



Mulga Street Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Mulga Street, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Phone - 87259955

Thursday February 16 2017

Visit our web site at: www.mulgaps.sa.edu.au

Newsletter No.2

Dear Parents/Caregivers

As the term has progressed various unknown roles and positions have been confirmed with staffing. Tamarin Condon has been appointed as the Deputy Principal for the year and Alison Martin has been appointed as the Aboriginal Education Teacher. Both staff have experience in these roles and I am sure that they will be a valuable asset to the leadership team.

This Friday is a pupil free day as the staff work with Mike Chartres in the area of Mathematics. It is important for children to know number deeply, like they know the letters and sounds of the alphabet. It is also important to remember that we are not born with or without a maths brain. We learn maths like we learn to read and write, with effort and practice. Children who have proficiency in literacy and maths are far more likely to have better life prospects.

Mardi McClintock
Principal

Tamarin Condon
Deputy Principal

PUPIL FREE DAY - 17th FEBRUARY 2017

A reminder to all families that **Friday, 17th February** is a pupil free day where students do not come to school. On the day Mulga Street Staff will be participating in training and development in the area of numeracy.

IMPORTANT DATES

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| 17 th Feb | Student Free Day |
| 21 st Feb | Acquaintance Night/Governing Council AGM |
| 20 th Feb – 3 rd March | Swimming |
| 24 th Feb | 2 nd Payment M&S Fees Due |
| 13 th March | Adelaide Cup Holiday |
| 15 th March | Noorla Yo Long Excursion |
| 17 th March | 8.45am Parent Club Meeting |
| 22 nd March | Harmony Day |
| 24 th March | Final Payment M&S Fee Due |
| 24 th March | MP (Yrs 4/5) Assembly 2.30pm |
| 29 th March | EY (Yrs R/1) Assembly 12pm |
| 3 rd April – 7 th April | Footsteps |
| 6 th April | R-3 Disco |
| 4 th April – 7 th April | Year 7 Acquatic Camp |

- 11th April
- 12th April
- 13th April

- JP (Yrs 2/3) Assembly 2pm
- MS (Yrs 6/7) Assembly 2.15pm
- Term 1 Ends Early Dismissal 2.15pm

- 14th April
- 1st May

- Good Friday Holiday
- Term 2 Begins

WELCOME

We welcome the following students to Mulga Street PS in 2017, including 40 new Reception students and we hope their time with us is both educationally rewarding and enjoyable:

Chanel, Haden, Blu Nay Say, Paw Paw, Holly, Atticus, Jeda-Anne, Henry, Shaun, Aaliyah, Tanner, Blaze, Blade, Emalee, Jack, Sway, Nicholas, Sophie, Harmonee, Harper, Blake, Kiara, Arabella, Miah, Arrabell, Jackson, Sienna, Dylan, Jamyson, Ezekiel, Aiden, Heidi, Ava, Braxton, Laura, Chris, Mia, Zavier, Elijah, Blake, Trey, Tyler, Patience, Isla, Logan, Claudia, Caleb, Madie and Elijah

Acquaintance Night/School AGM

We invite all parents to attend the Parent Acquaintance Night followed by our Annual General Meeting of Governing Council to be held **next Tuesday, 21st February between 5.30pm-6:30pm**. This time is for parents and teachers to get together informally to meet and greet one another and explore ways both can work in partnership to support student learning.

This year each family will receive a School Family Passport for the evening. The passport will contain 8 areas in the school to visit during the evening and collect a stamp. Once completed, the passports can be placed in a box in the library. 4 passports will be drawn out at the AGM to win a variety of prizes, kindly donated by the following businesses:

Collins Court Butchers, She's Apples, Mulga Street School Governing Council We look forward to seeing families on the night and good luck!

Class Learning Plans will be available for all families at Acquaintance Night. These plans reflect much of the learning that has occurred during the weeks of Quality



Start. The plans will be a valuable resource for finding out about your child's class expectations and how the class will run during the year.

