The Life Education Van will be at the school from Thursday this week to Tuesday of next week. All classes will have an opportunity to visit the van and participate in the various programs. The program has been established to facilitate the development of student knowledge and skills to identify risks and make informed decisions about healthy lifestyle choices. As a school we arrange for the Life Education Van to visit every second year.

Parent teacher interviews will be held next week and this provides an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers to discuss their child’s learning. Children are also welcome to be part of this process, with it being your decision as parents as to whether you would like your child to participate in the discussion. The goal of this interview is to determine any factors that need addressing in your child’s adjustment to the new classroom and issues they may be having with their learning. Teachers are required to adhere to a 15 minute interview timeline, so it is important that parents respect other families and keep interviews to the allocated time. If you feel more time is needed, you are always welcome to meet with teachers at an alternative time. I will also be available throughout the evening, so if parents need to meet with me in regards to matters like fees, you are welcome to make an interview for that evening. Please contact the front office to arrange a time.

Thank you to the parents who volunteered to serve on the various Reference Committees. You will find the dates of the meetings outlined in this newsletter. We look forward to meeting with you at the allocated times.

This year we have installed interactive whiteboards in all classrooms, enabling the use of this resource for all subject areas. Next Friday the teachers will be involved in professional development in the use of the interactive whiteboard. For this reason Friday March 11 will be a Pupil Free Day.

This week the My Schools website will be updated to include 2010 student NAPLAN data and school income. This website provides information on each school’s performance in relation to a group of other schools that have been deemed at a similar Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA). The ICSEA has been developed for the ACARA website and looks at socio-economic characteristics, educational background of parents, remoteness and proportion of indigenous students. This criterion has been determined based on research into the characteristics of student’s background that research has shown to effect school performance. Once again a significant group of students who have been overlooked in the criterion is children with learning difficulties or disabilities. You will notice this data is not included on the website. The results published are the NAPLAN results… the test completed by Year 3,5,7 children in May of each year. The controversy regarding the NAPLAN results surrounds the recognition that this comparison relates to children’s performance on 3 days for approximately ½ to ¾ hr. It does not allow for any significant modification including children with learning difficulties or disabilities unless they are severe. As a school we believe we can learn from various perspectives on our student’s performance and while we may not agree with all aspects of the reporting we see benefits in knowing how students are progressing. If you have any questions in regards to the website, please feel free to make an appointment to meet with me.

Have a great week

Christine Clark
COMING EVENTS

Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday, March 8
For those parents who have requested an interview with their child’s teacher an appointment card is enclosed. If you have your newsletter emailed then your appointment card will be in your child’s communication book/diary. The best has been done to accommodate everyone’s request. Please wait outside your child’s classroom at the appointed time. It would be appreciated if you could keep in mind that the teachers have a tight schedule to keep to and interviews must finish on time. Thank you for your cooperation.

Pupil Free Day
Friday, March 11
Just a reminder that Friday, March 11 will be a Pupil Free Day, followed by a public holiday on Monday, March 14. OSHC will be operating on the Friday, but bookings are essential. Hope you enjoy your extra long weekend!

Reference Committee Dates
OH & S Tuesday, 15 March 9.00am
OSHC Tuesday, 15 March 10.00am
Property Development Tuesday, 15 March 7.30pm
Gifted & Talented Tuesday, 15 March 7.30pm
Fundraising Monday, March 21 7.30pm
Thank you for your willingness to be involved and we look forward to meeting with you at the relevant meetings.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Premiers Reading Challenge
This program is an initiative of the State Govt to encourage students to read more and experience new things through reading. Why not visit the website at www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au for more information and to find the booklist. Students are required to read from a PRC booklist as well as some books of their own choice. Borrowing from the school library is not available at this time, so books need to be sourced from other places such as public libraries. You will be informed when borrowing from the school library is possible.

If your child wishes to participate, please complete the enclosed form and return it ASAP to Mrs Street, so you can receive your student reading record. Please note that reading must end by September 9.

School SMS Number
The number to send messages to the school via SMS is 0427 016 460. Please note that messages are only checked once a day at 10.00am. Any message sent after 10.00am will not be viewed until the next day. If you have to get a message to the school after 10.00am then it is best to phone the office on 8381 4290.

School Fees
Just a reminder that school fees are due by the end of March and must be paid in full before the end of term. For those going on school camp, camp fees will be added to your fees account shortly. It would be appreciated if camp fees could be paid before each camp.

Book Club
Enclosed are the next Book Club catalogues. If you wish to place an order, please return it (with payment enclosed) by Tuesday, March 15. Payment may be made by cash (correct change please), cheque (made payable to Prescott Southern not Scholastic) or credit card (follow instructions on back page of catalogue). Thank you for your support of our Book Club program.

Student Achievement
Recently 5 Prescott Southern students participated in the SAPSASA Swimming Trials for the southern area. Those students included Jett Rayner-Wilkinson, Tim Braslavskiy, Colbie Frankland, Mirium Sandelin-McCann & Brittany Lawson. Well done for a great effort. We are pleased to announce that Colbie & Jett will now be participating in the Onkapariniga North Metro Swim Team in the Relay. We wish them all the best.
FUNDRAISING

Spring Bulbs
Thank you to those who have already returned orders for the Spring Bulb fundraiser. Don’t miss your opportunity to have a beautiful garden in spring and share this opportunity with your family and friends. There is 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.

