Welcome Back

It is my pleasure to welcome all to the new year at Prescott College Southern. As a community it is a year of change…a new name, new year levels, new buildings, new grounds, new teachers….a lot for all to adjust to. At the same time the opportunities created within these changes will maximise the achievement of every student within the school.

I understand Day 1 was a success with our reception and new primary school children adjusting to the school environment and middle school students finding their way in the new facilities and following their timetables. I was missing laid up in a hospital bed, but the students and staff were certainly in my thoughts!! I have a genetic condition that results in hospitalisations from time to time and it certainly did not check with my calendar this time before it struck!! However it is great to know the students and staff are settling in well…. And thank you Mrs Michelle Meyles for holding the fort in my absence!!

Welcome to the families who have joined Prescott this year and we look forward to catching up with you over the next few weeks as we have opportunities to chat at the information nights.

Welcome New Staff

I extend a warm welcome to Scott Jacob, (Industrial Tech/ REL/ Health and PE) Charles Bosch (Science and Maths) Alana Etwell (Food Tech/ REL) and Ingrid Croft (Classroom 7). We welcome back Liz Green (Friday Classroom 1) and Linda Nakov (Music 6-8/ Ensembles / Bands).

We also have some new SSO staff who have joined us this year. Michelle Bosch is working with Gary McCarl managing the computing resources of the school, and Fiona Jacob is working as a library technician setting up resources within the library. Anne Samuel is working as a food technology assistant, and Helen Butenko as a science lab assistant, both in the Middle School.

We also have additional cleaners who have joined our team, Linda Armstrong and Jeremy Plewa.

We look forward to working with the new staff and mentoring them as they learn their new roles at Prescott College Southern. It is great to have such a wonderful team to work with.

Our Building Program

Building 2 of the Middle Year rooms is completed and students are enjoying the new facilities. The oval is completed except for the sports goals which should be available fairly soon. Building 1 is almost completed, with us expecting to be using the additional rooms by mid-term. Unfortunately there have been a few delays with some items resulting in this building not being ready at the same time as the other building. The Technology Building will be completed ready for Term 2. The permanent Year 7 buildings are expected to begin construction early in July followed by the development of the carpark, which is required to be completed by the end of this year. We thank Ron Meyles and his team of workers who worked through Christmas and New Year, taking very few days off, so the work would be completed in time for school beginning.

In Concluding…

As we begin the new year I wish to acknowledge the guidance and unending love of Jesus towards each of us and as we work together as a team my prayer is that all of us will come to know Jesus a little more and develop an important relationship with Him.

Christine Clark
From the Office...

Finishing Time Friday
Parents are reminded that school finishes at 2.30pm on Fridays, not 3.15pm which is the finishing time for Monday-Thursday.

Special Church Service Saturday, February 11
11.30am in the Church
On Saturday, February 11, a service will be held at Morphett Vale Adventist church to celebrate the beginning of a new school year and dedicate the school program to the service of God. Lili Panozzo (school chaplain) will be conducting the service. All parents and families are invited to come along and enjoy this service as we praise God for His many blessings.

School Council
Please be advised that the first meeting of the School Council for this year will be held on Monday evening, February 20 at 7.30pm in the Staff Room.

Volunteer Training Session
A training session for those people who wish to volunteer their time at the school will be held on Tuesday, February 21. This will commence at 9.00am in the Library and will go for approx. 1 hour. If you have previously completed this training it is not necessary to attend again. If you are unable to attend on this date, please leave a message at the front office. Another session may be held later in the year.

School Card
Application forms for School Card are enclosed. If you are eligible for School Card please complete the form and return to school ASAP. These forms need to be filled out every year even if you have completed one in the past. If you need more information on school card, please see Trish in the front office.

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 to school 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.

Music Forms
Also enclosed is a booklet of blue forms (for Primary students) or yellow forms (for Middle School students) relating to the various music groups and programs available for students. If your child is interested in participating in any of these programs, please complete the relevant form and return to school by the end of Week 2.

Mrs Nakov is conducting a Concert Band for the Middle School but any Primary students are welcome to join if they wish. If interested, please collect a form from the Front Office.

School Fees
Fee statements will be sent to you shortly. Your prompt payment is always appreciated.

School Newsletter
This year we are changing the process for our Newsletters. Children will be given their Newsletter with all other forms/inserts by their classroom teacher or Home Group Teacher on a Thursday each fortnight. Any important documents that previously were enclosed in the Newsletter Folder will be posted.

As a parent you are able to request the Newsletter be emailed to you, or alternatively you can download the newsletter from our school website. A form is enclosed in the Forms for 2012 booklet for you to enter your requests in this area.

Book Club
Enclosed are catalogues from Scholastic Book Club with a variety of books for all age groups. If you wish to place an order, please complete the order form and return to school (with payment) no later than Tuesday, February 14. Payment may be made in cash (correct change please), by cheque (made payable to Prescott Southern NOT Scholastic) or by credit card (follow instructions on back page). Thank you for your support as each order means the school receives additional books and resources.

Lunch Orders
Our school does not have a canteen but we are able to order lunches from the Reynella South school canteen. Parents need to supply their own paper lunch bags. Student’s name, classroom number 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 9.00am. Please note that the canteen is closed on Tuesday, so no lunch order on Tuesdays.