Please make an effort to come and meet your child /children's teachers. We view this as the first stage of providing information to assist student learning and well being in 2017. Please come along and see the work your children have been involved in from the beginning of the year.

A sausage sizzle will be operating at a cost of \$1.00 a sausage.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Tuesday, February 21st 6:45PM

To be held in the library

An invitation is extended to parents to join the Governing Council for the Annual General Meeting which will be held in the library.

Brief reports will be followed by the election of Council members for 2017. The Governing Council plays a vital role in the future directions and decision making within the school.

I urge all parents to consider becoming part of this body by nominating for one of the vacancies that exist. Nomination reply slips are included in this newsletter, please return them to school by Monday Feb. 20th.

We thank the following members who have completed their tenure, or whose children have left the school or who have resigned, for their contributions throughout the last two years and encourage them to also consider renominating:

1 Year remaining

Mario Persello

Tim Hann

Craig Richards

Russell Scott

Eion Williamson

Completed term

Charlie Simpson

Andrew Hughes

Steven Reid

Simone Badenoch

Angela Barnes

GOVERNING COUNCIL REPLY SLIP

I wish to nominate for Governing Council in 2017.

Name:

Phone contact:

Please complete the nomination slip and return to the Front Office by Monday 20th February if you would like to become a member of the school Governing Council.

MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGE

A reminder that the Materials & Services Charge (school fees) are now due.

If you have not applied for School Card and believe you may be eligible, please collect a School Card form from the Front Office. School Card must be applied for every year.

Thank you to those families who have made arrangements with the school to pay the fees by instalment.

If you wish to pay by instalment please speak to Sue Shaw (Finance Officer) ASAP. Please do not hesitate to contact Sue if you have any issues in regard to the payment of school fees.

BANK DETAILS

Account Name: Mulga Street Primary School Council Inc

Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 065-504

Account Number: 10362131

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Not Sure Who to Ask?

There are times when things can go wrong in any school. Teachers are human beings and suffer the same frustrations, and difficulties as other members of our species.

A parent may be aware of what seems to be an act of significant insensitivity or even injustice, an inappropriate consequence or inadequate learning opportunities – and feel that he or she must do something about it. Here are some ideas that may be worth considering when about to approach the school or a teacher with a problem of some kind.

- 1. Keep an open mind. You may not have all the facts. The first task is to seek clarification.*
- 2. Don't begin your search for a solution by sending an angry letter to the teacher or principal. The normal human response is to be defensive.*
- 3. Make an appointment, or at least think carefully about the best time to make contact. For example, it would be most inappropriate to interrupt a class or to catch the teacher while he or she is busy teaching or organising learning tasks in the morning.*
- 4. Approach the teacher or principal in a friendly manner. Adopt the attitude that there is a misunderstanding we need to clear up or a problem we need to solve together.*
- 5. Begin by expressing an overall appreciation of the work being done, or at least, an understanding of the difficulties.*



Safety, Trust, Respect



6. Remember the challenge is for two people, with shared hopes for this particular student, to solve a problem in a way which benefits everyone.
7. Try to avoid "going over people's heads" with a complaint. Once you have done this, it is very hard to re-establish a trusting relationship.
8. If, after a little time, it appears everything has been sorted out, you might write a note of appreciation to the teacher or principal and offer continuing support. This strengthens the partnership between home and school.

(from "Parents Teachers Partners" by Barry Dwyer)

All students in the school are taught a grievance procedure for any personal concerns or issues that they may wish to raise.

Students can raise general school matters at their regular class meetings or through their Student Councils.

All personal matters should be raised directly with the school through the class teacher or Principal in a confidential manner.

Social Media is not the forum to raise concerns or express grievances.

This can give a very one sided view, without all the information and is not respectful towards all parties nor does it provide the opportunity to resolve matters in a open- minded manner.

