Sound familiar? Ever heard your child say something like this? Moreover, have these words passed your lips at some stage in your life? Let’s be honest, Maths is not everyone’s favourite subject. Some people have had bad experiences learning Maths at school. They believe that it’s a subject consisting mainly of rote fact learning and is generally one of the ‘dull and uninteresting’ subjects. Well, I’m here to convince you otherwise.

The truth is, that whilst memorising basic number facts is a valuable part of Mathematics, that’s not what Maths is all about. Remember in high school when your teacher told you to open your text book and complete all of the odd number questions in section 4E... 😊

If that’s the last thing we, as adults, can remember about learning Maths at school, it doesn’t paint a bright picture of what we expect our children to be doing at school. It also doesn’t arm us with the confidence and conviction to encourage our children when they are not feeling positive about their abilities in Maths, are struggling, or simply believe that Maths just isn’t for them. So how can parents and carers show their children just how important it is to learn mathematical concepts? How can we support them to develop the fundamental skills of problem solving, pattern finding, constructive critical thinking and reasoning that are an integral part of everyday life? How can we help them to see the wonder of Maths and how exciting and engaging it can be?

Firstly, your child is enrolled at Pimpala Primary School, which means they are lucky to be supported and guided by a team of educators who are dedicated to creating quality, engaging teaching and learning for all students. Secondly, all classes have taken our Pimpala Community Pledge to improve how our students see themselves as learners:

“We pledge to approach our learning with a growth mindset and work hard to grow our understanding and attitudes about learning. We will not say things like “I’m not good at that” or “I can’t do it”. We will value learning more than looking smart and persevere when learning gets difficult. We will celebrate our mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow”.

Each class has the pledge on display as a commitment and reminder of the positive attitudes towards learning that we aim to foster, with particular focus in Maths. Being numerate is as important as being literate and it is up to us, as educators, and you, as parents and carers, to show our kids how much we value mathematical learning so that they can grow up to be confident and successful mathematicians. So, why not take the pledge yourself? Go on, start the commitment for change in how we see Maths. I dare you. 😊

Elira Dixon
Student Learning Support
Numeracy
PARKING, SAFETY & SPEED LIMITS
The “Drop Off and Pick Up” zone on Vanstone Avenue is a great option for parents bringing or collecting children from school. Each morning and afternoon parents can drop off or pick up their children out the front of the school on the Eastern side of Vanstone Avenue without having to find a park or walking into the school grounds. A staff member is on duty at the zone from 8:30am to 8:50am each morning and from 3:10pm to 3:25 each afternoon.

As a large number of vehicles use Vanstone Avenue it is very important that everyone reduces their speed along the road. As parking is allowed on the western side of Vanstone Avenue, some families, and children on their own, cross the road at busy times so PLEASE ensure you are only travelling at or below 25kph. Safety is our priority, please demonstrate to our students that you also care about their safety and monitor your speed.

Now that the Pimpala Kindy is operational there appears to be an issue with people walking through the car park to gain access. Please do not walk through the car park. Instead, please enter through the main entrance gate into the school grounds and use the access gates to the kindy.

There still appears to be some confusion about where you can park around the school. The Onkaparinga Council regularly patrols the area and infringement notices are issued if you do not obey the parking signs. Please note: infringement notices are also issued to anyone parking on the school grounds in our Disabled Parks without a permit.

This is an explanation of what the parking signs mean which has been taken from the mylicence.sa.gov.au website.

NO STOPPING
To ‘stop’ a vehicle means to stop and remain stationary for even a short period of time. You must not stop or park your vehicle in any area where a “No Stopping” sign or a continuous yellow edge line applies, even to pick up or set down passengers or goods.

NO PARKING
You must not park your vehicle in an area where a “No Parking” sign applies, unless
- you are dropping off or picking up passengers or goods
- you do not leave the vehicle unattended - that is, move more than three metres away, and
- you complete the dropping off or picking up as soon as possible – in any case, within two minutes.

The turning circle on Easton Road is now a “No Parking” zone and can be used as a kiss and drop area.

Pursuant to our Sunsmart Policy, school hats are not required to be worn during Winter months, 1st June to 31st August each year.

Hats will be required to be worn from Thursday, 1st September.

PUPIL FREE DAY
Don’t forget there will be a Pupil Free Day on Friday, 3rd June to enable staff from schools in the Panalatinga Partnership to attend training and development. This will involve up to 18 schools / preschools.

POSHC will be available if required. Please contact Hazel.Godfrey850@schools.sa.edu.au or phone 0413 482 521.

YEAR 7/8 TRANSITION FORMS
Year 7/8 information packs were sent home at the end of last term. Please return the completed ED176 form to the Front Office by Friday, 27th May.

