes 3.15pm

Tuesday, 15 February
Welcome Back BBQ – 6pm
Parent Info Night – 7.00/7.30pm

Thursday, 17 February
Visit from Non-Govt Schools
Registration Board

Monday, 28 February
School Council – 7.30pm

Thursday, 10 February
Parent Session – 8.50am
“Listening to Children Read”

Wednesday, 16 February
Sanitarium Breakfast

Friday, 25 February
Volunteer Training – 9.00am
Don’t forget that due to Swimming/Aquatics, school finishes at 3.15pm (not 2.30pm) this Friday only.

COMING EVENTS

Parent Information Session
Listening to Children Read
Date: Thursday, February 10
Place: Classroom 8
Time: 8.50am

For those parents who would like to learn more about how to support their children in reading, Mrs Enid Street will hold an information session. This is a great opportunity for those parents who would like to learn a little more about supporting their children in developing great reading skills.

Parent Information Night and BBQ
On Tuesday evening, February 15, we will be holding our Welcome Back BBQ/Information Night. We invite all families to come along at 6.00pm and enjoy a BBQ with staff and families of the school. Following this we will have our Information Evening with the classroom teachers.

What to bring: Meat/vegetarian patties to BBQ
Fold-up chairs

Provided: BBQ’s Salads
Bread Sauce
Plates

To buy from Kids Kanteen: Cans of Drink
Ice Creams

We look forward to your involvement on the night. If you plan to attend please complete the enclosed form to assist us with catering.

Classroom Meeting Times
7.00pm Classroom 1 Mrs Renee Possingham
Classroom 2 Miss Chelsea Allen
Classroom 3 Miss Beverley Bishop
Classroom 5 Mrs Michelle Meyles

7.30pm Classroom 4 Mrs Nicole Newbold
Classroom 6 Mrs Kate Croft
Classroom 9 Mrs Jacqui Goding

Parents who are unable to attend their child’s session will receive a flyer from the teacher outlining details about their class for 2005.

Breakfast at School
Sanitarium Health Foods will sponsor breakfast for the children at Prescott on Wednesday, February 16. School will begin at the usual time of the day, but the children’s first activity will be breakfast in the hall.

School Council (formerly School Board)
A School Council meeting will be held on Monday evening, February 28 at 7.30pm in the Staff Room.

Volunteer Training Session
From the beginning of 2005, all parents and friends who wish to volunteer within the school will be required to attend a Volunteer Training Session.

Date: Friday, February 25
Time: 9.00am
Venue: School Library

Please RSVP to the office. A certificate of attendance will be given to all who participate and will be valid for their time at Prescott.

Reference Committees
Once again we would encourage families to register their interest in the various committees of the school and be involved in the school program. Forms are included in this newsletter. The first meeting dates for 2005 are:

Gifted & Talented: March 7 – 7.30pm
Property Development: March 8 – 7.30pm
OHSW: March 9 – 11.30am
Fundraising: March 9 – 7.30pm
Out of School Hours Care: March 8 – 2.15pm

FROM THE TEACHERS

Homework
Please note that Homework and Classroom Reading will not begin until Week 3 this term. The classroom teachers, at the Information Sessions to be held on February 15, will outline details of Homework expectations. Children will then be able to begin their Homework the following night.

Readers
A stocktake was taken of all the reading boxes during the holidays and it was found that 200 or more readers were missing. Mrs Street is keen to reward all children who are able to return readers found at home and brought to her. Please assist us in finding these books. Thank you.
FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

School Uniform
You will notice the new summer dress for the girls has arrived and looks very smart. We will allow the wearing of either uniforms for the next two years, after which it will be expected that all girls are wearing the new uniform.

We would like to remind parents that enrolling at Prescott you agreed to abide by the school uniform requirements. Children are expected to wear the correct uniform and parents are asked to ensure that the correct items are purchased for their children. This includes boy’s shorts being college grey polyester and NOT cotton board shorts and shoes being black polishable lace-ups or navy/brown sandals. All other footwear will not be accepted. As a school we want to look smart in our uniforms and would encourage all parents to support their children in this area.