A new canteen price list will be enclosed in the next newsletter in Week 3.
Lunchtime Chess
Students once again have the opportunity to participate in Chess club during lunchtimes in the Library. The cost is $28 for the term. If your child wishes to participate, please complete the enclosed form and return to school by Friday, February 10. Middle School students are permitted to be part of the Advanced group if they wish.

Uniform Shop
As a school we would like to encourage 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 from 8.30-9.30am and 3.15-4.15pm & Thursday from 8.30-10.30am. 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.

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

Jars Needed
If you have any empty Moccona coffee jars (with lids) that you could donate to the school, it would be very much appreciated. They can be left at Student Reception. Thank you.

Brain Food Reminder
Each morning the Primary students are given a break to eat their brain food. This helps to enhance their concentration, therefore assisting them in being productive in the classroom.

Brain food that is acceptable includes:
Fresh, Tinned, or Dried Fruit, Veggies, Cheese

Food not acceptable includes:
Yoghurt, Cheese snacks with biscuits, Muesli Bars, Roll-ups, Packet of chips
Please ensure your child has brain food every day.

After School Sports
Our school is once again offering an After School Sports program on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons for the Primary students. There is no cost to parents and children will be supervised by a staff member, while being taught skills by qualified instructors.

The sports being offered in Term 1 include Cricket on Wednesdays and Soccer on Thursdays, commencing in Week 3. If your child is interested in participating, please complete the enclosed consent form (both sides of page) and return to school immediately.

To participate, all students must be registered with OSHC but will not be charged OSHC fees if collected by 4.30pm. 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.

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.

Term 1 Timetable
Week 2 Full School Classroom 5 & 8
Week 3 Junior Classroom 10 & 11
Week 4 Full School Classroom 4
Week 5 Junior Classroom 3
Week 6 Full School Classroom 6
Week 7 No Assembly Public Holiday
Week 8 Full School Classroom 7
Week 9 Junior Classroom 1 & 2
Week 10 Full School Classroom 9

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Listening to Children Read
Parent Information Session
Tuesday, February 28
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.

Care of Animals
The animals have moved to new outdoor cages on the edge of the OSHC oval. The rabbit and guinea pig will still need carers at the weekends. If your family is able to help, please complete the enclosed form and return to school ASAP. A roster will then be organised. Also, the rabbit and guinea pig would appreciate any food scraps you can send. Most fruit and vegetables are suitable except for white vegetables like potato, onion, cauliflower. Brown bread is suitable too.

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.

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

From the Middle School...

Parent Information Night—Middle School
Wednesday, February 8
Parents are invited to come along on Wednesday, February 8 and meet as one group for an information session. This will be your opportunity to meet the Middle School teachers. The meeting will be held in the Library at 7.30pm, followed by supper and a chance to chat. We would encourage as many parents as possible to attend.

Kids Canteen
Middle School students can order noodles for lunch or place a lunch order through Student Reception. Ice creams & ice blocks as well as chocolate snacks are available to purchase from Student Reception at lunchtime.
Ice Blocks 50c
Ice Creams $1.00
Chocolate 50c—$1.00
Noodles $2.00 (Chicken or Beef)

Lost Property
There are some Year 7 jumpers from last year left in Student Reception. If yours has gone missing, come and check with Mrs Miles in the Primary Student Reception.

From the Chaplain...

A note from your friendly neighbourhood Chaplain
I’m really glad the first day of Term 1 was cool: it was bad enough melting and sweltering at home. But melting and sweltering at school would have been fifty times worse! Especially as our first worship with the Middle School was a funeral.
At first it seemed a bit confusing for the students, excited and nervous as they were about what the day would bring. But let me explain; bear with me, I think you will see it’s not as odd as it sounds.
I wonder how many times you’ve told yourself “I can’t…” I can’t understand, I’m not good enough to succeed, I don’t know how. Perhaps though, you have heard others tell you that you can’t or are not good enough. If we’re honest, we might even admit there have been times we have told others that they simply are not up to scratch.
In 1962, a record company executive dismissed a young band saying, “We don’t like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out.” The Beatles then went on to record some 275 songs, including 27 worldwide number 1 hits, 18 number ones in the UK and 20 in America. Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak (founders of Apple), were told “We don’t need you. You haven’t even finished college yet.” Their personal computers have impacted how we use computer technology, music and phones… Albert Einstein is considered one of the most creative brains in science, though his dad is said to have remarked about him, “It doesn’t matter what he does, he will never amount to much.”
“I can’ts” do not have the power to decide what we can achieve or how much we can do. But they are powerful in limiting us from trying or doing. So, today we had a funeral for the “I can’ts” of Year 7 and 8. We wrote them down, put them in a little box and said goodbye. Hopefully forever. The reason for this is simple. God says he has created each individual human as his own masterpiece." 

EPHESIANS 2:10. God assures us too that he knows us, inside and out. "PSALM 139. And putting our mistakes behind him, into the deepest part of the ocean, into the furthest place where they will be forgotten. God says, "I know the plans I have for you – to give you a future with hope!" JEREMIAH 29:11.
This year, I challenge you not to let your “I can’t”’s limit you. You can do amazing things because you are a unique and amazing individual. But even more, I want to challenge you to seek God with all your strength and energy, with your imagination and your heart! And as always, I am more than happy to meet, chat and pray with you about this or anything.
Have a great year!
Lili Panozzo
PCS Chaplain