Dear parents and carers

**Acquaintance Night**
Tuesday night last week saw a terrific turn out of parents for our Acquaintance Night. Our aims included:
- Meeting the teacher
- Seeing the classroom
- Learning about class routines and plans for the year
- Finding out about specialist learning areas (PE, French, Music)
- Finding out how you can help.

Teachers put much preparation into their presentations and displays for you. By attending and showing you care about school, you send a very positive message to your children that education is important. Feedback I’ve had suggests parents found it very informative.

**Governing Council**

Many thanks to the 36 parents and staff who attended our AGM on Monday. A total of 21 parents nominated for Gov Council which is a very healthy number. Ours is a vibrant and hardworking council whom I look forward to working with this year. The following people will form our Governing Council for 2016.

Congratulations to the following people who were voted into executive positions:

- **Chairperson:** Tim Munn
- **Deputy Chairperson:** Darren Fong
- **Secretary:** Karina Fox
- **Treasurer:** Linda Chambers

Continuing and renominating council members are:

Claire Lovejoy, Tim Munn, Darren Fong, Claire Brockley, Trish Evans, Linda Chambers, Chris Hamer, Sarah Arnold, Matt Taylor, Amy Kelsh, Karina Fox and Matthew McGill.

A big welcome to the following members, for their first time on council; Laura Fitton, Todd Bamford, Craig Lancaster, Melissa Flanagan, Jacqui Mortimer, Anthony Venning, David Armstrong and Kylie Hamblin.

Rev Barbara Paull-Hunt continues as our community rep and Jacquie Grover is the staff rep for term one. Phil Reid and Paul Taylor represent leadership.

I take this opportunity to thank our retiring members, Christie Davis, Mark Hofmeyer and Margaret Pummeroy for their contributions and am pleased to hear they will continue to be part of our committees.

An important part of council is the sub committees where a lot of the ‘leg work’ is done. We are looking for other parents to join us on these as you don’t have to be on council. These groups meet once or twice a term. The meeting times will accommodate the members of the group.

The sub committees and when they normally meet are:

- **Facilities** (usually meet at 4.00pm on a Monday); **Sport** (7.00pm day tba)
- **Canteen** (meet during school time); **Parents & Community** (6.00pm day tba)
- **Finance** (Friday 8.00am twice a term); **Dress Code** (during school time); **OSHC** (6.00pm day tba)

If you would like to join a committee please forward us an email or call the front office asap.

Phil Reid Principal
Children's University
Last year our Year 3 and 4 students had the opportunity to be involved in the International Children’s University program, operated locally by Adelaide University. This year we will extend it to include Year 5’s. The concept promotes that learning can take place ‘anytime, anywhere’ and involves them having a ‘learning passport’ which they get stamped by participating in a variety of out of school hours activities available in the community or provided by our and other local schools. Once a year there is a graduation ceremony held at Adelaide University at which they will receive a certain level of certificate dependant on how many hours they have completed. All activities must be approved as suitable and range from a museum, scouts, sports practice, chess club etc – the list is endless. We would like to offer a few activities/clubs here at school and are asking if there are any parents that have a skill, passion or interest in something they think would interest our students. The activity can run for any length of time from 2 weeks to a year and can be after school or even at lunchtime.

Library News
It is great to see so many children borrowing from our library. We have recently emailed some parents with reminder messages from overdue books from last year. Please send these in as soon as possible so that others can access these resources. If you are having trouble locating these books just come and talk to us and we will see what we can do about helping and searching together, or about replacing lost items – we are quite friendly, we simply want top quality books for all our students, and them growing as readers and information gatherers and consumers.

Premier’s Reading Challenge – Reading and caring for the environment.
Student Reading Record 2016 Reception to Year 7
While we are encouraging the students to rise to the reading challenge with their 12 books (8 at the top from their age appropriate list and 4 of any kind at the bottom) we are also going as paperless as possible this year. While children are reading they can fill in their titles and authors on any paper (or digitally on the e-form) and submit these via email or by bringing in a hard copy to the library. Once they have completed the challenge they will be given a sticker with their name on to be included in their class area on the ‘display’ which will be coming to the Picture Book Room very soon. Thanks for supporting your children and the environment with the challenge this year.

Coding Challenges! Rock on Robots!
Coding has been flavour of the month in the Library with four classes regularly attending each week and learning to program and code with ScratchJr, a free coding app on the iPad minis. The classes have been from Year 1 to Year 3 and to watch these children go from game consumers to game creators is magnificent. They are taking risks, solving problems, finding solutions, decoding complex programs and redesigning their own sequences to design new ideas. The thinking and collaboration is fantastic. From Monday these same children will begin using the new Romo Robots. Look out – the possibilities are endless.

