From the Principal

Book Week is just 2 weeks away and our Library Reference Committee have been working hard to make this a great week for all. There will be an opportunity for children to be involved in a competition, participate in a performance, support the fundraiser lunch for the library on Thursday and dress up in their favourite book character. You will find all the details enclosed in this newsletter.

For some children, reading does not bring the enjoyment that we would hope as educators and parents, but rather is a difficult process of decoding with the child obtaining no happiness from the experience. Assessing the cause for the difficulties some children face can be a challenge and often involves a process of elimination of possible contributing factors. Over the past few weeks I have been spending time looking at the development of some children who seem to be struggling with the achievement of the basic skills for reading and have been particularly assessing children for indications of Irlen Syndrome. This is a visual perception condition that affects some children and affects their ability particularly in the areas of reading and writing. While its exact causes are not understood, it appears that for some children they require colour to facilitate processing by altering the timing of visual inputs to the brain. A number of children have now been diagnosed and the benefits for these children have been pleasing. Symptoms for some children may include headaches, light sensitivity or them stating to you as parents they feel there is something wrong with their eyes, but the optometrist indicates all is fine. Please feel free to contact me if this applies to your child and we can follow through with an assessment. Irlen syndrome may not apply to your child, and the challenge lies in determining the contributing factors for children and assisting them in overcoming these obstacles to achieve literacy to an appropriate level and find enjoyment in Reading.

Our Book Week Fair will provide opportunity for you as parents to purchase books for your child and/or donate a book to the school library. Thank you for your support of Book Week and we look forward to your involvement as parents in this program.

Have a great week

Mrs Christine Clark
COMING EVENTS

Book Week
Book Week is coming up in Week 5, so book now for the READ of your life! As usual there will be a Book Fair in the Library each day and you will have the opportunity to purchase some great books and other items. Thursday’s Fundraiser Lunch will be organised by the Library Committee and parents are invited to order their lunch and join us for a sausage sizzle. For more details see the back page.

Pupil Free Day—Show Holiday
Please mark on your calendars that Wednesday, September 6 is our annual Royal Show Holiday. OSHC will be visiting the Royal Show for the day. Booking forms are enclosed and need to be returned by Friday, August 25 so the appropriate number of staff can be arranged.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

School Photos
This year our School Photos will be taken on Tuesday, August 29. Please ensure that your child is dressed in complete, clean and correct winter uniform (including a jumper). If you need any uniform items, please visit the Uniform Shop BEFORE photo day. The Uniform Shop is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8.45-9.15am and 3.00-3.30pm.

If you wish to purchase photos you must return the envelope that was sent home in the last newsletter. No envelope—No photo! All envelopes with payment enclosed must be returned to school by Friday, August 18. No envelopes can be accepted after this date, nor on photo day; so please attend to this matter NOW. Please take the time to read all the relevant information on the envelopes and check the spelling of names. Thank you for your cooperation to ensure a smooth running photo day.

After School Sport Pickup
Parents are reminded that when they collect their children from the After School Sport program they must sign their child out, so we can keep track of who has been collected. Thank you for your cooperation.

OSHC at the Royal Show
This year OSHC will again be making its annual trip to the Royal Adelaide Show on Wednesday, September 6 which is a Pupil Free Day. For some children this day is the only opportunity to go to the show, and in the past (this is our 8th year) we have had a great day. The day is charged as a Pupil Free Day ($25 before CCB). We recommend that children bring a packed lunch in disposable containers as they will be carrying their own bag around all day on this excursion, children who bring money to buy lunch can only buy their lunch at the designated lunch time. Parents need to pay their child’s admission plus a small charge for the bus ($12 per child).

Children are allowed to buy a maximum of two showbags each (at their own cost) which need to be chosen before we depart OSHC on the morning of the excursion. Children will not be going into the showbag hall (two staff members will be buying the showbags during the children’s lunch break). Children will be carrying their own showbags around after lunch.

As this is a venue where there are high volumes of people we take as many OSHC staff as we can and split into smaller groups. This day is always lots of fun, we are however very strict on behaviour on this day, this is for the safety of the children in our care. Children who attend this excursion need to be on their best behaviour therefore if you have any doubts about your child’s ability to follow carer’s instructions please do not send your child to OSHC on this day.

We will be departing OSHC at 9am and returning at approx. 4.30pm. Please sign and return the consent form by Friday, August 25. A returned consent form will count as a booking. Any cancellations need to be made by 6.30pm the day before the excursion or an Allowable Absence will be charged. Please see Donna Kellow for more information.

