From the Principal

Welcome to 2011
We’ve had a great start to the year with new staff, new roles for old staff, new classrooms and the installation of new technology such as interactive whiteboards. Staff learning how to teach most effectively with these boards will, in addition to our literacy and numeracy objectives, be a whole school training and development focus this year. We look forward to making best use of these boards to help students in their learning.

This year we welcome returning students to school and we also welcome our newest Reception students: Ella Longbottom, Hayden Longbottom, William Patrick and Paris Peck. The first year of school is an especially exciting time for students.

Staffing
2011 sees Deb Brown and Sandi Key continuing in their admin and support roles. Michelle Lampard is working full time at school this term. Michelle will be continuing as a Special Needs SSO. Michelle will also be working part time 4 days a week in our 3-7 classroom teaching with Pam Steer. Ashlea Dewhirst is teaching the R-2 Class and Louise Johnson is continuing as the CPC teacher. Support staff Michelle McMahon and Nigel Clarke are also continuing in their roles that keep the school and grounds looking good and well prepared for students to learn and play in. Stephen Edwards is returning as our CPSW.

News Letter 1
8th February 2011
Dates to Remember
Governing Council AGM
Mon 14 Feb 7:00 pm
Classroom Tour & Morning Tea
Thursday 17 Feb 10:00 am
R-2 Class Swimming Bordertown
Monday 21 to Friday 25 Feb
Parent/Teacher Acquaintance
Wednesday 23 Feb 4:00 pm

2011 Term Dates
Term 1
31 January – 15 April
Term 2
2 May – 8 July
Term 3
25 July – 30 Sep
Term 4
17 Oct – 16 Dec

In Week 3 parents and caregivers are invited to visit the school on Thursday 17th February at 10.00 am to look into our newly reorganised classrooms and learning areas and to observe teachers and students at work. This is an opportunity to gain an idea of how we organise and cater to a range of age and ability levels in single classrooms. This will be followed by a brief presentation and Q&A session with me followed by a morning tea at recess time (10.50 am). If you would like to attend this tour of the school please rsvp by phoning the school or sending in a note by Monday 14th February.

In Week 4 on Wednesday 23rd February at 4.00 pm we will hold a parent/teacher acquaintance session where teachers will provide an overview of the term’s teaching program and answer any brief questions parents might have.

Parents who are unable to attend either session are more than welcome to visit the school and observe their children learning at any time (just give me a call to work out a time). As always teachers are available to speak one-to-one with parents about individual students. Again make a phone call or send in a note to set up a time.

Parent / Teacher Acquaintance Night, School Tour & Morning Tea
Normally we have a ‘meet the teacher’ night before our AGM. However, with myself and teachers attending training in Mount Gambier on different days over the next couple of weeks, it’s not practical for us to offer our traditional ‘meet the teacher’ night before the AGM.

As an alternative we will organise two opportunities to visit our school:

In Week 3 parents and caregivers are invited to visit the school on Thursday 17th February at 10.00 am to look into our newly reorganised classrooms and learning areas and to observe teachers and students at work. This is an opportunity to gain an idea of how we organise and cater to a range of age and ability levels in single classrooms. This will be followed by a brief presentation and Q&A session with me followed by a morning tea at recess time (10.50 am). If you would like to attend this tour of the school please rsvp by phoning the school or sending in a note by Monday 14th February.

In Week 4 on Wednesday 23rd February at 4.00 pm we will hold a parent/teacher acquaintance session where teachers will provide an overview of the term’s teaching program and answer any brief questions parents might have.

Parents who are unable to attend either session are more than welcome to visit the school and observe their children learning at any time (just give me a call to work out a time). As always teachers are available to speak one-to-one with parents about individual students. Again make a phone call or send in a note to set up a time.
Going into 2011 I’d like to develop opportunities to involve our community in the daily life of the school. Over many years we’ve been extremely fortunate to have high levels of parental volunteerism and help in many areas of our school’s life. In 2011 I’d like to build on that and develop opportunities for parent volunteers to be in classrooms when children are learning. A key area that we need help with are parent volunteers to listen to students reading.

