

# WILLUNGA



# WILLUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Where Tradition and the Future Meet*

Website: [www.willungaps.sa.edu.au](http://www.willungaps.sa.edu.au) Email: [dl.0744.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0744.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

22nd February 2017

247 Main Road

WILLUNGA 5172

☎ 8556 2234

Fax: 8556 2398

Absence Text Line:

0408 727 632

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Monday, 27th Feb—

Friday, 3rd March

• R-2 Swimming

Tuesday, 7th March

• Governing Council

AGM—7.00pm

Tuesday, 14th March—

Friday, 17th March

• Yr 5-7 Aquatics



Government of South Australia

Department of Education and Children's Services

## Community Open Night

Last Tuesday night was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate learning at Willunga Primary as well as meet many of the groups that are within our community. We were pleased to see so many families attend. A school like Willunga holds a special place in its community, and it was very nice seeing our community come together.



**Growth Mindset Characters—And the winner is.....** At the Community Open Night, we voted for the characters that we thought best represented our Powerful Learning STEPS to Success. These drawings will be used by a graphic artist to design our very own characters. The result in the end was very close between the top 4 submissions (and ALL entries received votes!), so we will ask the graphic artist to combine elements of all!



**Stamina**  
**Teamwork**  
**Enthusiasm**  
**Planning**  
**STRETCH**



## 2016 Award Recipients

In presenting the Jamieson Award to two Year 7 students each year the staff of Willunga Primary School recognise

- Responsibility
- Initiative
- Care for others
- Helpfulness
- Care for the school & the environment
- Politeness
- Hard work & diligence
- Leadership
- Promotion of & contribution to the school in a variety of ways

It was with great pleasure that we presented Brodie F and Skye D with this award at the Year 7 Graduation late last year. Both Brodie and Skye have been wonderful role models to other students and are very deserving of this special award.

Willunga Primary School's Governing Council Academic Achievement Award was presented to Noah H whose performance in all academic assessments was outstanding. Congratulations Noah.

The Sir Douglas Mawson Environmental Award was presented to Jack G by Leon Bignell for his continuing efforts around environmental issues/projects both within the school and the local community. Well done again Jack.

The Willunga Primary School Arts Award was also presented. This award recognised the efforts of a student who participated in Arts areas such as choir, instrumental music, visual arts and performing arts. The joint winners for 2016 recipient of the award were Arwen S and Gabriella S. Congratulations Arwen and Gabriella.

Mr Paul Crate teaches Health and Physical Education. Each year he selects a boy and girl who have been outstanding in representing our school in these areas. The Sports Award recipients for 2016 were Angus B and Jacinta R. Well done to you both.

Each year the staff select a winner of the Lorri Dillon Award. This is for a student who finds learning challenging but tries valiantly to improve. In 2016 that student was Hunter F. Congratulations Hunter!



## Being on Governing Council

The role of the Governing Council (GC) is literally, to govern the school jointly with the Principal. It is the place where parents voice their opinions and make decisions affecting the school, and most importantly, represent the views of the parent community.

GC is made up mostly of parents, but also includes some staff, and representatives from the pre-school and Rec Park. When you are on GC, you know what's happening ahead of time, and you understand why things are the way they are. You get to have your say, although people may not always agree with you!

It doesn't have to take a lot of time. Governing Council meets twice per term in the evenings, and there are opportunities to be on sub-committees that interest you. If you are interested in being involved, please nominate for a position at the upcoming Annual General Meeting – 7pm on Tuesday, 7th March. Or just coming along and hear what we've been up to for the past 12 months. I hope to see you there!

*Carolyn Hart, Chairperson Governing Council*

## Governing Council AGM

The Annual General Meeting of our school will be held on Tuesday the 17th March at 7.00pm in the School Library. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend. At this meeting a new Governing Council will be elected for the 2017 school year. Reports of 2016 will be given and plans outlined for the upcoming year ahead.

If any parent or caregiver wishes to nominate to be a member of the Governing Council, please complete the tear off slip (next page) and return it to the Front Office. ALL PARENTS nominating for Governing Council must have a current Criminal History Screening. If you need to apply for one, New applications are available through Michelle Collins.

Sub Committees are run to ensure maximum opportunities for parent voice and participation. You do not need to be a Governing Council member to be on a sub committee. Expressions of interest can be sent via the email link. Sub committees in 2017 include, finance, OSHC, Parent Connection, Learning and Grounds committees.

If you are interested in joining a sub committee please send back this slip or email [dl.0744.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0744.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub Committee I would be interested in joining is: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address to use for correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_

## Nomination Form

### WILLUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL NOMINATION FOR ELECTION FORM

To be elected as a member of Willunga Primary School  
Governing Council:

I ..... (full name)

Of.....

.....(address)

Accept the nomination and hereby declare that:

- I am not an undischarged bankrupt and do not receive a benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors.
- have not been convicted of any offence of dishonesty, or of a sexual nature involving a minor, or of violence against a person.

