



NEWSLETTER

Term 1 No 1

Thurs Jan 29th 2015

www.millelps.sa.edu.au

Principal – Stephen Jolley
Chairperson – Tim Scanlon

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all students and families. We start the year with 98 students and it has been wonderful to see the excitement and enthusiasm that comes with starting a new school year.

A number of students and families have joined our school this year. Jorja Beck, Eamon Brooks, Matilda Clark, Phoenix Cole, Isabelle Gamble, Caleb Grace, Cameron Grace, Sarah Johns, Tom McFarlane, Alice Mitchell, Cooper Munn, Evelyn Paltridge, Jemima Paltridge, Grace Peucker, Jakob Walkom and Alistair Wintulich have started school for the first time this week. We welcome these students and their families and trust their time with us will be enjoyable and rewarding. Along with our new students we also welcome several new staff members to our school: Eryn Brumby (Yr 5, 6 & 7 teacher), Gail Sloan (Yr 1 & 2 teacher) and Charmaine Ramage (SSO Class Support).

Our class and teaching arrangements for this year are:

- Rec & Yr 1 (23 students) Teacher: Mr Ben Savage
- Yr 1 & 2 (26 students) Teacher: Mrs Gail Sloan
- Yr 3 & 4 (25 students) Teacher: Mrs Judy Harradine/Mrs Shirley Hogg
- Yr 5, 6 & 7 (24 students) Teacher: Ms Eryn Brumby

Our SSO staffing for this year is:

Judy Lacey (Administration/Finance) Jill Gilmore (Library & class support)
Angela Beltakis (Class support) Carolyn Jones (Class support)
Sandra Robinson (Class support) Steven Grosvenor (Computing support)
Charmaine Ramage (Class support) Patrick Dean (Grounds)

The staff and I look forward to working collaboratively with the school community. Supportive and positive home-school partnerships are crucial in providing a great environment for our students to learn and develop. At any time during the year I encourage you to talk to myself and our teachers about your child, their learning and any concerns that you may have.

Regards,

Stephen



Our Reception students who started school for the first time this week.

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PLEASE FIND THE FOLLOWING INSERTS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

- Term 1 2015 Planner
- M&S and Swimming Accounts
- Swimming & Aquatic consent/medical form
- DECD Consent Form
- MLPS External Fire Policy
- Information for Volunteers
- MLPS reply slips insert
- Parent Club insert including reply slips
- Parent Club 'Welcome' Morning Tea invitation
- Canberra Camp Cup Cake order form
- Community Event invitation

DATES TO REMEMBER

February

Monday 2 nd	Heat Ups commence. Roster – Fiona Harten.
Wednesday 4 th	Canberra Camp Cup Cake day.
Friday 6 th	Parent Club Meeting 1:00pm.
Monday 9 th	Heat Ups Roster – TBA.
	Assembly, 3:00pm.
Tuesday 10 th	Acquaintance Night BBQ, 5:00pm.
	Governing Council AGM & general meeting, 7:00pm.
Wednesday 11 th	Parent Club 'Welcome' Morning Tea, 9:00am.
Friday 13 th	Issue 1 Book Club closing date.
	T-Ball commences.
Monday 16 th	Swimming commences – Year 3-7 & Year 1&2 class.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY

The District Council have recently painted the 'zigzag' road lines near our school. Please ensure that you are travelling at the appropriate speed limit when in this zone. Like class routines, students also need to learn appropriate road and car park safety routines as well, please use the start of term as an opportunity to reinforce good habits in this area including the importance of walking along the fence line. We also ask that families remain vigilant at drop off and pick up times, these are busy periods and it is important to watch out for students and other traffic at these times.

FACILITY UPGRADES

Over the holiday break we had two significant upgrades to our school. Firstly, all classes have had a new interactive LCD screen installed. These screens have an amazing picture quality and will be a fantastic resource for student learning. Stage one of the shelter upgrade has also occurred with the addition of two sliding doors. These doors will prove a great asset during winter time to prevent rain entering this area. Stage two will involve extending the shelter further outwards towards the Sherwin Rd end of the class block and will occur in the April holidays.

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT

A combined Acquaintance Night and Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 10th. The Acquaintance Night will provide an opportunity for families to visit their child/children's class and find out about class routines and expectations. The format of the evening will involve each class being 'open' for a specific time, they being:

- 5.30 – 5.50pm Reception & Yr 1
- 5.50 – 6.10pm Yr 1 & 2
- 6.10 – 6.30pm Yr 3 & 4
- 6.30 – 6.50pm Yr 5, 6 & 7

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT BBQ

Families are able to place an order for sausages and hamburgers which will be provided by the school and cooked on the night by parent volunteers (see reply slip). Families will be responsible for bringing their own salad and utensils or other extras (including drinks) if they choose but will not have to bring any meat to cook or bread. The BBQ will be available from 5pm and families can eat either before or after they visit the classrooms.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will commence at 7.00pm and the first Governing Council meeting of the year will follow after this has been held. Parents are welcome to stay for the AGM; please see the newsletter information regarding Governing Council if you are interested in joining this group.

