Dear parents and carers

Welcome back everyone. It was great to see all the students back on Monday and see their enthusiasm for starting in their new classes. We had 88 new students start with us with 65 new Reception children and 23 from interstate, overseas or other schools. This is the largest intake we have had on the first day of school.

The new Reception students have settled in very quickly which is a credit to you as parents and our teachers for our transition program. So a special welcome to all of our new families and I hope that your time at Paringa Park is a happy and successful one.

Welcome to our new teachers Georgina Staben Year 7, Ebony Wilkey Year 5, Robert Pearl Year 3, Chanelle Pomeroy Year 1/2, Deb Anderson in Rosie’s class every Friday and Bronte McNicol who is in Andrea’s class every second Wednesday. All of our new teachers bring great passion and new ideas to our school. I have been really impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment from all our staff as they have prepared over the past couple of weeks for the new school year. I look forward to working with you, our parents, in providing a great educational program for our students in 2016.

We are sending home a ‘hard copy’ of the first newsletter as well as posting it electronically. This is on our website and we send an Email with the link and those with the Skoolbag ‘app’ on their phone get a reminder when it’s published. Future newsletters will only be available electronically unless you request a paper copy to be sent home. Please contact the front office if you would prefer this.

AGM
Our Governing Council AGM will be on Monday 15 February at 7.00pm where I will present the Annual Report of the school’s activities and achievements in 2015 and plans for 2016 and beyond. We have an active Governing Council and we are always looking for new members so please consider nominating on the tear off slip in this newsletter or phone your nomination to the front office. Council meets twice a term on a Monday night and sub committees meet according to need. People’s time is important and so meetings are kept as short and interesting as possible.

Acquaintance Night
Acquaintance Night will be held next Tuesday, 9 February with R-2 classes 6.15pm – 7.00pm and Year 3-7 classes 7.05pm – 7.45pm. This is a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and get valuable information on how the class will operate. OSHC are providing a creche and to book a place please return the slip from the note that went home earlier in the week. Extra notes are available from the front office.

Resilience
“I’ve missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life….and that’s why I succeed”

Michael Jordan

An interesting perspective from the ultimate sports ‘achiever’. One of the attributes we are developing in our students is resilience which they are certainly going to need to be successful in life. This is one of the reasons we chose ‘challenge’ and ‘bravery’ as two of our values. Students often will feel uncomfortable when learning something new – I’m sure you can relate to when you learnt a new skill. This is natural and expected and when they improve or finally master it there is a great sense of achievement. So if your child comes home a bit worried that they may not understand something they are learning, reassure them that that’s OK and quite normal but to hang in there and keep persevering.

Phil Reid Principal

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**Diary Dates:**

**February**
- Monday 8
  - RAN training 7pm
- Tuesday 9
  - Year 6/7 Aquatics
  - RAN training 9am
  - Acquaintance Night
- Wednesday 10
  - Year 6/7 Aquatics
- Thursday 11
  - Year 6/7 Aquatics
- Friday 12
  - Year 6/7 Aquatics
  - Finance Meeting 8am
- Monday 15
  - Governing Council AGM 7pm

**Up and Coming Event**

**Governing Council AGM**
Monday 15 February 7pm

**School Photographs**
Tuesday 1 March

**Term Dates For 2016**
- Term 1: 01 Feb to 15 Apr
- Term 2: 02 May to 08 Jul
- Term 3: 25 Jul to 30 Sep
- Term 4: 17 Oct to 16 Dec

**School Values**
- Bravery
- Care
- Challenge
- Trust

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21 Bowker Street, North Brighton SA 5048  Phone: 8296 8904  Fax: 8296 9401  
info@paringpkps.sa.edu.au  www.paringpkps.sa.edu.au
Volunteers in Schools
We have a number of people who give their time to help out in the school in a variety of ways, for which we are extremely grateful. DECD has reviewed current practices and now only require a DCSI Screening check for volunteers who DO NOT have children at the school or attending camps and/or school sleepovers. We are still requiring new volunteers to do the RAN (Responding to Abuse and Neglect) training which will be held on Monday 8 February at 7pm or Tuesday 9 February at 9am. Volunteering in school includes: listening to reading, helping on excursions and camps, coaching a sports team or even transporting students to events, serving in the canteen, helping in the Library, assisting with a music production, working in the garden, joining Governing Council – basically anything you would do in a school as a volunteer. RAN training takes around 40 minutes and lasts until December 2018. We value the time our volunteers put in with our students who greatly benefit from your involvement. Thank you.

Friendly Reminders

Payment deadlines
This year we will be more strictly enforcing our excursion/camp payment deadlines as we have found that payments have still been coming in on the day of events and permissions not signed etc. This has caused great difficulty for front office staff. If payment or permission notes haven’t been returned by the due date then the student will not be able to attend. Thanks for your co-operation with this. We want all of our students to take part in any activities and do have the ability to support your child’s attendance in instances of financial difficulty so please contact our Business Manager Susan if this applies.

