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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

From the Principal



Hello...

Thank you for your warm welcome to Willunga Primary School. I have loved meeting

everyone, and I have appreciated the many parents, family members and students who have introduced themselves to me and made me feel so welcome. It has been lovely to have been greeted by so many friendly students, parents and family members while I have been on morning duty each day.

I am excited for a great future at Willunga Primary School and feel so privileged to be appointed to the role of Principapl to lead the school into the future.

Farewell...

Farewell to **Michelle Collins**, Business Manager and **Lynda Gregory**, Student Services, who won positions at the new Aldinga Payinithi College. Both Michelle and Lynda have been long term staff members at Willunga Primary School, and I am sure you will join

me in wishing them all the best for the future.

Congratulations and welcome...



Congratulations to **Sarita De Lange**, who has won the Business Manager position for the rest of the term. Sarita is a current

staff member who will move into this role.



Congratulations to **Deb Connor**, who has won the Administration Secretary role for the rest of the term. Deb is

a current staff member who will move into this role.



Welcome to **Brooke Hutchinson**, appointed to the role of Front Office and student support for the

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From the Principal CONTINUED

rest of the term. Brooke will be a new and friendly face at the front desk.

I am sure you will join me in wishing Deb, Sarita and Brooke all the best in these new roles.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN testing for 2021 is now complete. I would like to thank Karen Matthews for managing this process and by all accounts it went very smoothly. The NAPLAN results should be available by the end of term 3.

Melanie Jones, Principal



On the 15th JUNE, Week 8 at Parent Morning Tea we will be having a **Beeswax wrap making workshop**.

COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING.

KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS.

WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS.

Farewell Lynda Gregory and Michelle Collins

Students and staff farewelled Lynda Gregory and Michelle Collins last week.

With more than 40 years of combined experience at Willunga Primary they are no doubt going to be missed. Michelle and Lynda are taking that experience with them to play important roles at Payinthei College as the new school at Aldinga takes shape.

Michelle, always willing to take your money with a smile, whilst overseeing budget lines and expenditure, has always impressed the auditors when they visited the school.

Lynda's cheery disposition, compassion and treatment of students visiting the sick room was recalled by many students last week in their reflections.

Lynda and Michelle were inundated with chicken themed gifts and plants throughout the week from classes, keen to make sure they were acknowledged for their roles at the school.

DJs Lozza and Shazza sent them on the way at a school gathering after lunch on Friday with music and dancing.

We wish them all the very best on their new adventures.



Lynda and Michelle receive a woolly art hanging from Year 6/7 students to decorate their new offices to remember their time at Willunga Primary School.

Diary Dates

4th June
WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
9.00AM

14th June
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

15th June
SAUSAGE SIZZLE DAY

25th June
CAUSAL CLOTHES DAY

Wear your favourite colour.
Gold coin donation

28th June
MYLOR CAMP
Room 19, 23B, 21A, 21B

28th June
EL SHADDAI CAMP
Room 2A and 2 D

30th June
EL SHADDAI CAMP
Room 2B and 2 C



Enrolment in Reception for 2022 at Willunga Primary School

Are you interested in enrolling your child at Willunga Primary School in 2022?

Our expressions of interest for enrolment is now open.

This year we are taking expressions of interest from families from within and out of the zone. Enrolment is guaranteed for families who reside in the zone, but in 2022 we will also have limited places for families who live out of the zone.

To express your interest in a position, please call Deb Connor on 8556 2234.

How is my child's learning going and how do I support them?

A positive and open relationship between school and home is essential in ensuring the best learning and wellbeing outcomes for children. Teachers formally and informally communicate with families about how their child is progressing, as well as ways to support learning at home.

How do I know if my child is above or below standard?

Teachers assess student achievement against the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards in each learning area, using a range of assessments to 'triangulate' a student's grade. The teachers at Willunga Primary School are involved in Professional Learning opportunities and work together collaboratively to plan learning and assessment tasks that link with the Achievement Standards. As well as moderating work samples and grades, we have systems in place to share this information with other teachers, leadership and support staff.

