FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Helping Hands activities are continuing to develop and we appreciate the enthusiasm of the children in getting involved in a variety of ways. As you may remember we adopted a sister school in Fiji last year and we have been in touch with them in regards to their current needs. They expressed appreciation for the funds we raised in 2008 that have enabled them to purchase sheeting to cover the classroom walls. There are still a couple of classrooms to go… but their current need is stationery. For Term 2 our school goal will be the collection of stationery to send to them. Due to the poor quality of materials available it is best for us to send them items from Australia. We would ask each family to purchase/donate a couple of stationery items and hand them in either to the classroom teacher or student reception. Suitable items include coloured pencils, pens, crayons, coloured paper, paint, exercise books, chalk and stickers. Thanks for lending a helping hand! ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 25:40

We were recently notified that we have received a grant of $125,000 to upgrade a range of items as part of the National School Pride Program. This money will be used to replace the wood chip under the playground with rubber, construct a shade over the back sandpit, replace the windows in classrooms 3, 4 & 5, purchase interactive whiteboards for 5 classrooms and purchase additional computers for the classrooms. These projects will begin in the next few weeks and we appreciate the opportunity to complete a number of much needed tasks thanks to the government stimulus packages. However, while we as a school may be benefiting from the current economic climate, we also realise for many families this year may present its challenges in regards to maintaining ongoing employment. As a school system we have developed a plan to support families should their income be reduced, so would encourage any parents who may have already been affected to contact the school. We are keen to support families in this time of uncertainty.

Just a reminder I will be away for the next six weeks due to the Reformation Tour and would encourage you to contact Mrs Michelle Meyles or Mrs Jacqui Göding as needed.

Have a great week

Christine Clark

CALENDAR

Friday 15 May
Fundraising Committee
9.15am

Saturday 23 May
Church Service
Fleurieu Central
(McLaren Vale)

Wednesday 27 May
Computer Competition

Friday 29 May
New Transition
Students Begin
Morning Tea for Parents in Staff Room

Saturday 30 May
Church Service
Brighton

Friday 5 June
Pupil Free Day
OSHC operating

Monday 8 June
Public Holiday

Wednesday 10 June
Science Competition
COMING EVENTS

Church Service Performances
Those involved in the Church Service performances are reminded that these start next weekend, May 23. Your forms regarding transport arrangements are due back by next Wednesday, May 20. Please ensure these have been returned. Thank you.

New Receptions
On Friday, May 29 a group of new Receptions will begin their transition program. We look forward to welcoming them into our community. There will be a morning tea provided for the parents of these new students, which will be held in the Staff Room.

Pupil Free Day
Please mark on your calendars that Friday, June 5 is a Pupil Free Day. OSHC will be operating, but bookings are essential.

Science Week—Family Quiz Night
Just a reminder to return your registration form for the Family Science Quiz Night to be held on Thursday, June 25. For planning purposes we need to know how many families are coming. We hope to see as many as possible!

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

EdAlive Computer Software Offer
Our school is participating in the CSP (Community Software Plan) featuring the Australian-Made Maths Made Easy series along with all the regular EdAlive favourites. This will be the only CSP for 2009, so don’t miss out! As well as the CSP saving, all titles are also eligible for the new 50% Education Tax Refund.

Please consider making an investment. As part of the CSP our school will receive a FREE EdAlive software title of our choice. Please return your orders to the school by Friday, May 29. Catalogues are enclosed with this newsletter. Payment is by cheque/money order (made payable to EdAlive not the school) or by credit card (see back page of catalogue).

SRC Representatives
SRC stands for Student Representative Council. The elected students from each class meet weekly to discuss issues that are raised by their fellow students under the guidance of Mrs Drillis. These issues are then referred to staff meeting for consideration. It is an opportunity for the students to have a voice about issues in the school community. They also discuss and plan special events and fundraising ideas and you will hear about these from time to time.

Here is a list of the SRC Representatives for Term 2.

Classroom 3 Rachael Henson
Jordan Winnicki
Classroom 4 Miriam Sandelin-McCann
Tyler Peterson
Classroom 5 Jasmine Werneburg
Karan Sabharwal
Jun Jeong
Classroom 6 Daniel Hill
Caitlin Macdonald
Classroom 7 Georgia Dey
Luke Sandelin-McCann
Classroom 13 Matthew Phillips
Neve Frankland

From Peter Knights (Piano/Keyboard Teacher)
This year we are trialling a ‘shifting’ timetable and have come to the end of the first set of lessons. From my point of view, the trial is going well with all students attaining an equal number of lessons during the time to date.

New invoices are enclosed for the next set of lessons. Please advise me immediately if you are not requiring further lessons as all lessons given must be paid. As you know there is a charge for late payments but I do allow leeway where parents contact me and make an arrangement for late payment.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons given so far and I hope the children are enjoying the learning experience. Please let me know about any problems.