Student Information
A blue student information sheet was sent home in the information pack. Can you please check the information and make any changes if required and send to the front office.

Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program
The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to make deposits into their personal Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit. To encourage regular savings behaviours the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns you child a Dollarmites token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward. The Commonwealth Bank will be holding an account opening session early next month if you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child. Alternately, you can open an account at any branch; by calling 132221 or online if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank Customer.

ICT News
BYOD
The students in LA2 will be bringing home forms relating to our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program very soon. Details about the program can be found on our website and should be read in conjunction with our Acceptable Use Policy. While we encourage and support BYOD we still offer devices at school for student use.

Robots
The exciting new ROMO robots have arrived and students and teachers have already started booking in to use these in their teaching and learning programs. If parents would like to come in and see them in action the classes that are using them will be working with them on Monday afternoons and Tuesday mornings from about Week 5 onwards.

Permissions and Social Media
Families will receive permission slips regarding use of their child’s image in media for school purposes. We issue this each year to ensure there is accuracy in our records and in case circumstances change for families. Please take time to consider your decisions carefully.

Communications with parents
The staff have been discussing ways to reduce paper and to enhance the experience of being effective in their communication with parents. Of course most staff are available most days for a quick chat before and after school and many use a diary or communication book for short notes to and from home. Some staff regularly email a class newsletter to a family email address and we have other staff who will be publishing student work to a class blog this year. With the proliferation of social media bombarding our world we would also encourage you to take the time to get acquainted face to face in the classroom on the Acquaintance Night, and if there are significant issues for your child, contact the teacher to make an appointment to talk with them face to face. The safety and security of our students is extremely important to us and permission is always sought before the inclusion of any image of a student is used. Students in the school newsletter (which is published on our website) are only identified by first names. Teachers posting class blogs will only do so on locked or secured sites and will only post after permission forms have been received. If you have questions about any of these issues please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher or one of the leadership team.

Library News
Premiers Reading Challenge – going paperless!
‘eForms’ for the PRC 2016 can be accessed online here. These can be filled in digitally and emailed back to the class teacher or to the library (address to come). Start reading now and recording in your diary or home communication book and be ready for the Challenge!

Squeezing it in – but you are still welcome.
With renovations for LA 3-2 the Library has had to find space for quite a few things. We are still open before and after school for borrowing and returning from 8:30-8.45am and 3.05-3:30 pm – we’d love to see you!

Judy and Anne

French News
Bonjour!

I am looking forward to the year ahead, working with your children again to promote an interest in the learning of the French language and in discovering new things about the French culture.

Initially, I am planning to revise greetings, personal information and number facts across the year levels. This year, I am looking forward to continuing the AIM course of French (the Accelerated Integrated Methodology) with the younger classes. AIM was developed by a Canadian educator, Wendy Maxwell, in 2004, with the intention of helping students become more confident and fluent in French. It is based on the idea of teaching a core set of the most frequently used vocabulary, called the PDL (Pared Down Language) combined with the use of gestures, to help with the learning of another language. The students will then be able to use their new vocabulary and gestures to learn a story in French, and to be able to act it out. There are songs and dances that go with the stories that are fun to learn as well.

With the older classes we will look at topic areas decided upon collaboratively, where possible, taking into account the students’ particular interests. These topics will be supported by a variety of resources, including using the gestures from the AIM program, to reinforce learning.

The website www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/languagesonline will provide additional activities for students to expand their learning of French.

Students will be encouraged to bring French Show and Tell again this year, and it is always amazing for me to see the diverse range of items found by the children! This often leads to interesting discussions and can further influence what we look at in the curriculum.

During the year, there will be opportunities for students to participate in competitions run by SAFTA, (the SA French Teachers’ Association), including poetry and pétanque.

In Term 2 I will be hosting a “Coffee and Croissants” morning tea for parents and caregivers. I will provide more information nearer the time.

There will be an opportunity for students to share their learning at the French Assembly, to be held at the end of Term 3. It is always a colourful day, where the students dress up in “bleu, blanc et rouge” (the colours of the French flag) to celebrate all things French. Croissants will also be available for families to order on the day, to continue the celebrations at home.

Please feel free to visit me in the French Room at any time, especially on Acquaintance Night.

Amitiés, (Regards),

Lea Garrett.

Scholastic Book Club

You will soon be receiving the first of the Scholastic Book Club brochures for you to purchase great books at a great price. Scholastic has 3 ways to pay, online (preferred), cash to the school or cheque made payable to Scholastic Australia. Thank you to Vanessa for coordinating Book Club.

OSHC News

Congratulations to Paringa OSHC! Recently the OSHC service was externally assessed by the Standards Board of SA. The assessment is quite extensive and was rated on the Educational program and practices, the children’s health and safety, staffing, relationships with children, collaborative partnerships with families and communities and the Leadership and service management. We are delighted that the overall rating for the service reflected that all of the standards are being met. Well done everyone involved!