Headlice
We’ve had a report of head lice at school. I’d like to draw parents’ attention to the head lice insert included in the newsletter. A child with head lice can return to school the day after appropriate treatment is given.

What we do for learning: Focus on Literacy
Starting with this newsletter I will begin to write short articles about our teaching and what we do here at Padthaway. Each article will look at a learning area and break down the range of activities and priorities that we cover with our students and touch on the reasons why we do what we do as teachers.

This term will see the school complete its whole school approach to literacy planning, programming, teaching and assessment. Beginning in 2010 we undertook to commit to the following:

- Use a common literacy teaching language to ensure that all students have consistent literacy learning experiences regardless of teacher.
- Inform our teaching based on what works as reported in current research.
- Organise teaching blocks across the whole school in the mornings to cover literacy.
- Be explicit with students about what they are learning and why they are learning something.

As a staff we believe comprehension to be a core skill that students need to develop to succeed in all areas of their lives. To this end students undertake a range of literacy activities to develop their comprehension skills. These activities include, but are not limited to, a range of learning experiences covering:

**Spelling/Word Work**
Correct spelling allows for more fluent writing, thus speeding up the ability to write and get thinking down on paper. This is an essential foundation for writing, reading and comprehension skills. We structure spelling activities to develop students’ knowledge of how words go together according using a variety of strategies, rules and ways of categorising and understanding words.

**Work on Writing**
As with reading, the best way to become a better writer is to practise writing every day. We balance short and long writing experiences through the week to make sure students get a variety of structured writing experiences addressing specific text types and writing forms.

**Grammar**
Fundamental to reading, writing and responding to written and spoken texts is a sound knowledge of grammatical rules. We teach grammar to enable students to speak clearly, write fluently and comprehend more readily.

**Read to Themselves**
The best way to become a better reader is to practise each day. We help all students to select books at just-the-right level based on reading and comprehension testing that we formally undertake twice a year using diagnostic tools. Week to week reading is monitored through the use of progress charts.

**Read to Others**
Reading to others allows students more time to practise strategies, helping them work on their fluency and expression. When we listen to students read we check their comprehension.

**Listen to Adults Reading**
When students hear examples of good literature and fluent reading, their vocabulary increases which helps students to be better readers.

As the year progresses I will continue to use this newsletter to keep parents informed about what we are doing to meet student learning needs across all teaching areas of the school.

**Choir**
Choir will start Thursday of Week 3. All Year 4-7 students will participate in choir training (music is a learning area that needs to be covered). Only Year 5-7 students will be able to go to Adelaide for the Festival of Music. Year 4-7 students will be able to go to the festival in Millicent. Attendance at festivals is not mandatory but is a great experience for children and parents alike. This year Lisa Stapleton has volunteered to be our Choir trainer. Pam Steer will continue to attend choir sessions. Notes for Choir will follow shortly.

**Swimming**
Students in the R-2 class will attend swimming lessons in Bordertown in Week 4 between the 21st and the 25th of February. Students in the 3-7 class will not be attend swimming lessons this year as they will be attending an aquatics camp at Victor Harbor in Week 2 of Term 4. This aquatics camp is run through a DECS school and students that attend cannot also attend DECS supported swimming lessons. However all Padthaway students will attend swimming lessons at Bordertown next year in 2012. A letter containing full details for swimming is being prepared for parents.
Catastrophic (CODE RED) Fire Event

This is clarification for families with children both at Padthaway Primary School and Naracoorte High School.

Naracoorte High School is rated by DECS amongst sites that have a fire audit rating of Extreme, Very High and High. As a result Naracoorte High School will close when days of catastrophic bushfire weather conditions are forecast for our District. High School buses will not run and the school will contact parents regarding this.

Padthaway Primary is NOT considered by DECS to be at an at risk school and Padthaway Primary School WILL REMAIN OPEN on days of forecast catastrophic weather conditions and our buses will run.

If parents have any uncertainty, questions or concerns regarding this please contact me.

Activities During a Total Fire Ban

The DECS policy is that there is to be no travel out of town when the forecast is for extreme temperature. In the past, some flexibility has been exercised around this after risk assessment by sites. However, to avoid any confusion in the Naracoorte hub area (of which we are a part), activities out of Padthaway will be cancelled if the forecast is for temperatures 36°C or over.