Our school uniform shop has been relocated to a building near OSHC. The new hours of operation are Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am-9.15am and 3.00-3.30pm.

Fill-in Forms
Enclosed you will find a booklet of fill-in forms regarding various activities throughout the year. Please complete the relevant forms and return in your newsletter folder or to the front office by the end of Week 2. Please note that some forms have writing on both sides. Thank you.

Book Club
Scholastic Australia Book Club offer books for sale at discounted prices. Catalogues are sent home twice each term and all orders earn the school points that can be used to purchase books and other resources for the school. The first catalogues for this year are enclosed. Please have all orders (with correct money enclosed) back to school no later than Tuesday, 15 February. If paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to Prescott Southern, not Scholastic. Credit card payment is also an option by completing the correct section on the order form. Please ensure orders are correctly filled out to avoid delays in ordering. Thank you for your support of this program.

Koorong Kids
This is a book club program offered by Koorong Books with Christian books and other merchandise available at discount prices. The school is able to keep 10% of all orders, so your support will help the school. A catalogue is distributed once a term. This term’s catalogue is enclosed. All orders (with correct money enclosed) must be returned to school no later than Monday, 21 February.

Active After School Communities School Grant
As a school we have the opportunity to offer after school sport programs on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from the beginning of Term 2. There will be no cost to parents and children will be supervised by a registered teacher from immediately after school finishes until the sporting activity is finished (usually 1-1.5 hours). Children may participate on one day or both days. The types of sport offered will depend on the interests of those children who plan to attend the program. If your child/ren are interested in participating in the program, please take the time to complete the Registration of Interest Form (cream coloured sheet) and return to the school by end of Week 2. Please note children who regularly attend OSHC are also eligible to attend and transport will be arranged for them to return to the centre following the sporting activity.

Stationery Drive
As a school we would like to do our part in making a difference for those countries recently affected by the tsunami. Therefore we are asking each child to bring along at least 1 stationery item. We will then send the box to a school in one of the affected areas. A box will be located on the colonnade and our goal as a school will be to fill it with items to send. We will send the box at the end of February. Thank you for supporting your children in making a difference for others.

School Card
Application forms for School Card are enclosed. If you are eligible for School Care please complete the form and return to school no later than Friday, 11 February. If you need more information on school card, please see Trish in the front office.

School Fees
You will be receiving your fees statement soon. To receive the early payment discount please make sure payment is made by the date specified. Prompt payment of accounts is always appreciated.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Absentee Forms
Enclosed is a booklet of Absentee Forms. A form needs to be completed and returned to your child’s classroom teacher when a student is absent from school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lunch Orders
Prescott Primary Southern does not have a canteen but we are able to order lunches from the Reynella South Canteen. Parents need to supply own lunch bags. Student’s name and classroom teacher need to be clearly written on the lunch bag with money encosed. Orders need to be placed in the boxes provided in each classroom by 9am each day. The canteen price list that is enclosed has the current list of available items and prices, please refer to this list when writing out orders.

Tissues for the Classroom
Every student is asked to bring a box of tissues to be used in their own classroom throughout the year. While the school provides a certain amount, your contribution helps to ensure there is a constant supply of tissues for use by the students in their classroom. Your tissue box can be given to your child’s classroom teacher. Thank you.

School Assembly
School Assembly is held Monday mornings at 9am in the Church. Full School Assemblies will be held on even weeks and Junior School Assemblies on the odd weeks. Parents who are able are invited to attend Assembly.

Timetable for Assembly – Term 1

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VACATION CARE

Once again we had a great time during Vacation Care. We visited some new venues for our excursions (as suggested by the OSHC children). These were: Narnu Farm, Elizabeth Aqua Dome (it had waterslides!), Challenge Hill at Woodhouse, Fishing and ‘That’s Not Garbage’. Special thanks to Bunnings Warehouse at Noarlunga and Morphett Vale CFS for their visits to our OSHC Centre. Any suggestions for activities and excursions for OSHC and Vacation Care are most welcome.

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