

WILLUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL



247 Main Road, Willunga SA 5172
Ph: 08 8556 2234 Fx: 08 8556 2398
www.willungaps.sa.edu.au

Hello families and welcome back for another great year of learning.

Staff have started the year with an intentional focus on curriculum and accountability. They have worked with their strategic partner to ensure consistency of practice across classrooms. This week at staff meeting we worked with the Partnership curriculum leader to further develop skills in moderating work samples and start to build learning portfolios. We are also excited to be entering the second year of the Brightpath trial and using this tool to examine our writing and implement interventions to teach the next step of learning.

The parent feedback survey was overwhelmingly positive at the end of 2017. Staff began the year by looking at this and discussing where we can continue to improve. To this end we are continuing to refine our communication techniques, especially around communicating to you about student learning. Hopefully you appreciated the introduction to your teacher letter as well as the very informative newsletters that have been sent home this week.

Please remember:

Regular attendance is vital for students to ensure concepts and skill building is not missed. If your child is unable to attend school, please communicate this to the teacher or through the office. Planned absences above three days require an exemption, please see the student services officer (Lynda Gregory) to arrange this.

Open Night – we will be running our first community event for the year in week 3 this term on **Tuesday the 13th of February**. The school will be open for a walk through from 5.00 until 6.30pm with community groups showcasing (and in some cases fundraising) the array of opportunities available in the community.

Canteen – we are very excited to welcome Jackie McCance on board as our canteen manager. The canteen is owned and operated by the school and as such requires the services of volunteers to be successful. If you are able to help please pop into either the office or the canteen and we will let Jackie know. The other way you can support the canteen is by regularly ordering lunches! There are lots of great options to choose from!!

OSHC – it is nearly complete!! We are expecting the initial handover in the next few days and the space looks amazing. Once it is up and running we will see about operating a playgroup as well as using the space for morning teas and community events. I hope to have it open on the Open Night for you to walk through!

Stamina Teamwork Enthusiasm Planning Stretch



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Hats & Dress Code – we have been very pleased with the uniform and hat awareness across the school. As a community we spent a lot of time unpacking the importance of both last year and it is great to see how well it is working out. We will use the swap a top program this year to support full dress code adherence. Please ensure long hair is tied up and away from the face.

Sports Day – will be held early this year on Friday the 9th of March. Our Specialist group have started planning the event to make sure it is a success. Parent Connection committee will be running a 'red' food stall for parents and community, while green and orange food will be sold through the canteen for students. More information will be sent home soon as we will need plenty of volunteers!

Gemboree – a major gem and mineral fair is coming to Willunga for the Easter long weekend. To assist the community to run this event, we will be holding a Student Free Day on the Thursday BEFORE the Easter long weekend, Thursday March 29th.

ICT development – We are up and running with ICT after a \$200,000 infrastructure redevelopment over the past 18 months. This concluded with the purchase of 70+ laptops, many Interactive Whiteboards and extra devices over the Christmas break. We are very excited to be operating with such up to date technology. Staff have been thrilled with the ease of which they have been able to use the new devices. We hope to extend this over the year to include more student devices.

And now to the stars of the show!!

A huge welcome to our 75 new students who started with us this year. The majority of these begin their school journey with us as receptions, with a few others moving into other year levels. I am so pleased to see how well the transition to school has worked for these children, I believe the partnership between the preschool and school and the extensive transition model we undertake over three terms each year is to thank for that.

I am thrilled to announce the following staff members and positions for 2018 at Willunga Primary. I know we have a great line up with loads of expertise across the site.

Our week 0 days and start to the year have been smooth and successful and highlighted our commitment to student learning. I would like to personally thank so many staff members who have spent considerable time over the break attending trainings, readying their room and engaging in planning with their colleagues.

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Please make sure you say hello to:

CLASS TEACHERS

Reception Nicki Bulger
Reception Sandy Graham
1/2 Julie Giffen
1/2 Bianca Lally
1/2 Anna Raff
1/2 Kristen Hunt / Lesley Earle
2/3 Lyndsay Sanders
3 Bianca Schultz
3/4 Lisa Hunt / Lesley Earle
3/4 Michelle Potter
4/5 Kate Schipper / Helen Lindquist
4/5 Pete Murphy
5/6 Cheree Gordon
5/6 Mogann Nair
6/7 Trevor Gobbett
6/7 Andrew Bentley / Hayley Rochford

SUBJECT SPECIALISTS

Physical Education Paul Crate
Health Linda Hodgson
Japanese Helen Lindquist
Arts Kirsty Sims (Music)
Arts Nicole Demmrich (Dance & Drama)
Librarian Judy James
Special Education Jess Mason

SCHOOL SUPPORT OFFICERS

Business Manager Michelle Collins
Student Services Officer Lynda Gregory
Front Office Secretary Carmen Schapel
Student Support Tanya Jackson
Student Support Alyse Miller
Student Support Deb Connor
Student Support Jodie Cornelius
Student Support Wendy Graham
Student Support Sharon Coe

ANCILLIARY STAFF

OSHC / Vacation Care Director Belinda Filkin
Canteen Manager Jackie McCance
ICT technician Nick Gibbs

LEADERSHIP

Assistant Principal / Intervention Specialist
Lisa Gray
Deputy Principal Karen Matthews
Principal Ali Colbeck

I look forward to seeing you at the Open Night in week 3.

Here is to a safe and happy full year of learning.

Ali Colbeck
Principal

Stamina

Teamwork

Enthusiasm

Planning

Stretch



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