I understand that should I be declared bankrupt, receive a benefit of law for the relief of insolvent debtors or be convicted of any of the offences listed, my membership of Willunga Primary School Governing / School Council will cease.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017

**All nominations must be returned to Michelle Collins  
(Finance Office) prior to Monday, 6th March 2017**

## Congratulations Lauren

On the 19th February, Lauren competed in the Equestrian Association Interschool Competition at Strathalbyn Polo Grounds where 47 schools competed in riding, dressage, and show jumping.

Lauren had a fantastic first interschool sports with her beloved Angel a Shetland pony. Lauren entered the encourage ring and came home with two first prizes, one second prize and three third prizes in the riding class and did Willunga Primary School proud.



## Volunteers Requirement update

### Responding to Abuse or Neglect VOLUNTEERS Online Session

All ongoing volunteers must receive the Responding to Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care (RAN-EC) induction session for volunteers. This includes people on a Governing Council.

The session explains what you are expected to do if you have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of children and young people. It helps you understand appropriate ways of relating with children and young people.

An ongoing volunteer can be someone who helps on a regular or irregular basis. This might mean:

- once a week
- once a fortnight
- every day for a term
- once a term
- whenever they can fit it in around other commitments.

#### ONLINE COURSE

**Volunteers must speak to a DECD site leader before they start the online course.**

A certificate of participation is provided when complete. The certificate is transferrable across sites. For online sessions, the site leader must sign the certificate to endorse the volunteer's participation.

The RAN-EC online induction session for volunteers takes about 90 minutes and includes an assessment. DECD site leaders will let their volunteers know when they need to do an update. This will happen if there is a significant change to the information in the session.

*Volunteers who work with children (under 18 years) are mandated notifiers. They must understand notification and reporting child abuse requirements.*

## Library News

### WANTED

Empty 440g tins to use for science - washed with the label removed. If you can help can you please deliver to the

library. We are needing a class set of 30 please.

## High Expectations for Students



# Mrs Giffen's Class Y chart for Learning

At the end of last year we updated our policy around student behaviour management. This is a complex task in a school, because behaviour (even 'bad') needs to be viewed as a way of communicating needs, and for some students, extra support is needed to help them develop more appropriate ways to communicate. Reinforcing appropriate communication for some students means swift rewards when they are doing the right thing, for other children, it is in spending time to break down what went wrong in the yard and to make sure that better ways to manage in the future are uncovered. This way of addressing behaviour is referred to as restorative practice and is the basis of our behaviour management policy at Willunga Primary.

What we realised, was that regardless of the particular circumstances for an individual child, all children benefit from having high expectations around their learning behaviour. If we know what this learning behaviour looks like, we are more able to support students who do not.

Teachers started this year working through a Y chart (next page) with their classes to unpack what a Willunga Primary Student *Looks like*, *Sounds like* and *Feels like* (when Learning).

We will be asking Governing Council (Learning Committee) for their input, but would also value some entries from families. We would like to know what you expect for your child at Willunga Primary. If you and your family would like to complete a Y chart together, I would love to see it!! Please feel free to use our template or create your own, it can be as creative (or not) as you like.

Please send completed Y charts to Ali Colbeck.

## Willunga Netball Club

**Willunga Netball Club** has limited positions available in our Under 11 teams for the 2017 winter season. (sorry other age groups are already full).

If you are interested please contact Cat on 0416 404 763 or email [willunganc@hotmail.com](mailto:willunganc@hotmail.com)

## Sports Day T-Shirts

**GET YOUR TEAM COLOURS!**

We currently have stock of quality T-Shirts in House Colours for Sports Day. Come in and see the friendly staff in the Finance Office for sizes available. Sports Day is 7th April 2017 (Week 10).

**Only \$9.00 each**

## Garden and Health

The vegetable garden is a great place to unwind, on a quiet day you can actually hear the vegetables growing!

Our vegetables have been consumed by many children already, all the year 4/5 have had kippler potatoes baked with dobs of margarine tastings of herbs, carrots distributed to interested students, watermelon, rockmelon to all students as tasting.

Lots of interested helpers have people in the garden, many thanks to those people for their time and expertise in this area.

The following donations would be helpful,

- cow manure
- seedlings (broccoli, cauliflower)
- pea straw

Please contact us if you are able to contribute.

### Health News

Currently all students are focussing their learning to identify issues of health to research which will benefit their own wellbeing as children leading into adulthood. With wider knowledge and inquiry skills, students will explore preventative measures and healthy lifestyles for the future.

The topics which are the main focus are: nutrition, hygiene, fitness, relationships and safety. Each student will be involved in the delivery of topics using the IVAC learning approach. This involves students Investigating, developing Visions and creating Action and Change of a topic.

Linda Hodgson  
Health Education  
Room 20



Looks Like

When Learning

A student at  
Willunga Primary ...