School Photographs
This year’s school photos will be taken on Tuesday March 1. In preparation for this, students will be bringing home pre-payment envelopes for families to look at packages available. The envelopes must be returned on the day regardless of purchase. Siblings can only be photographed if they attend the same school together and separate envelopes can be collected at the front office.

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.

Sweet Treat Week
The canteen will be selling Golden North Ice creams at both recess and lunchtime all next week. Giant Twins $3 Ice cream cups and yogurt cups $1.50 and Giant Swings $2.00.

Julie and Leesa

Judy and Anne
School Banking Account Opening Day
Paringa Park Primary School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their 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 behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a Dollarmites token, and once they've collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.

Some of the rewards available during 2016 are:
- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope

We will be holding an Account Opening Day at our school:
Time: 8:30 – 9:30am
Date: Friday 11 March
Location: on school grounds

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along your current driver’s licence or another form of photographic identification. Alternatively, you can open an account at your local branch. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, information packs will be sent home soon or you can collect one from your local Branch. Your closest branch is at Marion Shopping Centre.

Volunteers in Schools – Changes to Screening
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 a regular basis. Thank you.

Footy News – The Footy Season is coming!!
Hi everyone – hope you had a great Xmas break. The footy season is now starting to gear up with the first round of the NAB challenge kicking off this weekend with Hawthorn vs Carlton. Thank you to all those that have already returned their Out of Hours Sports forms. Although footy does not start until next term I am already busy planning the teams, fixtures, checking the kits and attending meetings with the Tiger League which is based at Glenelg Football Club.
Can we have all remaining forms back as soon as possible and I encourage all those players in years 4, 5 and 7 to put themselves forward. We are currently short of helpers especially in years 2 and 3 so if you are able to assist please contact me directly via the school office or return the forms and I will be in touch. Many thanks for your response and support.
Chris Hamer – School Footy Coordinator.

Outdoor Adventure Challenge – 6 March 2016
The Outdoor Adventure Challenge is a fun day where families and friends can spend time finding out some of the great outdoor spaces and sporting facilities located around the City of Holdfast and try some great activities and challenges together. The event is being held from 10am-2pm on Sunday 6 March and families can register at www.holdfast.sa.gov.au/beactive

Staff Profile
Name: Robert Pearl
Role in the school: Year 3 Teacher
Pets: None.
Favourite Food: Any type of pasta really, but if I had to pick it would be Lasagne!
Favourite holiday destination: I spent 6 months abroad last year and during my travels I discovered my favourite holiday destination, Cinque Terra in Italy. Also known as the Five Villages, the views are outstanding and would go back there in an instant!
Favourite sporting team: My two main sports are Aussie Rules and Cricket. I follow Essendon in the AFL and Strikers in the cricket.
Favourite movie: I have 3! Good Will Hunting, Coach Carter and Remember the Titans.
Favourite TV show: Suits.
Favourite musician/band: Foo Fighters
Hobbies or interests: Cycling, running, hanging out with friends and going to the beach.
Do you have any other hidden talents? Paving/Landscaping
What’s your favourite subject to teach/activity to undertake? It’s a hard one to narrow down because I love many, however, my two favourite subjects would be Maths and Physical Education (PE).
If you could relive one day of your life which one would it be? Skydiving from 10,000 feet was something I will never forget! It was a 21st birthday present from my friends.
If you could invite any 4 people (past or present) to dinner, who would they be and why?
Robin Williams (past) – My favourite actor. His sense of humour is refreshing and something that I love to do is have a good laugh. Not only is he a comedian but someone who has a world of knowledge to share on different aspects of life.
Jim Carey (present) – Again another comedian, I just can’t go past him. Would make for an entertaining night that’s for sure.
Michael Jordan (present) – To find out what drives someone to be so competitive.
Nelson Mandela (past) – Was a highly respected and influential figure that was loved by many throughout the world. His insight into his life journey, the time during the apartheid and his reign as president of South Africa would be incredible.
What’s your favourite thing about Paringa Park PS so far? Paringa Park is a great community to be part of. It is a vibrant and happy place for students and teachers. I especially enjoy engaging with students to guide and facilitate their individual growth.
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<th>Term 1</th>
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<td>29/3</td>
<td>SAPSASA Lacrosse</td>
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