Thank you for the support of the Parent Information Evening and the Volunteer Training session. We trust this has been helpful for you as parents as your children have begun the new year. Just a reminder that a police clearance is required for parents to be involved in supporting students within the school. This is available at no cost to you if the school completes the VOAN section on the police clearance form.

Next week, we plan to provide an opportunity for parents to meet and chat in the morning after the beginning of the school day. This will be an informal time where parents can get to know other families within the school as well as meet with personnel from admin. Pre-schoolers are most welcome. We will meet in the hall from 9.15, giving those parents who help out with reading in the classrooms a chance to meet as well.

“New research from the Australian Council for Educational Research has found that students hook onto the notion of going to university in primary school. While I’m not advocating that school success necessarily equates to a tertiary education, this study shows how early children establish their own educational goals and expectations.

If a successful school journey starts at home then what are the most important steps for bringing out the best in your child? Here are five ideas to help your kids become great learners:

1. **Become involved and interested in your child’s pre-school or school life:** One of the predictors for children’s success at school is their parents’ level of engagement in their school. You can become engaged by attending school meetings & functions, reading newsletters, forming a relationship with your child’s teacher and supporting school activities at home.

2. **Read with your children:** As literacy holds the key to almost all learning the single most important, practical thing you can do to assist your child as a learner is to establish a reading household where kids see you reading; kids are read to; and kids read.

3. **Take a real interest in learning:** You want your kids to be life-long learners as they will need to keep learning well after they’ve left school. Foster learning and curiosity by asking interesting questions, holding conversations, taking them to interesting places, and modelling by learning new things yourself.

4. **Build self-confidence:** Kids with well-developed independence, social skills, organisational skills and resilience will thrive in the classroom. Shape the emotional environment for your kids to maximise their success by treating their mistakes as learning opportunities, giving them plenty of positive feedback and helping them identify what they’re good at.

5. **Create a home study space & a routine:** When kids start school make sure you establish a place to hear them read and also a time for reading. These space & routine concepts will change over time as kids develop different interests and their homework demands expand but it really helps to be thinking about them early in your child’s learning life.”

*Michael Grose*

**Have a great week**

*Christine Clark*
COMING EVENTS

Parent Morning Tea
Parents are invited to join Mrs Clark & Mrs Meyles for morning tea next Tuesday, February 22 at 9.15am in the Hall. This will be a great opportunity for a chat and to meet other parents.

Parent Information Session
Listening to Children Read
Wednesday, February 23
8.50am in Classroom 12
Mrs 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.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Tuesday, March 8
Parents who wish to meet with their child’s teacher will have the opportunity to do so on Tuesday, March 8. If you wish to make an appointment, please complete the enclosed form with your preferred time and return to school no later than Monday, February 28. Some time slots are very popular and requests cannot always be accommodated, but we do our best. An appointment card will be enclosed in the next newsletter.

Pupil Free Day
Please mark on your calendars that Friday, March 11 will be a Pupil Free Day. OSHC will be operating and bookings are essential.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

School Fees
This term’s fees accounts will be posted to you this week. Prompt payment is always appreciated.

Fill-in Forms
Thank you to those parents who have returned their completed fill-in forms. It is important that we have this information ASAP. There are still a few families who have not returned their forms, if you could do so immediately it would be greatly appreciated.

School Card Application Forms
If you qualify for School Card, please ensure that you have completed the relevant form and return it to the front office ASAP. Thank you.

Delivery of Newsletters
Thank you to those families who have returned the red form informing us of your preference for printed or emailed newsletters. Your option will begin this week. However, there are still some families who haven’t returned the form. You will receive a printed newsletter in an envelope with another red fill-in form (just in case it has been misplaced!). Please complete the form and return it by Friday, February 25. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lunch Orders
Enclosed you will find an updated Canteen List from the Reynella Canteen. If you wish to place a lunch order, please refer to the enclosed list. Student’s name, class number and order must be clearly written on a paper bag which is then put in the lunch order box in the classroom.

Kids Canteen
Students are able to purchase ice blocks/ice creams from Kids Canteen (Room 5) at recess and lunchtime.
- Ice Blocks 50c
- Ice Creams $1.00
Noodles are available for lunch for $2.00 in either chicken or beef flavour. Orders are collected from the classrooms each morning.

School Hats
As a Sun Smart school our policy is No Hat No Play especially during Term 1. Please ensure your child has their hat each day to wear while outside. A few spare hats are available but please encourage your child to take care of their own hat. Names on hats and other uniform items will assist us in returning lost items to their owners. Also, don’t forget that children with hair that is longer than their collar need to have their hair tied back.

School SMS Number
Parents are able to send messages (such as student absences etc.) to the school via SMS. The number is 0427 016 460.
SRC Representatives
The SRC, which stands for Student Representative Council, gives the students an opportunity to have an input into planning for the school program and to run events that involve the students while supporting the wider community. The students chosen to be SRC Representatives for Term 1 include:
Classroom 3: Liam Thompson & Zepheryn Rosenzweig
Classroom 4: Abby Petherick & Darcy Brown
Classroom 5: Zoe Thomas & Jordan Bigatton
Classroom 6: Stephanie Bevan & Cooper Manns
Classroom 7: Pierce Stopp & Tayla Kerkemeyer
Classroom 8: Brock Franklin & Caitlin Macdonald
Classroom 9: Jordan Winnicki & Kiera KcClean-Flayol

Volunteer Cinema Day 2011
This year marks the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Volunteer. Voluntary action is such an important foundation to building community spirit. As a special thank you to volunteers in the City of Onkaparinga we will host a Volunteer Cinema Day on Monday, May 9 at the Wallis Noarlunga Cinema Centre.