..... *family name*

Feels Like

Sounds Like

parenting \* ideas

# insights



## Developing independence in primary school

By Michael Grose

*Practical ideas for parents to encourage real independence in children.*

Your goal as a parent should be for your child to be completely self-managing by the end of primary school. That is, he can get himself and others up each morning; make his own breakfast; prepare his own schoolbag; collect his own school uniform; put any notes under your nose to be signed and returned to school; and so it goes on. Now, that doesn't

mean that kids will do all this all the time, because other factors come into play such as busy schedules and early starts; children will need some assistance at times. However, it's good to keep in mind that children, when left to their own devices, generally do remarkably well at organising their daily tasks. Sometimes they just need the opportunity.

**Here are four practical ways to develop real independence in primary school-aged children:**

### 1. Involve them in mealtimes

Mealtimes are the fulcrum around which healthy families operate. A shared meal is more than food. It's a ritual that binds people together; it's a vehicle for parents to influence their children; and it's an expression of love and care. It is also fundamental to children's wellbeing because there is a strong correlation between good mental health in young people and those who regularly share a family meal. Mealtimes also offer plenty of opportunities for children to help including running errands, preparing the meal, setting the table, clearing the table, packing the dishwasher and other jobs. There's something for everyone!

### 2. Use pocket money to develop independence

A regular allowance is a fabulous way to promote real independence in children. Start in lower primary school and gradually increase their allowance the older they become. Importantly, you need to increase the areas that their allowance covers. For instance, in lower primary school a child's pocket money might go towards the purchase of some sweets and one or two other items each week. However, in middle primary school it might increase to cover the cost of one or two lunch orders each week, their bus money and some treats.



## parenting \* ideas

### Developing independence in primary school

In later primary school it could even cover some of their clothing purchases as well. The important thing is not to cover for kids if, for instance, they don't budget appropriately and run out of money for school-canteen lunches. They can either make their own lunches at home or perhaps borrow from a sibling and repay out of their next allowance. Pocket money used well is a fantastic way to develop independence in kids.

#### 3. Look after pets

It's a quirk of life that most children want a pet, but they just don't want to look after it in the long term. Many kids discover that following the initial flush of enthusiasm looking after a pet can be a grind – walking the family pooch, cleaning out the guinea-pig cage, or feeding the family feline. But pet care offers priceless lessons in the development of grit, responsibility and nurturance – all necessary attributes for independent success.

#### 4. Walk, ride or take public transport to school

The opportunity to go to school on your own devices was a luxury that previous generations enjoyed. While it may have seemed at the time like something to be endured rather than enjoyed, most people I discuss this matter with look back with fondness and nostalgia.

For most people it meant freedom, friendship and fun. For a short time each day kids experienced a delicious type of freedom away from both teachers and parents – a time to muck around, dawdle and mess around with mates. It also gave kids some familiarity with their neighbourhood.

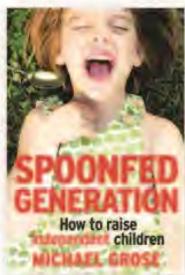
It's well established that currently more children are driven to school than ride or walk, which denies children the same opportunity for friendship, fun and freedom. Busy schedules, less child-friendly neighbourhood layouts and working parents are just some of the reasons that prevent kids walking to school. If possible, look for ways to allow your child to get to school on their own. It's fantastic for their independence and wellbeing. If children are too young, walk or ride with them some of the way until they are old enough and skilled enough to make the trip without you.

#### The age of opportunity

Children in this stage have an outward orientation and are exploring their place in the world. This is an age and stage for greater neighbourhood exploration, for taking on real responsibility and for developing personal confidence and efficacy before adolescence starts.



**Visit our website for more ideas and information to help you raise confident and resilient young people.**



**Special note:** I'm thrilled to announce that my latest book *Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children* is out. It's available at [parentingideas.com.au](http://parentingideas.com.au)

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# Willunga High School

"Where Opportunity and Success Come Together"



## OPEN NIGHT

Thursday 23rd March 2017  
5:30pm – 7:30pm



## PRINCIPAL'S TOURS



Term 1  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
9:30am – 10:30am

### Term 2

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
9:30am – 10:30am



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
9:30am – 10:30am

### Term 3

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017  
9:30am – 10:30am

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
9:30am – 10:30am



*Bookings essential*



Free parenting seminar

The mysterious world of teens:  
survival tips for parents



Are you the  
parent of a teen or pre-teen?  
Come and join us or watch our live webcast.

Find out:

- what's going on in your child's brain
- what it means to be a teenager in a digital world
- how best to communicate and what to do when things get tough
- what parenting style works best.

Presented by Kirrilie Smout, an Adelaide psychologist working with children, teens and their parents

Register to attend in person or view the live webcast at:

Online: <http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au>  
Phone: 8303 1660  
Email: [health.parentingsa@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:health.parentingsa@health.sa.gov.au)

*This seminar is designed for an adult audience.*

Wednesday 22 March

When: 7.00 – 9.00pm

Where: Riverbank Room  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
North Terrace, Adelaide

Presented by Parenting SA.  
For more information about raising children and teenagers visit [www.parenting.sa.gov.au](http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au) or [www.cyh.com](http://www.cyh.com)

Helping parents be their best



Government of South Australia