



# Morphett Vale Primary School NEWSLETTER

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Number 1: Term – 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017

## WELCOME BACK

**A great Reputation** I would like to extend a warm welcome back to school to all of our children and their families. Week 1 has been fabulous!  
We welcomed 48 new reception children, 34 pre-school students and 12 children across the school in years 1-7.  
We also welcomed some new staff who are introduced below.

Starting a new school year, in a new class can be a challenging time for some students but this week I observed a huge improvement in the "Growth Mind set" of our students who faced the change with a positive "I can" attitude, have made new friends, adjusted to new routines and settled back into their learning in record time.

**Students Fabulous**

**Great Programs** Last year we trialled an extended transition program for our students moving from Pre-school to Reception and their start this week confirms the success of that program.

Our Lead Learners are working especially hard over these first two weeks of term, teaching their five "Pathways to Powerful Learning" lessons to all of our classes, Pre-school to Year 7. The student leaders have prepared the lessons and made all of the resources needed. This is a great example of "student voice" here at MVPS.

**Student's Learning Leading the**

Can you remember what our 5 Pathways to Powerful Learning are?

**MINDSETS**

**SELF-REGULATION**

**COMMUNICATION**

**COLLABORATION**

**PROBLEM SOLVING**

Staff spent time at the end of last year doing some new learning together, researching ways to get maximum learning growth for our students. As a result, this term we will be running "Writing Mastery" classes, for all students from Year 1 to Year 7, every Thursday morning. We will keep you updated on how our students' progress.

Our students are going to be collecting evidence of their learning as they master more writing skills each week. They will be using an app called seesaw, to create an online portfolio of their work. Seesaw is a free app which can be accessed on android as well as apple appliances. It is very secure and password protected. Your child's class teacher will ask you to sign a permission slip and then you will be sent an invitation so that you can view your child's writing and give them feedback. This is another example of how we are promoting **STUDENT VOICE** at MVPS and improving the way we share your child's learning with you.

If I haven't met you yet, please come and introduce yourself in the yard before or after school or drop in to the office to say hello.

Rachel McLennan (Principal)



**Writing Mastery Classes**

**Introducing: Penny Davies, your school's new Pastoral Care Worker.**

Hello, my name is Penny Davies and I am the new Pastoral Care Worker, providing a Chaplaincy Service at Morphett Vale Primary school. Pastoral Care Workers offer a unique dimension of care and support to all members of the school community. I will be a positive role model and I bring compassion, understanding and provide ongoing support to students and families. My role includes working alongside and complementing other welfare and wellbeing staff in the school.

As the Pastoral Care Worker, I will be available in the yard at break times, will work alongside teachers in the classroom, and I will be an extra resource to teachers to support extra-curricular events and activities. I also provide a Christian presence in the school of behalf of the local churches.

I will be at the school on Wednesdays and Thursdays and I can be contacted by students through my message box in the front office. Parents and care-givers can contact me through the school front office. I am really looking forward to assisting the school staff in providing the best outcomes for the students and their families.



Introducing: Danielle Windsor, our new School Counsellor. I have really enjoyed meeting all the kids this week and joining the MVPS family. For the past 10 yrs I was the Counsellor at Largs Bay PS. I live just out of Myuponga with two kids, 1 cat, 1 dog, 200 Mumma sheep and 178 lambs. I love working with children and helping them to take control of their emotions and find their power. Mostly I like seeing people shine their truth and love themselves and each other more. I look forward to working with you and your kids so that they can set themselves lofty goals and then tick them off one by one.



Introducing: Jodie Smith our new Year 2 teacher. I am excited to join the MVPS community & look forward to getting to know you better. I have been teaching since 1992, returning this year after a break of several years while starting a family. Crystal Brook, Yalata and John Morphett being several schools I have taught at.

Introducing: Penny Harris: Hello! my name is Penny Harris and I am the new Year 1/2 teacher working with your fantastic kids and the very talented staff here at Morphett Vale PS. I'm in my 11th year teaching and have taught all over the State; from the deserts in Coober Pedy, Whyalla and Port Augusta to the home of sinkholes in Mt Gambier, in the Adelaide Hills and now back home for me, in Southern Adelaide (where I grew up). I recently got married to my husband. I love animals. I have had a blast this week and I am very excited to be here at Morphett Vale teaching your kids! I look forward to working with you to create some amazing learning experiences for your children and help them shine brightly! They are absolute superstars! Come on into room 2.11 anytime and say Hi! I'd love to meet you. Mrs Harris.



Welcome Back: Zoe Mimidas, our new year 6/7 teacher: I'm very glad to be back at Morphett Vale this year with the Year 6/7's. Thank you to those who have popped in to say hello, I really appreciate it. For those who don't know me, I have previously taught in the Riverland and at Woodcroft College. I spend a lot of time at the beach or at training with my dog Millie. I'm passionate about teaching and love to see students become enthusiastic and passionate learners who treat others with kindness.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### WEEK 3

**15/2/17** 9.00am Assembly  
5.00pm Acquaintance Night  
6.30pm Annual General Meeting

### WEEK 4

**20/2/17 to 24/2/17**

Year 3 – 5: Mr Allison, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Glade-Wright, Mr Mitchell, Ms Wells.