For All Your SAPSASA Information
including district selections, state carnivals and state selections, go to www.usesapsasa.org.au or www.decs.sa.gov.au/sport/

CPSW Spot
There has been an air of excitement as students and staff return to school. Both classes now have interactive white boards and are putting them to good use already. They are quite an amazing teaching tool. Just last Thursday I observed a lesson on putting together posters for the computing room. If your business is looking for an advertising/promotions person then look no further than our Upper Primary class. Some of their work was truly remarkable. Last Thursday also saw four new CPC students on their first day, all seeming to take it in their stride. For me it is a real joy to be back at school.

Last week Christian Pastoral Support Workers (that’s our title, or CPSW) from Kingston, Lucindale, Naracoorte and the Tatiara met to encourage, review and meet with our Regional Manager. It was good to meet the newcomers and catch up with those who have been in the role for some time. Trevor Barnett, who is CPSW at Naracoorte High where most of our students move on to, has been in his role for 16 years!

Kids Camp Out is happening very soon and I know some have been asking about it since the last one. It will be on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th March starting at 1.00 pm and finishing at 12.00 noon Sunday. As the title says we ‘camp out’ in tents on the Naracoorte High School grounds. We will be sharing meals with Mount Gambier and the theme is “The Mega-Rescue”. Activities on Saturday include ice-block tobogganing, canoeing, swimming, craft, dunk tank and abseiling to name a few. At night it’s a band, skits and fun and on Sunday activities around the theme of “Mega-Rescue” based around Bible stories. Registration forms are available from the front desk. Any enquiries give Heather or me a ring.

Cheers, Stephen

Tuck Day
Reminder:
15th February (Week 3)
Nachos
 Helpers
 Megan Charlick
 Bron Longbottom
 [muffins – Michelle Maynard]

22nd February (Week 4)
Hot Chicken Rolls with Gravy/Chicken Salad Rolls
 Helpers
 Tara McCarthy – muffins
 Mary Stevens
 Deb Brown
 Tuck Day Coordinator

SA Country Cup
From 13-16 December I played in a Twenty/20 Carnival in Adelaide. This was part of the BankSA Country Cup, which is for junior cricketers. In the past, U16 and U14 were the only divisions. This year they added an U12 level.

Six teams made up the competition. Upper South East won four games and lost four. Overall the team finished fourth. The team was made up of boys from Naracoorte, Millicent, Kingston and Tatiara. They were selected from the talent squads that are run over the summer. The organisers were very impressed with the way the players from all teams behaved and are looking at adding the U12 level on a permanent basis.

We, as a team, made friends and improved our skills because of the consistent standard of our opposition. Most important was the fact we had great fun.

Andrew Stevens, Year 7

Tyrone

Reminder:
15th February (Week 3)
Nachos
 Helpers
 Megan Charlick
 Bron Longbottom
 [muffins – Michelle Maynard]

22nd February (Week 4)
Hot Chicken Rolls with Gravy/Chicken Salad Rolls
 Helpers
 Tara McCarthy – muffins
 Mary Stevens
 Deb Brown
 Tuck Day Coordinator

SA Country Cup
From 13-16 December I played in a Twenty/20 Carnival in Adelaide. This was part of the BankSA Country Cup, which is for junior cricketers. In the past, U16 and U14 were the only divisions. This year they added an U12 level.

Six teams made up the competition. Upper South East won four games and lost four. Overall the team finished fourth. The team was made up of boys from Naracoorte, Millicent, Kingston and Tatiara. They were selected from the talent squads that are run over the summer. The organisers were very impressed with the way the players from all teams behaved and are looking at adding the U12 level on a permanent basis.

We, as a team, made friends and improved our skills because of the consistent standard of our opposition. Most important was the fact we had great fun.