Recyclables
Please keep saving your 10c refundable bottles, cans, cartons etc and leave them in the orange bin at the rear of the office.

Also, save your old newspapers (but not glossy junk mail paper) and leave in the bins under the trees in the car park.

Mothers Day Donations
We are planning to have our annual Mothers Day Stall again this year. If you have any items that you could donate, that would be suitable to sell at the Mothers Day Stall, please leave them at Student Reception before the end of the term. Thank you.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donate Your Jars
The Salvation Army Thrift shop at 24 Beach Road, Christies Beach, is in desperate need of clean jars. All sorts of empty jars with lids such as jam jars, coffee jars, pasta sauce jars, vegemite jars etc. Anything that can be used for homemade jam would be really appreciated. Your jars can be dropped directly at the shop or dropped off at student reception in a plastic bag or box marked “Attention Mike”. Thank you for your help.

ICA Sport2worx Morphett Vale
The opportunity to be involved in various sports is available in the new season which starts in Term 2. Parents can organise a complete team into our competition or we can take individual players and place them in a team. Available sports include Junior Netball, Junior Soccer and Junior Cricket at various age levels. For information on times, cost and any other enquiries, please contact ICA on 8384 1244. ICA Morphett Vale is located at 205 Main South Road, Morphett Vale.

STAFF PROFILE

Mrs Linda Nakov joined us in the latter part of last year when Mrs Crowe went on maternity leave. She is at the school 3 days a week as the Music Specialist teacher. Mrs Nakov is enthused by the response of students willing to participate in our music programs and choirs.

Linda was born in Sydney, growing up in the Castle Hill area. She attended the Castle Hill Adventist Primary School. Her memories of primary school include the fun of playing handball at lunchtime and the cheese turnovers from the canteen on Fridays. Yum!

At first she wasn’t sure what she wanted to be when she grew up, but was always heavily involved in music. Teaching is a result of wanting to share the joy of music with others.

Her favourite colour is blue, her favourite food is mango. Of course her interests include music and singing, as well as the beach, travel, maps, cats and smoothies! Linda has worked in music retail, as a piano & violin teacher and as an accompanist.

We are happy to have her as part of the team here at Prescott and we look forward to the performances from the choir and other music groups this year.

Tell me and I’ll forget; Show me and I may remember; Involve me and I’ll understand.
Chinese Proverb
Your friendly neighbourhood Chaplain
I have an announcement to make! You have just missed my birthday! (I am imagining how sad you must feel and how much you want to bake me a cake to make up for forgetting my birthday this year.) But I will tell you a secret. I didn’t actually have a birthday this year. No, we jumped from February 28th to March 1st. Being born on the 29th of February is an up and down adventure, but it’s one of the things that makes me so “interesting”!

It is a pretty awesome and amazing thing that among all the billions of people alive on Earth, there is nobody just like you. Or me. Each of us is completely unique and unrepeatable, from our shape and interests to our fingerprints and as I recently found out—our tongue print! Totally one of a kind. This variety is impressive because I believe our lives are not random events in a giant tumble of events. And if we are not random, then our individuality has real value. Our choices matter.

When recording God’s activity of creation, the author of Genesis reports that God designed humanity to be like Him: made in His image, both male and female. Our differences were designed to complement each other and partner together. This Godlikeness might be seen in our bodies, in our creativity or in our love of community and friendship. It might even be in our ability to choose: what’s next, what’s best, what’s lovely.

The Devil has attacked humanity on every front: destroying our life and Godlikeness, complicating freedom of choice and damaging relationships. We’re not without hope though, because Jesus lived and died and then lived again to restore our Godlikeness. Our uniqueness and value are defined in Him. So though I am a bit odd and have this wonky birthday, I am celebrating (for two days!) because God has so much loved me! God loves you too!

Lili Panozzo
PPS Chaplain

Are you ready for a “Whale” of a time?
Coming up in Week 8 is WOW Week. (That’s Week of Worship). Our guest speaker is Tim Whale and he will be talking to us about our theme “Make an Impact”. There will be worship everyday with music, stories and good times.

To conclude WOW Week there will be a special church service to celebrate a great week. This program will be in the church commencing at 11.30am on Saturday, March 26. All families and friends are invited to come along.

Important Dates
Listed below are the dates of some upcoming events for this half of the year that you may want to mark on your calendars.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
<td>Friday, March 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Camps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 16 to Friday, March 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1/2</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 30 to Thursday, March 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Sunday, April 3 to Friday, April 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 12 to Friday, April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 Begins</td>
<td>Monday, May 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>Monday, June 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
<td>Monday, June 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Details
Prescott Primary Southern
140 Pimpala Road, Morphett Vale, SA 5162
Phone: (08) 8381 4290 Fax: (08) 8387 3170
Email: office@prescottsouthern.sa.edu.au
Newsletter online: www.prescott.sa.edu.au/southern
Newsletter Editor: Mitsy Bullas, please direct all enquiries to the editor.