Premiers Reading Challenge
How is your reading going? There are just 4 weeks left to complete your reading. All completed forms must be returned to Mrs Street by Friday, Sept. 8 (end of Week 7). If forms are not returned by this date then the children will miss out on receiving their medals, so get those forms in. Thank you.
Concert Costumes
Students have received instructions as to what costumes they will need for our annual school concert. We would appreciate parents assisting with the smooth running of concert by organising their child’s costume as soon as possible. Also, Mrs Crowe needs any plastic milk crates that you may have to use in the concert. If you can donate or lend any milk crates, please see Mrs Crowe.

**FUNDRAISING**

Chocolate Drive
Our annual Chocolate Drive is off to a good start. The funds raised will be for the renovations of Classroom 3 & 4. It would be great if each family could sell at least one box. If you are able to sell more, please hand in money from boxes already sold and then you will be able to collect more boxes from the front office. The first 84 students to return their money will receive a Cadbury pencil with Freddo rubber. The 3 families who sell the most boxes will each receive a wonderful prize basket.

All money must be returned to the front office by Friday, September 1. Any unsold chocolate will not be accepted after this day, only the equivalent in money. Thank you for your support and we look forward to another successful year for our Chocolate Drive.

Classroom Fundraiser Lunches
Don’t forget the Fundraiser Lunches each Thursday. Order forms are sent home each week and need to be returned by the due date. Any help with either donations or your time would be greatly appreciated. Please watch your child’s diary/communication book for details.

Fathers Day Stall
The first Sunday in September is Fathers Day. We will be holding our annual Fathers Day Stall during Week 6 (28 August—1 September). Don’t forget to come and visit our stall.

Helpers to Wrap Gifts
We need to call upon those parents who are willing to volunteer a little of their time to wrap gifts for the Fathers Day Stall. If you can help, please meet in the OSHC building on Tuesday, August 22 at 9.00am. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Marine Mammal Protection
Madeleine Caines, from Mrs Newbold’s class, would like to share the following:

Whales and dolphins are being killed needlessly every year in Australian waters. Australia’s Federal environment laws are not able to properly protect our whales and dolphins. Every day they face being entangled, drowned, contaminated, harassed, starved and evicted from where they feed, breed and take shelter.

This is your chance to show you care about whales and dolphins. Support the campaign for a Marine Mammal Protection Act to help safeguard their future. Take action today be sending an email letter to the Prime Minister of Australia and the environment minister.

To send email to the Hon John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia: you need to use the electronic form on his web page (as there is no direct email address). It’s quick and easy to use and emails to the PM will make all the difference. Go to http://www.pm.gov.au/email.cfm. You can also help all the animals by recycling and not littering. Thank you, Madeleine.

Noarlunga Little Athletics
For ages 3-16 yrs Girls and Boys held at Wirreanda High School Oval every Sunday from 9.15am. Contact Clint & Renee Irvine on 8325 0466 or visit the website at www.noarlungalac.com.

Come n Try is $5 per child for 1 week (this comes off full season registration). Full Season Registration is $50 for one child, $90 for two and $120 for 3 or more. Season runs from September to April.

The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little EXTRA.

The greatest things in the world were accomplished by ordinary people with some extraordinary ideas.
Announcing Book Week
To be held in Week 5
August 21–August 25 in the Library

Book Week Competition
Closing date Friday, August 18 (Week 4)

Design your own book cover!

• You can be as crazy or as conservative as you like.
• You may like to design a different cover for your favourite story.
• You may like to design the cover for a story you have written.

1st Prize: $10 Book Voucher
2nd Prize: Stationery Voucher
(There will be a 1st and 2nd prize for each classroom)

So BOOK NOW and let your imagination be your guide.

Parent/Grandparent Invitation
to a Book Week Sausage Sizzle!

Come and join the students to celebrate

Book Week 2006
with a lunchtime sausage sizzle

When: Thursday, August 24
Time: 1.00pm

Sausage Sizzle order forms will be sent home in the usual format where you can mark how many sausages, drinks and Freddo frogs you’d like to purchase.

So come and join in the fun of Book Week!

But wait, there’s more!
The SRC is organising a Fancy Dress Parade for Friday, August 25. Students are encouraged to come dressed up as their favourite book character. It will be great fun!

A special guest will be visiting on Thursday, August 24 with a fun presentation for the children.

Don’t forget the Book Fair where you can purchase something special for your own library and you can buy a book and donate it to the school library for all to enjoy.

A percentage of all Book Fair sales goes to the school so more library books can be purchased, so your support is appreciated.

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.prescottsouthern.sa.edu.au
Newsletter Editor—Mitsy Bullas        Please direct all enquiries to the editor