Books are essential to learning and are sold separately. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate books to aid them in their lessons.
Knitting Club – Wednesday Lunchtimes

A lunch time knitting club is starting to allow our Grades 3 - 7 students to be part of an initiative to knit blankets for children in dire need. There are babies and children worldwide who need a blanket. By sending blankets to the Ukraine orphan children may be able to own their very own thing for the first time and it will also keep them warm. There are newborn babies born on the African continent who are sent home from hospital wrapped in newspaper for warmth. In refugee camps around the world babies and children are in need of blankets for warmth. Our children will be able to choose where they would like our blankets to be sent.

We need your help!

To make this club a reality we need a few resources.

1. Wool – 8 ply is ideal but must be the minimum size
2. Knitting needles - Size 8 needles (4mm) or (5mm) ok

Can you knit?

Yes! If you would like to join our efforts then you are most welcome to knit (plain stitch) 25cm X 25cm (10 inch x 10 inch) squares. If you would like to assist teaching children to knit then contact Mrs Meyles at the office for details.

Thank you to Mrs Sonya Vince, our assessing teacher, who has offered to organise and run this club. Lili (our chaplain) has a contact to ensure our blankets do get to their destination.

NEiTA Teaching Awards

Teachers make an important contribution to the lives of our young people and help shape the future of our country, yet few opportunities arise to recognise the true value of their role.

Do you know any inspirational teachers? Then here is your chance to help recognise their commitment to the education of your children. Nominations for the 2009 NEiTA National Excellence in Teaching Awards are now open. These prestigious awards aim to give public recognition to exceptional teaching and leadership in schools.

Nominations close 31 July. For more information or to nominate a teacher call NEiTA on 1800 624 487, visit the website www.neita.com.au or email neita@asg.com.au.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Morphett Vale Church

Kids Church

This Saturday, May 16 from 11.30am

A special kids program is planned and all families are welcome. See enclosed flyer.

Prescott College Auction

Prescott College is holding its annual Auction Night and everyone is invited.

When: Saturday evening, May 23 @ 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

Where: Prospect Church Hall, Ballville Street

Entry: Adults—A note of any colour

Children/Students—Gold coin

Come and enjoy an evening of entertainment and fun which will support the fundraising program of Prescott College.

Squash—Impact Health Club

Students in Grades 4-7 are invited to join in squash, fun and games at Impact Health Club, 43 Gulfview Road, Christies Beach. Held on Tuesdays from 4.00-5.00pm, starting May 19. Cost is $5 each.

For further information call Tahlia Martin on 8384 7115.

Take Time:

To think—it is the source of power.

To play—it is the secret of perpetual youth.

To read—it is the fountain of wisdom.

To pray—it is the greatest power on earth.

To love and be loved—it is a God-given privilege.

To be friendly—it is the road to happiness.
**FUNDRAISING**

**Mothers Day Stall**
We hope the mums enjoyed the gifts that they received from the Mothers Day stall. A big thank you to the students, parents, grandparents and many helpers for supporting our annual fundraising stall. An especially big thank you to Michelle Forbes for all her hard work in coordinating this fundraiser.

With the wonderful donations from the school community and local businesses, we were able to raise a total of $851.10

Thanks and acknowledgement goes to the following companies for their generous donations:

- Bamboo Hair & Relaxation – Morphett Vale
- Natural Food Barn – Southgate Plaza
- KW Wholesale Stationers
- Mitre 10 – Happy Valley
- Happy Valley Newsagent
- Happy Valley Deli
- Foodland – Happy Valley
- Buds ‘n Blooms – Southgate Plaza
- Priceline – Southgate Plaza
- Cunningham’s Warehouse – Reynella
- Chem Mart – Morphett Vale
- Kelly Services – Recruitment Consultants
- Stunners Hair & Beauty – Woodcroft Plaza
- Newsagent – Woodcroft Plaza

The Fundraising Committee enjoyed holding this event and look forward to planning for the Father’s Day stall in September. Any ideas of gifts etc are welcome or any items you would like to donate can now be left at Student Reception.

**Entertainment Books**
Last week an Entertainment Book with a variety of vouchers and discounts was sent home. Thank you to those who have already returned their books or money. If you haven’t returned yours yet, please note that the deadline for returning books and money is Friday, May 22. If anyone would like more books they are available in the front office.

**Recyclables**
Don’t forget to keep bringing in your 10c refundable cans, bottles and cartons. They can be placed in the orange bin near the Staff Room door. Please remember to remove the lids from bottles before placing them into the bin. Thank you.

**Newspapers**
Please remember to collect your old newspapers and bring them to school. There are blue bins located behind Classroom 8 (Mrs Green’s room) for you to leave your newspapers in. Suitable papers include Advertiser, Sunday mail, Messenger but NOT glossy magazine type paper. Every bit helps, so ask your family, neighbours and friends to start keeping their papers too.

**Classroom Fundraisers**
Our Fundraiser Lunches got off to a flying start this week with just over $300 being raised. Watch out for next week’s order form and thank you for supporting our fundraising program.

**Prescott Fair**
A Prescott Fair is being planned for October 18 from 11.00am –3.00pm. If your child is involved in or you know of any community group (e.g. dance/self-defense/gymnastics etc.) who might be interested in doing a performance on the day, please contact the front office. Further details of the planned activities for that day will be given closer to the date.

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