



Acting Principal:
Karen Knox

Deputy Principal:
Rachael Courtney

School Counsellor:
To be advised

Council Chairperson:
Alison Turner

WEEK 3, TERM 1
Friday, 19th February,
2016

The next assembly will be on
Friday, 26th February, 2016, at
10:15am and will be hosted by
Neil Lohmeyer's Year 6/7 class.



Download our app
from the App store
or Google Play

Dedicated Phone Numbers

Kitchen Garden Volunteers: 0408 637 850
POSHC Enquiries: 0413 482 521
Student Absences: 0412 089 811

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Acquaintance Night
- Canteen Volunteers
- Credit Union SA
- Easter Raffle Donations
- Easter Special Lunch
- Farewell to Linda Olifent
- Governing Council AGM
- Library News 2016
- Mother's Day Stall Donations
- Pimpala Skoolbag App
- Pupil Free Day
- Reminder - Student Permission Form
- School Photos
- School Sports 2016
- Send Spare Clothes
- Volunteer Workshops
- **Back Page:** Ms Howlett & Ms Sim's Year One Classes
- **Inserts:** Letter from Linda Olifent

DIARY DATES

24 Feb	Acquaintance Night 5:30pm
24 Feb	Annual General Meeting 6:45pm
9 March	Easter Lunch Orders Due
11 Mar	Pupil Free Day
14 Mar	Adelaide Cup Day Public Holiday
16 Mar	Special Easter Lunch
22 Mar	Easter Raffle Assembly 2:30pm

dl.1059.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Pimpala Press

* RESPONSIBILITY * RESPECT * COMMUNICATION *
* EXCELLENCE * FRIENDSHIP *

As we settle into the school year, there are always questions about homework. The most important homework that students can do regularly is to read. Did you know that students who read 20 minutes each day read for 3600 minutes in a school year which relates to approximately 1,800,000 words. By the end of Year 6 these students will have read for the equivalent of 60 whole school days. That is an amazing amount of vocabulary that students can read!

When students are beginning to learn to read they often love to re-read their favourite books over and over again. While this may feel painfully repetitive to adults, there is something in the text that is bringing children back time after time.

Children benefit greatly from re-reading as they learn the rhyming or predictable pattern of the text – rather than spending that time trying to understand what the book is about. Research shows that repeated reading of favourite books can boost vocabulary by up to 40%. This is even more beneficial when the text is read aloud.

When preschool children are frequently read to, their brain areas supporting comprehension and mental imagery are highly engaged. Studies show that this helps with the development of reading skills, such as word recognition, when they start to learn to read.

By assisting our children to develop these skills, we're ensuring that they know that text conveys a message, and to read on for more information when they get stuck on a word. And it's never too early to start reading aloud to your children. Australian author and literacy studies professor Mem Fox says reading to children from birth can help develop a love for and understanding of books.

Reading is a skill for life so please assist your child by ensuring that they read every day and start their journey to read over a million words for this year!

Karen Knox
ACTING PRINCIPAL



24 Vanstone Ave
Morphett Vale SA 5162

Phone: (08) 8326 0900
Fax: (08) 8326 3526

E-mail: dl.1059.info@schools.sa.edu.au
Website: www.pimpalaps.sa.edu.au

FAREWELL TO LINDA OLIFENT

Congratulations to Linda Olifent who has won a position in DECD State Office as Director, Primary Learners. This is a huge, but well deserved promotion for Linda and I am sure you all wish her well in her new role.

Linda has played a significant role at Pimpala PS since she began here in 2007 and many of you I am sure would like to acknowledge her many achievements as leader of our school. To this end we will be having an assembly on Friday, 26th February at 2:45pm for parents and students to farewell Linda. Everyone is welcome to attend.

LIBRARY NEWS 2016

Welcome back to the 2016 school year and a special welcome to all the new families to Pimpala Primary School. Our library is open from 8:30am until 3:30pm and we encourage families to come in and visit before and after school.