Secondary School open dates and times are available from individual school websites. Please see Barb in the Front Office if you require any further information about the process.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos have been scheduled to be taken on Wednesday, 29th June, 2016 by “The School Photographer”. More information will be provided soon.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS / MID-YEAR REPORTS
In Week 9 of this term mid-year reports will be available for collection at your Parent / Teacher interview. Letters with interview times will be sent home with your child in Week 6.

If you are in a separated family situation and want to make sure you receive the information about the parent / teacher interviews, please contact the Front Office so we can ensure you get the interview letter.

UPDATING OUR RECORDS
The Student Enrolment Form is a snapshot of your child and family at the time they start school and changes often happen over the course of time eg your child may have developed a medical condition such as asthma, or allergies, there may be new siblings, you may have moved house, changed living arrangements, or changed phone numbers etc.

Can you please ensure that you keep us up to date with any changes to your family information as a priority. We need to make sure we can contact you in an emergency, that we contact the right parent and emergency contacts, and that we can provide the right medical treatment and food through our SAKG program. We appreciate your assistance.

NUT AWARE POLICY
Pimpala Primary School is a Nut-Aware school. Please refer to the enclosed policy to ensure you do not bring foods containing nuts to school, so that we can keep our students safe.
**CHICKEN POX**

We have recently had a few confirmed cases of chicken pox amongst our school community and have sent home a note when there was a likelihood of the affected person being contagious whilst at school.

All cases of chicken pox must be reported by the doctor to the Department of Health so it is important to get a doctor’s appointment if you suspect your child may have chicken pox.

**SAPSASA DISTRICT ATHLETICS DAY**

On Friday, 6th May, 31 students travelled to Reynella East College to represent Pimpala Primary School at the SAPSASA Onkaparinga North District Athletics Day. The students, from 10 to 13 years of age competed against other schools in our district in the events of 100m, 200m, 800m, High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put and Discus.

All Pimpala students competed fantastically, showed great sportsmanship and were sensationally well behaved. We would like to thank all the drivers who transported our students to the event; Sarah Bosworth, Deb Kemp, Tina Gelven, Michelle Parminter, Bronwyn Vidau and Alema Pilot.

Good luck to the students who have been selected to represent the District at State Athletics Day.

**INDONESIAN CARNIVAL**

We will be immersing Pimpala in Indonesian culture over 2 days at our annual Indonesian Day and Carnival! This will be held in Week 8 on Tuesday 21st June (Indonesian Day) and Wednesday 22nd June (Indonesian Carnival).

The Year 6/7 students and Bu Pullman, our Indonesian teacher, are busy organising lots of exciting activities such as mask making, batik, language games and Indonesian themed carnival games. Dodi Darmadi from Java will also be running workshops over the 2 days for students to take part in.

These workshops will allow students a deeper insight into parts of Indonesian culture such as music and art. More information will be available closer to the date.

**NO LATE PAYMENTS**

When we have a school event which requires payment including excursions, incursions, special lunches, sporting events, disco etc, there is always a due date – which is the last day to pay. These timelines are strictly enforced.

Where possible we give at least 4 weeks notice of every event to ensure that the maximum number of students can attend and/or participate and parents are able to budget accordingly.

We generally ask for payment a few days before the event as each of these events require considerable planning and administration including risk assessments, managing correct supervision ratios, ordering supplies, ordering ingredients, preparing food including cooking, preparing and receiving payments, organising medications and first aid requirements and organising the supervision of students not participating and other types of organisation, depending on the event.

I am sure you can appreciate that these organisational matters can take considerable time and we thank you for your co-operation in making sure you pay by the due date and time, every-time.

Please note: if you are paying online, please allow 48 hours for the payment to clear.

**SOUP DRIVE**

Winter is a difficult time for many families in our school community. For this reason we are asking for donations of canned soup. These cans of soups will then be distributed to families in need, with the help of our local supporting church, Vines Uniting in Reynella. If you are able to donate, please place your donations of canned soup in the marked box in the Front Office. Thank you for your support.

Simon Uppill, Pastoral Care Worker

**SPECIAL LUNCH**

The Special Lunch this term will be held on Wednesday, 15th June and will consist of a Gourmet Hot Dog with coleslaw, cheese and sauce, a jelly, a choc-chip muffin (served at recess) and a choice of either chocolate or strawberry milk for only $7.00. If you are really hungry you can also purchase an extra sausage for $2.00. Information has been sent home today.

Please return the order form and money by Friday, 10th June. Please note: No late orders will be accepted. Orders are not refundable. No counter sales or lunch orders are available on this day.

**MOTHER’S DAY STALL**

We are pleased to announce the Mother’s Day Stall raised $1,803.80 as a result of your generous donations and support of the stall. Thank you to our amazing volunteers who assisted with the sourcing, preparing and wrapping of gifts and helping to sell items on the stall over the 3 days. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.