### WEEK 5

**1/3/17** Principal Tour

### WEEK 6

**9/3/17** School Leaders from across the state visiting to see STUDENT VOICE in action at MVPS

## Principal's Tour of the School

We will be having a tour of the school on **Wednesday, March 1st at 9.30am.**

If you know of anyone who wishes to be included please advise the Front Office



## WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES TERM 1

**Week 3 – 15/2/17**

**Week 6 – 8/3/17**

**Week 9 – 29/3/17**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February (week 3) at 6:30pm.**

## WELCOME FLINDERS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

We would like to give a huge Morphett Vale Primary School welcome to our Pre-service Teachers from Flinders University. Over the next two terms, these students complete 4-6 weeks working alongside their mentor teachers and our students. It is a fantastic opportunity for both our mentor teachers and the pre-service teacher to learn and reflect of best practice. If you see them in your child's class, be sure to make them welcome.



**Shannon Smith** will be working alongside in Indonesian with Kelly Bennett

**Abby Hurtado** will be working alongside Susan Hayter in the Year One class

**Ambreen Sarwar** will be working alongside Melissa Mundy in the Reception class

**Andrew Ware** will be working alongside Sue Du

**Luke Caruso** will be working alongside Nicky Taylor and Gaye Glade-wright in the Year 3/4 class

**Jennifer Parker** will be working alongside Lochy Allison in the Year 3 class

**Daniel Sufon** will be working alongside Victoria McKinnon in the Reception/One class

**Julie Edmonds** will be working across the school in our Mastery Writing Workshops

## ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Little Athletics will be starting this term. Look out for notes coming out soon

## SWIMMING - Reception's – Year 5

Notes for swimming have just gone home. Please make a note of when your child's class will be going as the school has been split into two groups this year.

**As there are only 3 weeks until swimming for Years 3-5 payment is required by FRIDAY 17/2/17**

**Term 1 – Week 4 (20/2/17 to 24/2/17)**

**Year 3 – 5**

**Mr Allison, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Glade-Wright, Mr Mitchell, Ms Wells.**

**Term 2 – Week 7 (13/6/17 – 16/6/17):  
Receptions – Year 2's**

**Mrs Mundy, Mrs Creeper, Mrs McKinnon, Mrs Harris, Mrs Smith/Mr Johns.**

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Book orders to be returned to the front office with full payment by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.**



### ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT

We are **opening the classrooms** for parents to visit on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> February from 5.00 – 5.30pm. This is a chance for your child to show you their room and introduce you to their teacher. From 5:30 – 6:30pm, you are invited to join the staff for a **barbecue dinner** (sausages or patties in bread) between the Music Room and the Basketball Court.

The **AGM** follows at 6.30pm in the PD room opposite the Library.

To give us an indication of numbers for the BBQ could you please return the tear off slip on the last page, to the front office before Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

We hope to see you there.

### CANTEEN NEWS

Our Canteen will now be open at recess times. Sales for snack foods, custard, mousse and fruit only will be available for purchase.

**NO** ice blocks or slushies



### FROM THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

On behalf of the Governing council we would like to extend a very special welcome to all the new families joining us this year, and warm welcome back to our existing ones. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas break and are looking forward to a positive and successful year ahead.

In week 3 we will be holding our acquaintance night and a family barbeque. On this evening following the barbeque we will also be holding our schools AGM meeting in the PD room - building 2.

I cordially invite you to join us, if you are interested in attending this meeting please come along and meet our council members. Maybe you're interested in joining our Governing Council or perhaps one of our sub committees. We are very proud of our school community, and strive for continual improvement and we highly regard our school community feedback.

Again a very warm welcome and we would hope for an opportunity to meet with you personally on Acquaintance night.

Kind Regards  
Jan Dicker  
Chairperson – Governing Council

### BREAKFAST CLUB – HELP WANTED

We will start up the Breakfast Club for students again on **Thursday mornings from week 3** and look forward to your support.



This is a great opportunity to help the school community and meet with new people. It was highly successful in the past and I would love it to continue to be a great service to our school community.

If you have time, on a Thursday morning, and you have a DCSI Clearance, please let me know via the front office.

Thank you so much,  
Penny Davies-Pastoral Care Worker (Chaplain) 😊

### NATURE PLAY GARDEN

The work on our Nature Play Garden was completed in the holidays and the garden has been open for use during class time and at recess this week. During the warm weather, we aren't opening the garden at lunch because there isn't enough shade. The children have a range of equipment available to play with including digging, watering, cooking at the outdoor kitchen and making mudpies in the mudpie pit.

This week the garden has been reserved for the Reception and Year 1 students at recess but starting next week, other classes will be given a turn. Dirt is easy to wash off and washing dries quickly at this time of year so we hope you will be patient as your child learns to have fun in the garden without covering themselves in mud. You may wish to send your child to school in an old school shirt and shorts on the day it is their turn in the garden. Keep an eye out for the sign on your child's class door to let you know when it is their turn.



## ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT BBQ

I will/will not be attending the Acquaintance night BBQ on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

There will be (number) \_\_\_\_\_ attending the BBQ.

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



### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February (week 3) at 6:30pm.**

Please come along and enjoy a coffee while we present the school report for the 2016 school year.

Vacancies for membership on the Governing Council exist. Please consider joining this group and help MVPS move forward in a positive and productive manner – making a difference for students.

Please complete the nomination form below if interested in joining our Governing Council.

✂ \_\_\_\_\_

### GOVERNING COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM

I/We \_\_\_\_\_ will be attending the AGM and would like to book my/our children into the free crèche. Please list children's names and ages.

\_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_ am interested in nominating for membership on the 2017 Governing Council.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's class/es \_\_\_\_\_

Please return nomination forms to Rachel McLennan via the front office before the AGM on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2017**