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Following the AGM our first Governing Council meeting will be held. If you are interested in nominating for Governing Council this year please register your interest by returning the attached reply slip with this newsletter.

Governing Council Member Information

Continuing members for this year:

George Beck, Anne Gaffney, Michael Kirby, Matthew Johns.

Members whose tenure finished at the end of 2014:

Rob Harding, Lucy Innes, Rebecca Opperman, Judi Paul, Mark Robinson, Tim Scanlon, Stacey Stafford.

MATERIALS AND SERVICES INFORMATION

Invoices have been sent home today for Materials and Services Fees and Swimming. Please ensure these are paid by the due date which is by the end of Term 1 for Materials and Services fees and prior to the lessons commencing in Week 4 for swimming fees. These can be paid at the front office by cash, cheque or EFTPOS, by Direct Debit by Instalment or if you wish to use EFT direct to the school account please refer to the bank details printed on the invoice. If you have any concerns over the payment of these amounts please let us know.

SCHOOL CARD

For eligible families the School Card Scheme supports families with the cost of Materials and Services fees. Families that feel that they may be entitled to School Card are asked to call into the front office and collect the application forms and details as soon as possible.

SWIMMING LESSON INFORMATION

Students in Years 3-7 participate in two weeks of lessons and R-Year 2 students have one week of lessons which are held at the Aquatic Centre in Mount Gambier. The dates for the lessons are as follows:

- Week 4 Feb 16th – 20th
Years 3-7 and Mrs Sloan's Class
- Week 5 Feb 23rd – 27th
Years 3-7 and Mr Savage's Class

Lessons for all students are from 1:30-2:15pm. We will be having an earlier lunch and depart school by bus at approximately 1:00pm and returning to school at approximately 3:00pm during these dates. It is an expectation that all students participate in swimming lessons. If you have any further queries please speak to your child's class teacher. Students are not permitted to bring money to purchase items from the Aquatic Centre Canteen.

If your family has a season pass to the Aquatic Centre can you please contact us because this will impact on the cost of your child/children's swimming lessons.

PHOTOGRAPHING OF STUDENTS

Throughout the year we understand that some parents may wish to photograph or film their children's participation in school events such as swimming lessons or assemblies.

In order to ensure the privacy of all students, please be aware that any vision or photographs taken must be for personal use only.

When taking photographs, please try to include only your child in the image. Images taken of students other than your child, require the consent of their parents, and should not be placed on public forums such as *Facebook* or *You Tube*.

We appreciate your respect and co-operation in this matter.

SRC

From next week, icy poles are being sold under the shelter during lunch times this term for 40¢ each. Students will be limited to buying no more than 2 each day and we also discourage children buying icy poles for their friends.

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ASSEMBLY ARRANGEMENTS

Our assemblies for Term 1 will be held in Weeks 3, 6 and 9. Each class will take it in turns to provide comperes for the assembly and if so, will not present any class work on this day. Our arrangements for this term are (the named compere class will not be showing class work):

Date	Class Compere
Week 3, Mon Feb 9 th	Year 3 & 4
Week 6, Tue March 3 rd	Year 5,6 & 7
Week 9, Tue March 24 th	Rec/Yr 1

Our assemblies commence at approximately 3:00pm and all families are welcome to join us. If the weather is fine, our first assembly will be held under the shelter near the Library.

FIRE POLICY

Enclosed in this week's newsletter is our External Fire Policy. Please note the following points:

- Mil Lel PS is not rated a 'high risk' site therefore will remain open on days when Catastrophic Weather Conditions are forecast.
- If Catastrophic Weather Conditions are forecast, no buses will run in our local area, including the bus run to our school. If the forecast is upgraded to Catastrophic during the day buses will operate as per normal unless otherwise instructed by emergency services.
- Refer to the CFS website or call 1800 000 279 for further information. The CFS will declare fire danger ratings from approximately 4pm the day before.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM: PASTORAL CARE WORKER

Our school has been successful in receiving funding to have a Pastoral Care Worker. Prior to this year we had a similar position that was titled 'Student Welfare Worker' that was filled by Robyn Howard. Although the position has a different title, the role will be the same. The employment criteria of this new position required the following:

- Evidence that the school community supported this role (our school community was surveyed in Term 4

last year and the results supported this position).

- Evidence of religious qualification or endorsement by an accepted organisation.
- Evidence of qualifications that meet the program requirements.

As such, I am pleased to announce that Robyn Howard will carry out this role at our school.