Your friendly library staff this year are Deb Hampton, the Teacher Librarian and Karen Campbell, the Library support person. Deb will be in the Library on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and is looking forward to supporting your children with the skills of research and the love of books and reading.

It has been fantastic to see so many students coming to the library to borrow and we would like to remind all Junior Primary parents that library bags are required. Library bags help to protect our books so that they can be borrowed again and again. Of course, we all know that accidents sometimes happen, so if your library book has been lost or damaged in some way, please come to see us so that we can arrange a replacement as soon as possible for others to enjoy.

While you are in the library, look out for our requests box and let us know what books you would like to have in the library. This year we have a new book display which will feature recently purchased books. Many of these books have been bought based on student requests received last year.

The library will be opened on Acquaintance Night and everyone is welcome to visit. We will be hosting a 'Library Discovery Trail', with a small prize for everyone.



MOTHER'S DAY STALL DONATIONS

Mother's Day is **Sunday, 8th May** (the end of Week 1, Term 2). This probably seems a long way away, but we need to start preparing items for sale. At this time we are looking for donations of new items to sell on the Mother's Day Stall.

The generosity of our school community is what makes our school and these special fundraisers such a success. It also offers a community service for students to be able to buy low cost items to give their Mum or caregiver on this special day. If you can donate any new items which would make lovely gifts, please bring them to the Front Office as soon as possible.

REMINDER - STUDENT PERMISSION FORM

2016

We still have a number of outstanding **Student Permission Forms**. Please return them as soon as possible as this form enables your child to participate in school activities including Library Borrowing, Local Excursions and having photos taken.



The Student Permission Forms must be completed each year.

We also have outstanding **Information Technology – Cyber Safety Policy** (for YEAR 4 students only).

This form must be returned (by Year 4 students only) as soon as possible to enable the Year 4 students to access the IT facilities.



CREDIT UNION SA

SCHOOL COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Pimpala PS has joined the Credit Union SA School Community Rewards Program as a fundraiser for the school. Any time you take out any Credit Union SA account, loan or credit card and nominate Pimpala PS as the beneficiary, the Credit Union SA will then regularly pay our school a portion of their profits as a tangible cash benefit.

If you require further information you can contact Mark Kohler School Community Rewards Representative on 8202 7675 or email mkohler@creitunion.sa.com.au Mark is based at the Southgate Plaza branch.

Mark will be available to speak to you in person in the Library on Monday, 22nd and Friday, 26th February from 2:30pm – 4:00pm and will also be at the Acquaintance Night from 5:30pm – 6:30pm in the Courtyard.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS

Pimpala Primary School is conducting its' annual Easter Raffle as part of our major fundraising for the year. To make this a huge success can you please send donations of Easter Eggs or any other Easter goodies to the school from **Monday, 22nd February**. Raffle tickets will be sent home next week, so please support the raffle by selling as many tickets as you can.

Easter is early in the calendar this year with Good Friday falling on 25th March and Easter Monday on 28th March.

EASTER SPECIAL LUNCH

On **Wednesday, 16th March** there will be a special Easter lunch. The lunch will include a chicken burger, a hot cross bun – choice of fruit or choc chip - served at recess time, and an Easter egg and a fruit box.

Order forms have been sent home this week. Please bring your money and order form to the Finance Window by **Wednesday, 9th March**. The cost of the lunch is \$7.00.

There will be no counter sales or lunch orders available on this day. Please note: **NO** late orders will be accepted and **NO** refunds will be given.

Please note: Lunch Orders of more than \$5 can be paid by EFTPOS/Credit Card at the Finance Window between 8:30 – 9:30am.



ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT

You will have the opportunity to meet the class teachers and have a look around the school at our Acquaintance Night on **Wednesday, 24th February**. The students are eager to show you their classrooms and other areas including where they do cooking, Indonesian, the Library, Computer Room and other activities they participate in.

