FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to school for Term 1.

The new year is always an exciting time for children...although I sense some of the excitement has been melted away with the extreme heat... but children do seem to be refreshed and ready to start a new school year. Our Theme for 2009 is “Helping Hands” and our goal is to assist children in learning to give ‘no strings attached’. This is a challenge for us as adults... and even more so for children but we believe as a school it is a great principle of living that enriches your life immeasurably.

This year will see some changes in the buildings of the school. To those of you who regularly visit the school you will have noticed that the old storage block has been removed ready for construction of the new building. It was only a small building but caused us some issues as we tried to remove the rather thick foundations.. took them 3 days with an excavator!! Construction of the new building should begin sometime this term.

We are looking forward to this year, which once again looks to be action packed with a variety of activities. We would like to give a special welcome to our new Reception families, and we look forward to getting to know you through the various school activities. We also have a few other families who have joined us resulting in full classes for most of the grades. We will be starting a new Reception class half way through the year and Mrs Janine Buckley will be taking this class... yes that is right her family ended up staying in Adelaide and we are pleased that she is happy to take this position.

I would like to offer a special welcome to our new staff who are joining us for 2009. Miss Candace Ace (Grade 5/6), Miss Tamara Rosenberg (Grade 6/7) and Mrs Janice Nixon (Grade 4/5). We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

I would like to encourage all parents to attend the Information Night and BBQ scheduled for February 10. This will be an opportunity to meet the staff and other families within the school. We hope to see you there.

As we begin our school year we are grateful to God for His love and guidance and know that He will be with us as we begin another school year.

Have a great week.

Christine Clark
COMING EVENTS

Finishing Time Friday
Please note that due to the Swimming/Aquatics program, school will finish at 3.15pm (not 2.30pm) this Friday only.

Parent Information Night & BBQ
Tuesday, February 10
On Tuesday evening, February 10, we will be holding our Information Night. As part of the program, we would invite all families to come along at 6.30pm and enjoy a BBQ with staff and families of the school. We would ask that each family bring along the meat/vegetarian items they wish to BBQ and the school will provide the rest—bread, salads, sauce, BBQ’s etc. Also, you may like to bring along your fold-up chairs.

Cans of drink and ice creams will be available for sale on the night. 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 Presentation Times
Following the BBQ we will have our Parent Information Evening with the classroom teachers.
7.30pm Classroom 1, 2, 4, 5, 13
8.00pm Classroom 3, 6, 7, 8

Parent Information Session
Listening to Children Read
Tuesday, February 17
8.50am in Classroom 12
Mrs Enid Street will be holding an information session for those parents who would like to learn more about how to support their children in reading, to assist them in developing good reading skills.

Chess Club
The students will once again have the opportunity to participate in a lunchtime session playing chess. This gives them the chance to learn while playing. A consent form is enclosed for those who wish to participate, this includes all the information you will need. If interested, please complete the form and return no later than Friday, February 6.

After School Sports
Our school is again offering an After School Sports Program on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. There will be no cost to parents and children will be supervised by a staff member, while being taught skills by qualified instructors.

The sports that are being offered in Term 1 include Handball on Tuesdays and Hockey on Wednesdays. If your child is interested in participating, please complete the enclosed consent form (both sides of page) and return it to school immediately.

To participate, all students must be registered with OSHC but will not be charged OSHC fees if collected by 5.00pm. If you don’t regularly use OSHC and have not already completed a registration form, please collect a form from the front office. Students are able to wear their Sports Uniform for the day if they are participating in the After School Sports Program.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

School Newsletter
Each fortnight, usually on a Thursday, you will receive a newsletter and other relevant information in your newsletter folder. Folders are sent home with the eldest child in the family. You are asked to remove and read the enclosed information and sign the front cover in the appropriate space. The folder is then to be returned to the Newsletter Return Box located in each classroom, preferably by the following Monday. You may use the newsletter folder to return any forms, accounts or information to the school. When collected it will be passed onto the appropriate staff member. Your cooperation in promptly returning your folder will be greatly appreciated.

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 are printed on both sides of the page. Your cooperation and prompt response is greatly appreciated.

School Fees
Your will shortly receive your Term 1 fees statement. To receive the early payment discount, please check the allocated date on your statement. Prompt payment of accounts is always appreciated.
School Card
Application forms for School care are enclosed. If you are eligible for School Card please complete the form and return to school before February 13. If you need more information on school card, please see Trish in the front office.

