Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all students and families. It has been great to see all the students back at school this week. Each year brings a new sense of excitement and it has been positive to see the students show enthusiasm in moving into a new year level and for some of them, a new classroom.

We start the term with 74 students with our class and teaching arrangements for this year being:

- Junior Primary (Reception – Yr 1): 25 students Teacher: Ben Savage.
- Middle Primary (Yr 2, 3 & 4): 28 students Teacher: Judy Harradine/Shirley Hogg (Fridays).
- Upper Primary (Yr 5, 6 & 7): 21 students Teacher: Emmanuelle Pratt.

We welcome the following families who are joining our school community: Earl (Kylie, Year 1 & Jeremy, Year 2), Lamb (Lillie, Reception, Alex, Year 2 & Isabella, Year 3), Munn (Morgan, Reception), Peucker (Eva, Reception), Millard (Jordan, Year 3 & Harrison, Year 6), Earl (Bonnita, Reception) and Work (Jocelyn, Year 2). Also beginning school for the first time this week is Patrick Robinson. We trust their time with us will be enjoyable and rewarding for them.

Along with welcoming the families mentioned above we also welcome Mrs Pratt to her role as Upper Primary Teacher this year.

Our SSO staffing for this year is:

- Judy Lacey (Administration/Finance)
- Annette Hopgood (Library and Classroom Support)
- Jill Gilmore (Classroom Support)
- Angela Beltakis (Classroom Support)
- Vanessa Lassaline (Classroom Support)
- Bronwyn Clode (Classroom Support)
- Evan Dent (ICT Support)
- Robyn Mason (Student Welfare Worker)
- Patrick Dean (Grounds)

Once again I am looking forward to a positive year for our school. I look forward to working with the school community in 2013 and striving to provide a great learning environment for our students. At any time during the year I encourage you to talk to myself and our teachers about your child, their learning and any concerns that you may have.

Regards,

Stephen

The above JP students started school for the first time this week. Absent: Bonnita.
DATES TO REMEMBER

February
- Thursday 7th: Parent Club meeting, 9am.
- Monday 11th: Acquaintance Night BBQ from 5.30pm.
- Classroom Visits. AGM 7.30pm. Governing Council meeting to follow.
- Tuesday 12th: Assembly, 3.00pm.
- Thursday 14th: Parent Club ‘Welcome’ morning tea, 9am.
- Choir begins, 2-3pm.
- Friday 15th: Issue 1 Book Club closing date.
- Monday 18th: Swimming lessons commence.

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A combined Acquaintance Night and AGM will occur on Monday February 11th. This year we are changing the format of the evening to allow parents and teachers an opportunity to meet during a specific time. The times for each class are as follows:
- Upper Primary 5.30 – 5.50pm
- Middle Primary 5.50 – 6.10pm
- Junior Primary 6.10 – 6.30pm

Families are welcome to access the BBQ at any stage, either before their class visit or immediately afterwards. The AGM will commence at 7.30pm and the first council meeting of the year will follow after this has been held.

ASSEMBLY ARRANGEMENTS FOR TERM 1

Our first assembly of the term will be held on Tuesday February 12th at 3pm, with future assemblies being in Week 6 (Tuesday March 5th) and Week 9 (Monday March 25th). All families are welcome to join us.

HOLIDAY HELP

Thankyou to the families that assisted with looking after the chooks during the holiday break and also the parents that assisted in the yard clean and removing the tree limbs. Your help is much appreciated.

SWIMMING AND MATERIAL & SERVICES FEES

Invoices have been sent home today for Swimming and Materials and Services Fees. Please ensure these are paid by the due date. These can be paid at the front office by cash or cheque or if you wish to directly deposit these payments into the school account please see Judy for bank details. If you have any concerns over the payment of these amounts please let us know.

Swimming fees will need to be paid prior to the lessons commencing in Week 4. If your family has a season pass to the Aquatic Centre can you please contact us because this will impact on the cost of swimming lessons.

Families that feel that they may be entitled to School Card are asked to call into the front office and collect the application forms and details as soon as possible. For eligible families the School Card Scheme supports families with the cost of materials and services fees.

STUDENT & FAMILY INFORMATION

We are currently updating family and student information. If any details such as contact phone numbers, emergency contacts and student health needs need updating please ensure that you provide this information to the school as soon as possible.

Respect - Participation - Success
GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR 2013
Following the AGM our first Governing Council meeting will be held. If you are interested in nominating for Governing Council this year please register your interest by returning the attached reply slip with this newsletter. We are also seeking nominations for the positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson (other council roles will be filled on the night).

Governing Council Member Information

Continuing members for this year:
George Beck
Anne Gaffney
Michael Kirby

Members whose tenure finished in 2012:
Scott Baldock
Rob Harding
Judi Paul
Mark Robinson
Tim Scanlon
Scott Simpson

Retiring members:
Gene Lassaline
Fiona Pearson

SWIMMING
All students will commence swimming lessons on Monday February 18th at the Aquatic Centre. Year 3-7 students participate in 2 weeks of lessons whilst Rec – Yr 2 students have 1 week of lessons. However, in the past, R - 2 students have been given an opportunity to use the pool for a second week through parents volunteering to supervise the students (an instructor is not present and parents coordinate the activities). If you are able to help out please return the reply slip as soon as possible.
Lessons for all students are from 1.30pm – 2.15pm.