Please come along between 5:30pm and 6:30pm and visit the classrooms. Then after 6:30pm make your way to the Library for the Annual General Meeting which will commence at 6:45pm in the Library. If you would like to join the Governing Council, please come along or let the Front Office know beforehand.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 24th February**, immediately after the Acquaintance Night at 6:45pm.

If you are interested in becoming part of the Governing Council or if you would like to see how it works, please come along. If you are unable to come along on the night but would still like to be a member, please let the Front Office know.

PUPIL FREE DAY

The Department for Education and Child Development approves 4 Pupil Free Days and 1 School Closure Day per year. Governing Council is consulted and approves the days. Governing Council has approved a Pupil Free Day on **Friday, 11th March**, the Friday before the Adelaide Cup Day long weekend, to enable staff to review the Site Improvement Plan.

POSHC will be available. Please contact Hazel Godfrey at Hazel.Godfrey850@schools.sa.edu.au or phone 0413 482 521 for bookings.

TEAM SPORTS 2016

Pimpala Primary School offers a number of opportunities for our students to be involved in team sports (outside of normal school hours), including Basketball, Netball and Soccer. These team sports are separate to the *Sporting Schools* program we are running this term, which is a federally funded initiative for Reception – Year 5 students in Athletics for up to 30 students.

We would like to organise our school sports teams early to ensure we have enough coaches, team managers and coordinators. The season for each sport is run over Terms 2 and 3.

Please note: The number of teams we can offer is solely based on the number of parents who volunteer to coach and be team managers.

All coaches and team managers must have an official working with children clearance through the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion as well as up to date RAN (Responding to Abuse and Neglect) training to be able to undertake these roles. If you are even considering making yourself available as coach or team manager, and you do not have a current clearance, please apply NOW. Some clearance applications have been processed in a short time while others have taken many months. Spare forms are available from the Front Office. Please return all Team Sports 2016 forms **by Friday, 26th February, 2016**.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

We need your help in the canteen. If you are available between 10:30am and 1:00pm on Monday, Wednesday or Fridays please see Trish in the canteen or let the Front Office know. All help is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos for 2016 will be considered by Governing Council at the first meeting after the AGM. Information about the timing and costs of the photos will be advised in later Newsletters.

PIMPALA SKOOLBAG APP

In 2014, we introduced the Pimpala Skoolbag App which is available for both Apple and Android devices. The app is a great asset for school communication.

We use it to remind our community of important dates and upcoming events, and it includes useful information including newsletters, notices that are sent home, class newsletters etc. Users can subscribe to free "push notifications" which will alert you each time a new item is uploaded to the app, or you can customise these notifications so you only receive messages relevant to your child's class or year level.

To customise the notifications you receive, open the app, and then click the 'More...' button at the bottom right of the screen. A number of buttons will appear on the screen – click the 'Setup' button, then 'turn on' any classes or year levels for which you wish to receive notifications.

We strongly recommend that every family in the school with a smart phone or tablet device downloads this app. You will always know what is happening and when, and you will never miss a notice in the bottom of your child's school bag again.

To download the app, go to the App store for Apple products, or Google Play for Android products.

SEND SPARE CLOTHES

So far this year we have had a quite a few little accidents. We would strongly encourage all junior primary parents in particular, to send spare clothes to be kept in your child's bag, for use at school if required.

VOLUNTEER WORKSHOPS

We will be running more RAN training for volunteers this term. If you have not undertaken the training, you will not be able to volunteer in school until it is completed. More information will be sent home shortly.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Have you ever considered studying at university? Are you unsure of the options available? Are you interested in completing a free course in your local community? Flinders University, in partnership with TAFE SA and Community Centres are offering a FREE course for participants to obtain a Certificate III in General Education for Adults. The 'Access Uni' course will be available at a number of Community Centres in your area; Hackham West, Aberfoyle and Marion. The course commences on 29th February 2016, spaces will fill fast. For further information about Access Uni, please call Jane on 8201 7881 or email jane.brzezinski@flinders.edu.au