Lunch Orders
Our school does not have a canteen but we are able to order lunches from the Reynella South canteen. Parents need to supply their own lunch bags. Student’s name, classroom and order need to be clearly written on the lunch bag with money enclosed. Orders need to be placed in the boxes provided in each classroom by 8.45am each day. **Please note that the canteen is closed on Tuesdays, so no lunch orders on Tuesdays.**
The canteen price list is enclosed with the current list of available items and prices. Please refer to this list when ordering.

Uniform Shop
As a school we would like to encourage all parents to support their children in ensuring they are wearing the correct uniform. The Uniform Shop, located on the right just past the OSHC building, is open on Wednesday and Thursday from 8.45-9.15am & 3.00-3.30pm. Secondhand items are also available and if you have uniform items that you no longer need that are still in good condition, you can bring them to the uniform shop to be sold. You might just have what someone else is looking for!

Tidy Hair
If your child has hair that is longer than their collar then their hair must be tied back. This will help in the prevention of spreading head lice. Hair can be tied back with blue or white hair ties, scrunchies, ribbons or hairclips.

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 (particularly useful in the colder months!). Your tissue box can be given to your child’s classroom teacher. Thank you.

From Mrs Crowe
Our animals in the Science Room will once again need carers over the weekends. If your family is able to take care of any of the animals at any time, please complete the enclosed form and return to school ASAP. A roster will then be organised.

Piano Lessons for 2009
A Message from Mr Knights
This year I plan to trial a rotating timetable over three days. (Wed, Thurs, Friday) Once I have taken all students on my list, I will begin the list again. This will allow students who are absent one day to catch up that lesson on another day. It will also ensure that all students are able to attend the same number of lessons. Students would need to bring books on each day until they have taken their lesson!

I plan to start current pupils in Week 2, adding new pupils from Week 3. Accounts will be sent out in Weeks 2 & 3 with early payment appreciated. Once all students have completed their lessons, you will receive another account. This may be before the end of a term or after the start of a new term, depending on the number of days available in the respective terms.

I continue to give a $5 discount per half hour on my normal rates for Prescott Pupils. The price for 2009 will be $23 per half hour or $16.50 per quarter hour (GST inc.) New applications should be directed to the front office.  

Peter Knights

School Assembly
School Assembly is held on Monday mornings at 9.00am in the Church. Full School Assembly will be held on even weeks and Junior School Assembly on the odd weeks. Parents who are able, are welcome to attend Assembly.

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<th>Timetable for Term 1</th>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Junior School Classroom 1</td>
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Brain Food Reminder
Each morning students are given a break to eat their brain food. This helps to enhance their concentration.

Brain food that is acceptable includes:
Fresh Fruit—e.g. bananas, apples, grapes etc.
Tinned Fruit—sliced peaches, pears etc.
Dried Fruit—sultanas, apricots, pineapple etc.
Veggies—carrot sticks, celery sticks, tomatoes etc.
Cheese—cheese sticks, cheese slices

Food not acceptable include:
Yoghurt
Cheese snacks with biscuits
Muesli bars
Roll-ups
Packets of chips
Please ensure your child has brain food every day.

COMMUNITY ANNOUCEMENTS

Lost Property
Did you go to Junior Camp at Ankara? Hope you had a good time! If anyone had a red & black pair of Piping Hot shorts mistakenly come home, please contact Peter & Tracey on 8395 0238. These shorts were a gift and the owner would very much like them back.

Centacare Workshop
“Dealing with Change After Separation”
A workshop for separated men and women wanting to understand and manage the changes in their family.
Venue: Reynella Neighbourhood Centre
Date: Tuesday, February 24
Time: 7.00—9.00pm
No cost, but bookings are essential. Phone the centre on 8322 3591.

Wedding Bells!!
On January 11 Sara Mclean and Deveron Strickland were married in Rotorua, New Zealand. From all reports the day went very well with many friends and family present to witness the happy occasion. By the way, for those who are wondering (probably all the girls!) the bridesmaids were wearing a beautiful soft purple/amethyst!

The newly weds!

The new Mr & Mrs Strickland with Mr & Mrs Crowe

“Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us.”
Wilma Rudolph, American Olympic Runner

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