National Year of Reading
This year celebrates the National Year of Reading, where as a country we no doubt will be hearing about the importance of reading for all. The statistics are sobering when one considers the number of Australians who struggle to meet the demands of everyday life and work due to their reading difficulties. The Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey 2006 (www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@nsf/mf/4228.0) indicates that 46% of Australians cannot read a newspaper, follow a recipe or make sense of a timetable.

As a school we are continually challenged as we help those children who struggle to achieve literacy skills. For those of you who are parents of children who struggle with literacy, you would understand the hard work that is needed to help them in their reading…. and you know that school is just not enough on its own to make it happen. Often these children need more time due to their need for more intensive work in achieving literacy, yet at the same time often for them it is very hard work and they would prefer to be doing the other subjects eg Theme, Art etc that they are withdrawn from for intensive support. It does become a balancing act as a school!!

As parents you are a key person in supporting your child in their literacy development and I would encourage all to take the time to regularly do Reading Homework with your child. For some parents, who did not have difficulties in learning to read at school, yet now have a child who struggles, it can be a real challenge to not be frustrated by their slow progression in some of the basics. However, having been on this journey as a parent, I would encourage you to keep working at it, as one day your child will thank you that they can read the newspaper due to the sacrifices that you made as a parent to help them in their learning.

Volunteer Training Session
As a school we value the role that Volunteers play in supporting the children in their learning. However we also know the importance of ensuring that all parents/carers know the correct procedures working within a school and this session will give people an understanding of what is required for working at Prescott. We look forward to your involvement.

In Concluding…
There are a few families within our community who are currently dealing with health issues and we know that this is a difficult time for them. It is at these times that we can find support in God who helps us to cope when things seem hard to deal with. He has promised to be our strength and my prayer is that you will find a peace knowing God loves and cares for you at this time.

Christine Clark
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 be held at 9.00am in the Library for approx. 1 hour. If you have previously complete this training, it is not necessary to attend again.

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, including the form that nominates your preference for printed or emailed newsletters. If the form is not returned you will automatically receive a printed copy. 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.

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 child who does not have a hat will be required to remain in shaded areas only. Names on hats and other uniform items will assist us in returning lost items to their owners.

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. Please note that the canteen in closed on Tuesdays.

Koorong Kids
Enclosed is a catalogue from Koorong Christian Books. There is a variety of books, CDs/DVDs and other items at discount prices. If you wish to place an order, please complete the order form and return to school by Thursday, March 8. Payment is by cash or cheque only (cheques made payable to Prescott Southern). Thank you for your support as the school gets to keep 10% of all orders.

Music Forms
If students haven’t returned their Music Forms to school yet, please do so ASAP! Blue forms are for Primary school and Yellow for Middle School.

Volunteer Cinema Day 2012
As a special thank you to volunteers throughout the community, the City of Onkaparinga we will host a Volunteer Cinema Day on Monday, May 14 at the Wallis Noarlunga Cinema Centre.

Movies will be screened at 10am, 12.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm. 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 27. Your ticket and movie guide will be sent to you before the movie day.

Spring Bulbs
Our first fundraiser for the year will once again be the Spring Bulbs from Garden Express. Enclosed you will find a Spring Bulb catalogue and order form. You have the opportunity to collect orders so that 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 16. 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.
From the Primary School...

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.

Clean Up Australia Day
On Friday, March 2 the students will have the opportunity to do something positive for the environment by participating in the Clean Up Australia campaign. Each class will be responsible for cleaning up a particular area around the school and church. Please send a plastic bag and gloves for your child to use during the clean up. This activity will encourage the children to consider our impact on the environment.

Pupil Free Day
Please mark on your calendars that Friday, March 9 will be a Pupil Free Day. OSHC will be operating, but bookings are essential. This will make it an extra long weekend as the following Monday (March 12) is the Adelaide Cup Public Holiday.

SRC Representatives
Congratulations on the students who have been nominated for SRC reps for Term 1. We look forward to hearing your ideas and strategies for improving the school.

President           Sophie Williams
Vice President       Cooper Manns
Representatives for Term 1
Classroom 3   Anne Hanna & Tyler Singer
Classroom 4    Charlotte Clarke & George Oram
Classroom 5    Neve Frankland & Jonathon Dimian
Classroom 6    Jacob Freeman & Emma Oram
Classroom 7    Brianna Beck & Blade Young
Classroom 8    Henry Buckley & Lucabella Clifford

Meetings will be held fortnightly on Thursday during lunch eating and a small part of lunch play. Students were awarded their badges at Combined Worship in this week. Middle School students will meet fortnightly on the alternate Thursday.