Movies will be screened at 10am, 12.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm. Tickets are free for volunteers who regularly provide service to our school community (one ticket per volunteer only). If you wish to take advantage of this offer, please leave a message at the front office with your name and preferred session time by Monday, February 28. Your ticket and movie guide will be sent to you before the movie day.

Crunch & Sip
Our school has introduced Crunch & Sip to support students to establish healthy eating habits whilst at school.
Aim: All students and teachers at Prescott Southern enjoy a Crunch & Sip break and eat fruit or vegetables and drink water in the classroom every day.
CRUNCH (Brain Food):
Easy-to-eat seasonal fruit such as a small apple, a container of strawberries, a mandarin or banana
Or canned fruit in natural juice (remember a spoon)
Or vegetables such as carrot or celery sticks, cherry tomatoes or snow peas.
AND SIP:
A clean water bottle filled with water.
For more information visit the website at www.crunchandsip.com.au.

FUNDRAISING
Spring Bulbs
It is time to get our fundraising program going for this year. Enclosed you will find a Spring Bulb catalogue and order form. You have the opportunity to collect orders for Garden Express Spring Bulbs, so you and your family & friends can look forward to a beautiful display of flowers in spring.

There will be a prize basket for the 2 families who raise the most money. All orders and money must be returned to school no later than Friday, March 18. Thank you for your support.

Recyclables
We are still collecting refundable bottles, cans, cartons etc. which have a 10c deposit. Please leave your refundable containers in the orange bin at the rear of the office. Please remember to remove the lids from any bottles before putting them into the bin.

Also, we are still collecting newspaper. There are bins located under the trees in the car park for you to leave your old newspapers. Suitable papers include Advertiser, Sunday Mail, Messenger but NOT glossy junk mail/magazines. So please save your papers and bring to school, every bit helps.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
Homework Club
Wednesdays 9 February—13 April from 3.30-5.30pm. Only $2 per session. Suitable for 10-17 year olds. Come in and use a computer, search the net, use a quiet study area, get support with your homework. Healthy snack provided. This program is run by Onkaparinga Youth Services, cnr Pimpala & Main South Road, Reynella. For more information and to book call 8387 5577.

Kids Taekwondo
We are happy to welcome Miss Kylie Blagden to the Prescott Southern team. Miss Blagden is the teacher with the Year 4/5’s in Classroom 9.

Kylie was born and grew up in Perth, WA. She attended the Armadale Adventist Primary School. She says, “As a teacher’s kid, my fondest memories of primary school revolve around playing dress-ups and with all of the toys after school on staff meeting days, as well as in the playground and sandpit”.

She says she has always wanted to be a teacher. Before that she worked as a checkout operator, Weet-Bix packer and school booklist packer. Her favourite colour is purple and her favourite food is cheese. Her hobbies include sewing, reading, patchwork and swimming. Welcome, Miss Blagden.

“I’ve learned that everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you’re climbing it.”
Anonymous

Your friendly neighbourhood Chaplain
I like that in Term 1 everything is new: new books, new socks, new classroom and New Year’s Resolutions. I remember when I was in primary school (long, long ago) and even when I was in high school—the new stationery and school books made me super excited and happy. Even now, I am a bit obsessed with notebooks and pens—I have lots! The clean new pages inspire me and I dream of all the drawings, lists and ideas I will create.

The first works recorded to tell God’s story are about inspiration and creativity. In the beginning—this world was in chaos, empty and uninhabited. God moved and spoke to bring light, shape, colour, form and life into being. From the dome of the sky which we have learned extends for many kilometres outwards protecting our planet to the smallest, simplest seeming creature—new life poured out of God’s imagination. The pattern described in Genesis starts with disorder being organized to make order. Then this order of day and night, land and sea is filled with plants and creatures including humans. God’s final creative work was time! He called this final creation Sabbath and said it would be a special time, dedicated to Him. And God asked Adam and Eve to care for this created world.

While we can’t make the whole world new or resolve many of the problems existing around us in the world, I hope that you and your family will be able to enjoy the creativity on display in the world around us and that you will be able to enjoy time together—not working or rushing but being together!

God bless you!
Lili Panazzo, PPS Chaplain

As always, come find me if you have a hankering for a chat or if you have questions. I’m in Room 14 most days!

Invitation
All families are invited to join in the Sabbath programs held at the Morphett Vale Adventist Church each Saturday. Beginning at 10.00am is a Bible Study time with groups meeting to explore the Bible. During this time the children have their own age appropriate program.

The main church service begins at 11.30am which includes music, prayer, sharing and a speaker for the day. Everyone is most welcome to join us at anytime. Hope to see you there.

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