At Willunga Primary School, your child's performance against the standards is communicated to families through the parent/teacher interviews in term 2 and the school reports at the end of term 2 and 4. Additionally, if a teacher

has concerns about your child's progress, they will communicate this with you at other times of the year and flag this with leadership for possible intervention outside of the classroom.

We know students are progressing well when they achieve a year's growth or more for a year's schooling. As students are assessed against the Achievement Standard in their current year level, if they received a C last year and this year, this shows a year's growth in learning. To move from a C to a B, a child will need to progress more than a year in their learning.

How do I help support or stretch my child at home?

According to research, homework has the most impact when a child practices a particular skill they have been learning at school, rather than learning something new. For example, practising reading strategies through reading, practicing sight words or spelling words and practising quick addition, x tables or Maths concepts. Your child's classroom teacher would have communicated this with you through Seesaw, diaries or notes. If your child needs support in anything in particular, the classroom teacher will let you know and can also direct

you to some resources to stretch their learning. Your child's next steps of learning (or learning goals) will be shared with you at parent/teacher interviews and in their reports. Contact your child's classroom teacher if you would like some more information on homework.

Now for some controversy...

Research shows that homework does not have a large impact on the academic growth of younger students and (wait for it!) can actually slow down the learning growth of some children. If it is a struggle to get a child to do their homework, this can have a negative effect on their attitude to learning, which can cross over into the classroom and strain family life. When children reach upper primary age, homework is shown to have a more positive effect on their learning progress.

It is important to balance homework with family life, social outings and extra-curricular activities and this is recognised by the teachers at WPS through their homework expectations. This balance and positive wellbeing, as well as belonging and physical activity is shown to improve learning outcomes for children.

Lisa Hunt

Book Recommendation!

A book that I really love and re-read a number of times when we had a young family was '**The 7 habits of Highly Effective Families**' by Stephen Covey which I highly recommend and can be applied to no matter what family situation you find yourself in. Within the scope of the 7 habits here is a version that I've written from three points I like.

You are the Programmer:

As adults whilst certain things may still be out of your control many things are within your control. No

one can change your mindset, work ethic, the way you treat others, language you use, what you eat, the exercise you do, your actions. YOU ARE the Programmer.

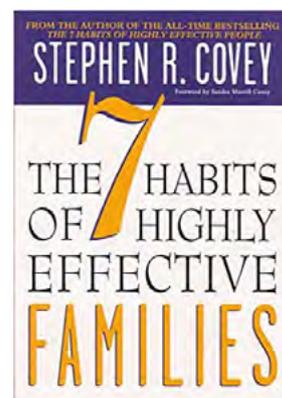
Write the Program:

Write down what or how you want to live your life. Write a mission statement if you want to if that helps. As a family we wrote one together and everyone contributed. It wasn't that everything went smoothly from there, far from it, but we had a base to come back

and re-boot from. Maybe get some help from a counsellor in how to re-frame your life. WRITE the Program.

Run & Live the Program:

Once you've written this, RUN, LIVE the Program!!



The Magic Harvest Program and Gardening - 23B

Over term one and two, 23B have been working closely with John the gardener every Wednesday morning to help the school gardens look neat and tidy for our school community to enjoy. We have been mulching, planting, digging and watering to make sure the garden is looking the best it can. The trims from gumtrees and other trees have been taken to the nature play area for the whole school to enjoy. We have been using our stamina and teamwork to work together and take care of our school environment, and we hope that others will respect the garden area as well.

We also have three garden plots where we have been growing different vegetables such as garlic, onion and spinach. By following The Magic Harvest Program, we've been learning about the importance of growing our own vegetables and how we can do this at home as well. At the end of term two, we are planning on creating a pasta dish using the vegetables we've grown along with other ingredients.

Let's all help to make our school environment look beautiful by keeping the gardens clear of rubbish so our plants and flowers can grow!

I learned that mulching can help plants grow - Elizabeth

It is lots of fun to do gardening and rewarding when the school looks nice - Faith

I learned to never put too much mulch around plants. If you do, it can make the plants dry - Lincoln

I enjoyed when John helped me control his tractor - Vili

I learned that you need mulch to grow the plants, and how much mulch some plants need - Max

John helped us to plant poppies for Remembrance Day which was lots of fun - Lacey

I liked that we all had fun and John helped us make the school look beautiful - Lily