Regards,
Kathy Drillis
Counsellor/SRC Coordinator

From the Middle School...

School Camps
Most of the classes will be going on camp later this term. Details about each camp will be sent home by the classroom teachers soon. The dates for the camps are as follows:
Grade 6  Kangaroo Island  March 13—16
Grade 5  Mount Gambier    March 13—16
Grade 3 & 4 Wellington  March 14—16
Grade 1 & 2  Narnu Farm  March 15—16
The Reception class will be having a sleep-over in the Church foyer on Thursday, March 15.

School Bags
For those who need to purchase a Prescott School Bag, more stock has arrived and is now available in the Uniform Shop. These bags are $50 each.

School Captains
Congratulations to Jinae Baker and Jordan Bigatton who have been elected by the students as the Middle School’s School Captains for 2012

Year 8 Immunisations
The 2012 SA School Based Immunisation Program will be offered at our school by the City of Onkaparinga. The program consists of three school visits and provides vaccination for hepatitis B, varicella (chicken pox) and cervical cancer (girls only) for Year 8 students.

Hepatitis B is a 2 dose course with an interval of 4-6 months between 1st & 2nd doses. Varicella vaccine (one injection) is for students under 14 years who have not had chicken pox disease. Cervical cancer vaccine (Gardasil) is offered to girls and consists of 3 doses to protect against the Human Papilloma Virus.

Immunisation consent forms will be sent home closer to the date which are to be completed and returned to school regardless of whether your student needs to be immunised. If your child is not vaccinated at school, they can go to a council immunisation clinic or the doctor.

Visits to our school have been arranged for the following dates:
1st Visit     March 27
2nd Visit     June 5
3rd Visit     September 11
From Mrs Nakov

**Vocal Ensemble** will now be held on Wednesday afternoons 3.15—4.15pm (not Wednesday mornings). Rehearsals will be held in the Music room starting in Week 4 (February 22). Students who would like to join can leave their name at Student Reception.

**Concert Band** will be during Wednesday lunchtime and the first rehearsal will be in Week 5 (February 29). Please remember to bring your instrument to school (keyboard, guitar & drums supplied). A reminder that primary school students are welcome to join Concert Band provided they are already having private music lessons on their instrument.

**Musical rehearsals** will not be starting in Week 4. Your students will be informed ASAP of a starting time. When rehearsals do start, they will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 3.15-4.15pm. Great to see lots of registrations already and looking forward to starting performance rehearsals very soon!

**Private Instrumental Tuition**—Your forms have been passed on to the music tutor of your instrument choice. The tutor will be in contact with you very soon to begin lessons (unless they have already).

Students will now be able to check weekly information regarding the different music groups by reading ‘Music News’, found on the side of the Music classroom window.

Thank you for your patience and support while all aspects of the middle school music program is getting developed.

Mrs Linda Nakov
lnakov@prescottsouthern.sa.edu.au

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From the Chaplain...

“Hi!” from your friendly neighbourhood Chaplain!

Once upon a time long, long ago in a land far, far away lived a handsome prince. He could travel the universe, was able to create technology nobody had ever thought of before and his wealth was bigger than all the banks (and all the loans) in the world. The prince had an enemy, a man whose anger and jealousy had grown big enough to inspire him to destroy everything the prince had ever made or loved.

Now the prince had a not-so-secret love which the enemy tried with all his strength to destroy. Whenever his love was in danger, the prince took great risks to defeat the enemy: always hoping the enemy would remember a time they had been friends and change his angry plan. But the enemy would not. As most love stories go, the love was in terrible danger when the prince dramatically appeared: he pushed his love out of the way, faced the enemy and painfully died. Protecting his love the prince seemed to lose the fight. But before he died he said, “I must go. But if I go – I will return, to take you away to be with me again. Forever!” *John 14*

It sounds a little bit like a movie, and maybe that’s because all love stories are based on the original epic tale of Jesus’s love for humanity and on his devoted battle with Satan to save us. If it were a Hollywood movie, there would probably be a scene where even though you thought he had died, the hero would reappear (maybe looking a little bit worn or bruised) to claim his loved one or the prize he had been fighting for. The difference with the story of Jesus is this: when he reappears, he will be perfect! And he will keep his promise to return and change this sad world.

I hope that there are parts of this story that inspire you or challenge you. I hope that you might be waiting for the day the ultimate, heavenly Hero returns. I’d love to talk with you about it – drop by my office (Room 14) or email lpanozzo@prescottsouthern.sa.edu.au anytime!

God bless your family,

*Lili Panozzo*

*Prescott College Southern Chaplain*