STUDENT PROFILES
A regular feature of our newsletters are ‘student profiles’. Student profiles ‘spotlight’ our students whereby each fortnight 3 students are interviewed by an SSO to find out such things as their interests, hobbies and what they like doing at school. A photo of the child also accompanies their information which is then sent home to all families in our newsletter. Students enjoy reading one another’s profile information and it also provides a positive way of getting to know our students at Mil Lel. We request that families let us know if they do not wish their child to be featured in a Student Profile. Even though our newsletter is available on our school website the student profile information is not put on the website. Examples of last year’s profiles are displayed in our Library area if you would like to see what the final format looks like.

T-BALL INFORMATION
A T-ball competition for boys and girls in years 3 to 5 will be run in Term 1.
Games will be played on Friday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. The first game is on February 15th and the weekly venue is the baseball grounds at Blue Lake Sports Park. If you are interested in your child/ren playing school T-ball please fill out the reply slip and return it to the front office by Monday February 4th.
All equipment is provided and players wear their school uniform.
We do require parent assistance with coaching/managing the team so please indicate if you are prepared to help out.

CANBERRA CAMP
In Term 3 from Saturday 21st September to Friday 27th September our Year 6 & 7 students will be participating in a camp to Canberra. We may require a parent to attend this camp as a helper. If you are interested in nominating to be a helper please return the reply slip to the front office by Monday February 4th.
Further Canberra Camp information will be provided later in the term.

LOWER SOUTH EAST SAPSASA SWIMMING
Swimming Trials will be held on Thursday 21st February 12.45-3.00pm at the Aquatic Centre. Cost $3.50 to be paid on arrival. Age Groups – 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004. This will be followed by 3 training sessions leading up to the Adelaide SAPSASA Country Swimming Competition on Friday 22nd March.
Entries close Tuesday 19th February (forms available from the Front Office).

Respect - Participation - Success
Volunteer Criminal History Checks
For parents and other volunteers that help out at our school in any capacity, such as listening to reading, attending a class excursion or being a Governing Council Member, a Criminal History Check is required. If you have not had a Criminal History Check and are intending to volunteer at the school please see us at the office so that we can help you with this process. Many parents have already completed one previously and if you are unsure when yours expires, please also ask at the office.

Parent Club News
Welcome back for another year!
Parent Club would really like to encourage all parents to become involved in Parent Club as this is by far your best opportunity to really get to know other parents, the students and the teachers. All this in a fun environment with lots of chat, good food and good company!

Next Meeting
Thursday 7th February at 9.00am in the French Room. Pre-school children welcome. Hostess: Deb Burn.

Monday Lunch Orders
Please note that lunches will commence on Monday 11th February. Orders must be placed the week before on Monday 4th.

Monday Lunch Order Roster
Lunch orders are available for all students every Monday, organised by the Parent Club. To continue to provide this service for students we need parent volunteers once or twice a term from 9am until 10am and then again from 11.30am until 12.30pm.
In order to have some continuity from week to week parents should try to volunteer for 2 consecutive weeks. If this is not possible we can still fit you in. Your help would be much appreciated.

Heat Ups Roster
Parent Club will again be offering Heat Ups also commencing Week 3, Tuesday 12th February. Parents are asked to please ensure the heat ups are wrapped in foil (or oven proof material) and clearly named. Parent volunteers will be needed. It will involve placing the heat ups in the pie warmers in the French/Art room at 10.30am and then returning at 12.15pm to hand them out.
If you are able to assist with either Lunch Orders or Heat Ups or both, please indicate your preferences on the reply slip enclosed by Wednesday 6th February.

‘Welcome’ Morning Tea
Parent Club will be holding a morning tea on Thursday 14th February in the French Room from 9.00am to welcome new parents to our school. Please bring a small plate of food to share. Pre-school children welcome.

Time Options for Meetings
We have struggled at times, particularly in 2012, for parent numbers at meetings so please indicate which meeting time suits you and return the reply slip enclosed by next Wednesday.

District Sports Day
Please remember that students need a white polo shirt with school logo and green shorts for District Sports Day. Parent Club arrange logo printing each year. You may leave your white shirts, clearly named, in a bag also named for printing by Thursday 14th February with correct payment $5.50/each at the Front Office.

Second Hand Clothing
An assortment of good quality, clean, second hand school clothing is available for a gold coin donation.

Community Notices
You will find further information regarding the following on our Notice Board situated in the foyer leading in to the Front Office or by contacting phone numbers or visiting websites provided.

School Dental Service
For information about appointments, when your child/children are due for check up and fees, contact your local School Dental Clinic on 87211633, Monday – Friday, 8.30am, 4.15pm.

$10 Gift Voucher for all new BankSA Accounts
For the start of Term 1, BankSA is offering all students who open a new Incentive Saver Account via the school a $10 Gift Voucher, which will be deposited into your child’s account once opened. This offer is available until 30 March 2013 and is for new customers only. For more details or to collect a BankSA Application Pack, please call into the school office.