Robyn meets the criteria, including having a background in Social Work. Her role will be aimed at supporting and promoting student wellbeing at our school. Examples of Robyn's role at our school include managing SRC meetings, organising SRC fundraisers, running lunch time activities for students and helping with various class activities. If needed, Robyn also acts as a support person to assist students with personal/social needs where appropriate and in consultation with teachers. If you do not wish your child to participate in any activities involving our Student Welfare Worker this year or have any further queries about this position, please speak to Stephen.

STUDENT PROFILES

A regular feature of our newsletters is 'student profiles'. Student profiles 'spotlight' our students whereby each fortnight 3 students are interviewed to find out such things as their interests, hobbies and what they like doing at school. A photo of the child also accompanies their information which is then sent home to all families in our newsletter. Students enjoy reading one another's profile information and it also provides a positive way of getting to know our students at Mil Lel. We request that families let us know if they do not wish their child to be featured in a Student Profile. Even though our newsletter is available on our school website the student profile information is not put on the website.

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T-BALL INFORMATION

A T-ball competition for boys and girls in Years 3 to 5 will be run in Term 1. Games will be played on Friday evenings from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. The first game is on February 13th and the weekly venue is the baseball grounds at Blue Lake Sports Park. If you are interested in your child/children playing school T-ball please fill out the reply slip and return it to the front office by Monday February 2nd. All equipment is provided and players wear their school uniform.

We do require parent assistance with coaching/managing the team so please indicate if you are prepared to help out.

VOLUNTEER POLICY & RELEVANT HISTORY SCREENING

For parents and other volunteers that help out at our school in any capacity, such as listening to reading, attending a class excursion or being a Governing Council Member, a Relevant History Screening is required. If you have not had a screening and are intending to volunteer at the school please see us at the front office so that we can help you with this process. Many parents have already completed one previously and if you are unsure when yours expires, please also ask at the front office. If you have received clearance through an alternative DECD site, please let us know so that our records can be updated. Included in this Newsletter is a copy of our Volunteer Policy. We ask that all parents who anticipate volunteering at the school familiarize themselves with the information in this document. Volunteers are also encouraged to participate in a 'Reporting Abuse and Neglect' information session. This session covers a variety of child protection matters and how they relate to the role of a volunteer. Sessions will be offered on the following dates (volunteers only need to participate in one session):
Thursday March 5th at 5.30pm
Friday March 6th at 2.30pm
Volunteers that have previously participated in this information session are not required to attend.

STUDENT DETAILS UPDATE

We remind parents of the importance to keep telephone numbers, especially mobile numbers, and emergency contacts up to date so that we can easily contact someone when your child is ill or injured. Medical conditions are of particular significance where it is necessary for us to know the condition and symptoms/treatment. Please notify us of any changes to your child's details by Monday February 2nd.

REQUEST FOR HELP

We have had to cut down a tree in the yard and need some assistance with taking the limbs away. If you are able to help with this task it would be much appreciated. We need someone with the space on their property to put it and a trailer to load it on (it is approximately 1 trailer load). If you are able to assist please call the school or fill out the reply slip.

CANBERRA CAMP FUNDRAISER

During the year a number of fundraising activities will be held to help meet the costs of the Year 6 & 7 camp to Canberra in Term 3. In Term 1, families of the students attending camp are having a day each fortnight selling cup cakes to all students at the school. The first day is next Wednesday February 4th. Enclosed is an order form; please complete it and return it to school (front office) by this Monday if your child wishes to place an order.

REPLY SLIPS

Due to the high number of reply slips for both the school and Parent Club in this week's newsletter we have provided them in separate documents. Therefore there is no need to return individual reply slips. We request that you complete the sections relevant to you, leave the other sections blank and then return the entire form.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

You will find further information regarding the following on our Notice Board, by phone contact numbers or visiting websites provided.

PIANO LESSONS

If your child is in Year 2 or above and is interested in learning the piano at school please contact Daniel Lynn on 0408 842 425 to discuss possible commencement of lessons this year.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend the School Dental Service. **Dental care is FREE for most children.**

SA Dental Service participates in the *Child Dental Benefits Schedule*. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the *Child Dental Benefits Schedule*.

All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the *Child Dental Benefits Schedule*, please visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au

CAVALIERS HOCKEY REGISTRATION DAY

All new and current adult and junior players welcome
February 15th 2015, 11.30AM-2.30PM at Blue Lake Sports Park Hockey Clubrooms
Sausage sizzle provided

For further information or unable to attend but wish to play phone Malcolm Kilsby (President) on 0417 385 322 or email cavaliershockeyclubinc@hotmail.com

BLUE LAKE SOCCER CLUB - MALSEED PARK - 2015 TRAINING TIMES

We welcome new players for all grades

Under 12 & Under 14 Wednesday's 5.15 - 7.00pm Contact Damien 0407438461

Under 17's Thursday's (from Feb 12th) 5.30pm Contact Rajko 0407715846 or Simon 0437976948

Seniors Tuesday & Friday 6.00pm Contact Lew 0439819066

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