Andrew Stevens, Year 7

Tyrone
The Lucindale Players present

A TASTY UPSIDE DOWN ADVENTURE
FESTIVAL FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

“The Pinhole Pantomime”

SAT: FEB 12th: 7.30 pm

NARACOORTE TOWN HALL
Tickets at door: Family $20.00
Adults $10.00
Students/Conc: $5.00
Primary students: gold coin

Monies raised donated to the Naracoorte Hospital

Kool Kangas
Because of other commitments, there may only be one pre-Easter Kool Kangas later this term.
Heather Edwards, phone 87655 065

Kid’s Camp Out
Kid’s Camp Out run by the Uniting Church SA at Naracoorte High School Oval 24 hours from 12.30 pm Saturday till Sunday lunch, camping out overnight.
Ages 7+. Lots of activities: abseiling, craft, kayaking on Swimming Lake, ice-blocking, crafts, games, music, stories. Forms will be available from Mr Eddy or Mrs Brown at school. Cost for all activities, camping and food will be $30.
Contact Stephen or Heather Edwards, phone 8765 5065, for more information.

Naracoorte & Districts Little Athletics commences Friday 4th February 2011 in the Naracoorte High School grounds at 4.00 pm. Ages 6-17 years. Tiny Tots program for ages 3-5 years.
WE WELCOME anyone to come during this time and see what Little Athletics is all about.

If you wish to encourage an hour of activity then this may be for you. Program runs for 11 weeks. Parents’ presence is essential. Cost $30 per child or $65 per family. Uniform required for ages 6-17 consists of navy shorts and navy polo shirt with Little Athletics logo available to purchase for $35.
Children are encouraged to participate in a basic athletic program with the aim to improve on their performance each week. If they improve they are rewarded with a star. It is not the winner of the event rewarded but each individual on an improvement. A trophy is rewarded to the person obtaining the most stars for each age and gender group on April 15th 2011.
Call Jane Harris 0429 647 543 or Donna Bull 0400 848 511 for further information, otherwise just turn up any Friday to register.

The Mission of the SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION as a voluntary community based organisation is to "Develop children of all abilities by promoting positive attitudes and a healthy lifestyle through a family and community involvement in athletic related activities.”

Masters Games
Athletes, avid sports fans and those keen to remain active aged 35 and over can now register for the 2011 Naracoorte SA Masters Games.
Registration for the games which includes 25 sports and starts on April 1st has now opened for individuals and teams to enter. Entries must be submitted by March 1st with all late entries incurring a late fee charge of $40. A Games registration booklet will then be distributed which outlines Games timetable, individual sports and a map of the township.
The Games Committee has booked entertainment for the Saturday evening with a live cover band at the Naracoorte High School Hall.
To launch the weekend of competition an opening ceremony will be held on April 1st with an athletes’ march from Naracoorte Showgrounds to the town squares. A closing ceremony will include a flag handover to the caretakers of the following Masters Games hosts Port Pirie.
Athletes can now register online at www.naracoortemastersgames.com.au.
Get in early for accommodation!
Angela Solly
South East Local Government Association Recreation and Sport 'be active' Field Officer
NOW OPEN
Tues 2-4pm & Thurs 9-11am
Bring this voucher and purchase a yearly membership for $30. Save $10.

Office Training in Microsoft Office 2010
Basic Computing
Word
Excel
Publisher
PowerPoint
Database
Email

Semester I 2011 session times:

Monday 6.00-9.00 pm
Beginning 21st February 2011

Mixed self-paced classes of three hours per week—with duration dependent on subject (usually 1 - 2 school terms)

Enrol now at the Bordertown Learning Centre
Naracoorte Road
BORDERTOWN SA 5268
Phone: 08 87522680
kerri.foulds@tafesa.edu.au
www.tafesa.edu.au
Open Thursdays
9.00am—4.00pm.
Naracoorte & District Hockey Association would like to invite you to:

**COME AND TRY HOCKEY**

Are you interested in a sport with a difference? Hockey is a fun family game with most games played in Naracoorte on Saturdays.

**WHERE:** at the fields on Stewart Tce (opposite High School)  
**WHEN:** Saturday 26th February  
**TIME:** 9.00 am-11.00 am  
Open to all ages 5+  
Sticks will be available to use on the day  
A BBQ lunch will follow  
Annie Anderson from Just Hockey will also be in attendance to purchase gear from and for further advice.

For more information contact:  
Anne  0457 137 224 (a/h)