PARENT CLUB NEWS

The Parent Club is up and running again for 2017. Following the AGM the committee positions are:
 Co-Presidents - Bec Radford & Lana Trnovsky
 Secretary - Sara Hewitson
 Treasurer - Renae Lowe
 Committee members - Aimee Smith, Paula Williamson, Rachel Gunn and a very warm welcome to our two new members Caroline Childs and Helen Egan.

Our first event for the year will be a Sausage Sizzle at the Acquaintance Night. Sausages and drinks are \$1 each. Please come along, say Hi and grab a sausage or two for tea.



The first fundraiser will be Donut King. Please support our fundraiser's where ever possible as the funds raised are returned to the students as support for camps/ buses/ excursions and classroom needs etc.

The next Parent Club meeting will be held on Friday 17th March at 8.45am in the Large art Room. New members are always welcome so please put this in your diaries.

We still have some vacancies for Breakfast Club. This is every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you can offer help between 7:45 and 9:00, or even a part of this time or just to help with dishes, it would be very appreciated.

MSPS TRACK PANTS



For anyone wanting to order Mulga Street Primary School tracksuit pants for this term, we will be taking orders up until **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17th (END OF WEEK 3)**. They are \$35.00 a pair. Please contact front office staff. We will order each term.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Premier's Reading Challenge has commenced for this year with Mr Weatherill challenging students to read



twelve books to complete the challenge by September 9th. Information about the challenge is available from the website www.prc.sa.edu.au. Last year our school had 64% participation. This meant that 284 children out of 407 received reading challenge medals. Our goal for this year is to improve by 15% to 85%. Please encourage your children to participate and complete the challenge. If you have any questions please ask Karen in the Library.

Scholastic Book Club

Students receive catalogues twice a term. There are books for all budgets, ideal for gifts and to encourage children to read. Orders placed earn rewards that are used to purchase books for our library. If you have any questions please ask Karen in the Library.



SUSTAINABILITY



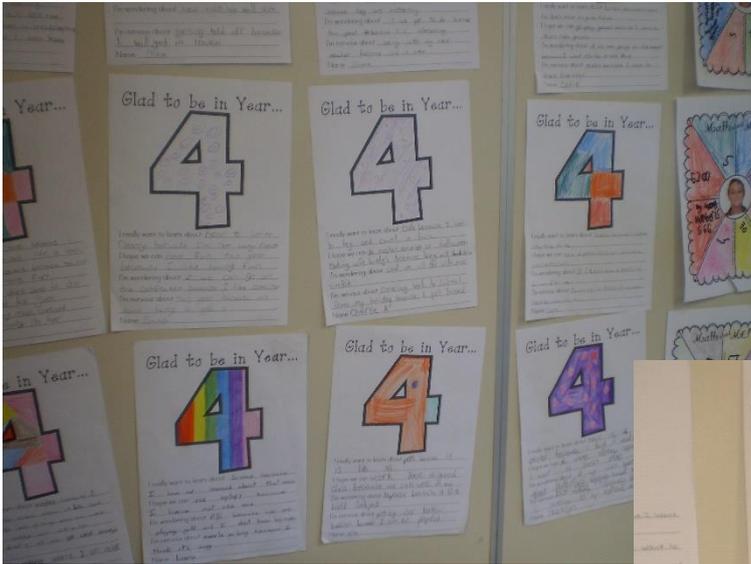
- What to recycle where –
- Batteries** eg nickel cadmium, alkaline, AA, 6V etc – Mount Gambier Library, Mount Gambier Waste Transfer Centre, South East Battery Service
 - Bubble Wrap** – recycling bin
 - Coffee Cups** eg disposable cardboard – recycling bin
 - Food Scraps** – organics bin, home compost, worm farm
 - Stamps (Postage)** – Baptist Church



Safety, Trust, Respect



LC 11's Quality Start to 2017



In LC11 we have been setting up our classroom for a great year. We looked at why we come to school, what we will need to do in order to make our class run smoothly and what will we need to do in order to be successful. We also learnt about the members of our class.