Canteen News

Would you like to be a part of the best volunteer team ever? If you are able to help, please see Julie or Leesa in the Canteen as soon as possible. You will need to have RAN training. Your roster will be sent home to you. Remember it is a wonderful way to be involved with your child’s school and meet new people along the way!

*Please note that there have been changes in the price of some of our menu items.

Out of Hours Sport Nomination Forms

Please return forms to the front office as soon as possible. We rely on parent volunteers to coordinate and support each sport offered. Without this valuable support, the sports cannot go ahead.

We are currently in desperate need of a volleyball coordinator for this year. The competition starts next Friday, Leesa Turner has kindly offered to nominate and register teams but is unable to oversee the program this year. Please contact Leesa or Paul Taylor if you can assist with this position.

If you are a sports coordinator or coach this year please contact Paul Taylor via email so a meeting can be arranged for the Out of Hours Sports committee. Paul’s email is paul.taylor943@schools.sa.edu.au.

The Instrumental Music Service invites 2016 Year 5 and 6 students

Who would like to learn a musical instrument to attend
an:

INFORMATION SESSION
Brighton Secondary School Music Centre
Wednesday Feb 10 2016 (Week 2)
or
Wednesday Feb 17 2016 (week 3)
9.00 – 10.00am

Parents and prospective students are welcome. The instruments that will be offered in 2016 are:

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone
Tuba, Electric Bass and Percussion.

For more information or to register your interest please email Sue Asser (Hub Coordinator) at Sue.Asser329@schools.sa.edu.au or text to mobile 0400 570 089. Include name, year and school.

BEACHFRONT HUB CONTINUING STUDENTS
Start in week 2
Band for everyone 8-9am
The Annual General Meeting of the Paringa Park School community will be held at school on Monday 15 February 2016 from 7 to 8pm in the Staff Room. Crèche facilities will be available.

I would highly recommend that you attend the A.G.M, as it will provide you with information about our school's achievements this year.

Parents interested in nominating for the Governing Council vacancies for 2016 are asked to submit their name and telephone number to the School Principal on the included nomination form, or by contacting the Principal directly.

We urge you to consider the possibility of being a member of Governing Council. It is through the Governing Council in particular that the Principal and Staff of the School are able to remain informed about the wishes of the local school community. Also, as a member of Governing Council, you personally will become much better informed about the operation of the School and the quality of State education, and be able to actively contribute to the future directions of the School.

As a locally managed school, the constitution of the Governing Council outlines the following membership guidelines:

- The majority of councillors must be elected parents of the school.
- At the time of election, nomination or appointment, persons who are DECD employees must not comprise the majority of elected parent members and must not comprise the majority of councillors.
- A person is not eligible for election, appointment or nomination to the Council, if the person is an undischarged bankrupt or is receiving the benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors or has been convicted of any offence prescribed by administrative instruction.
- Councillors will be elected for a two-year term.
- Only parents of the school may vote to elect councillors.

Governing Council meets twice each term from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, on a Monday night. Parents will receive a summarized copy of the Governing Council Annual Report for 2015. Copies of the report will be available at the meeting, or by request at the front office. Following the meeting the Report will also be accessible on the school web site.

Governing Council Committees
The Governing Council also has a number of Committees, which include: Finance, Facilities & Grounds, Parents and Community, Sport, Dress Code, Canteen, and OSHC.

To be on a Governing Council Committee, it is not necessary to be a member of the Governing Council. Membership of Committees may include Governing Council members, non-Governing Council members, staff and interested school community members. Parent representation is essential on these committees to ensure that a wide variety of view points is received.

Governing Council members on Committees report back to the Governing Council. If you would like to be a member of any of the above Committees, could you please indicate on the attached tear off slip and return to Lyn as soon as possible.
PARINGA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
GOVERNING COUNCIL - NOMINATIONS FORM 2016

Name: (please print) ___________________________ Phone No: ____________

Child’s Name: _______________________________ Class Room ___________

I am interested in the following Sub Committees: (please number the boxes, in preference)

☐ Facilities
☐ Out of School Hours Care
☐ Canteen
☐ Parents and Community
☐ Dress Code
☐ Out of School Hour Sports
☐ Finance

I nominate to join the Governing Council

Signed: ________________________________________

Seconded: Name: _______________________________

Signed: _______________________________________

♦ Positions on the Governing Council are nominally for a term of 2 years. Only half the positions become vacant each year, so that there is continuity.
♦ The number of members on the Governing Council was extended last year and currently there are 9 vacancies.
♦ In the event that more than 9 individuals are nominated, elections will be held. Nominee may be required to give a brief statement of why they should be elected.
♦ Council Members are expected to belong to at least one (1) sub committee. They are not required to be Convenor or Chairperson of that committee but are required to represent that sub committee at Governing Council meetings.