From The Principal

Student Representative Council (SRC) Elections
I would like to congratulate all students who put themselves forward for consideration by their peers for election to the School’s SRC for 2016. SRC presents a wonderful opportunity for leadership development; something this School has long valued. The SRC team representing the Upper Primary Class for the entire school year include: Maddi Bryson (President), Brad Hayes (Vice-President) and Patrick Fraser (Secretary/Treasurer). For semester one (terms one and two) the Middle Primary Class will be represented by Tom Orton and Bailey Turner while the Junior Primary Class will be represented by Alex Charlick and Anna Orton.

School Communication
An important partnership exists within our School between parents and staff. One area critical to our commitment to a child safe environment is the timely sharing of information between the School and the home. Your assistance can be provided by ensuring that travel arrangements different to the usual routine are always shared directly with the School’s administrative staff. Unfortunately, third party provision of information is not always timely or accurate and could potentially put a child at risk.

School Uniforms
We continue to be pleased with the high degree of school uniform use within our School. The School has long had a strong tradition of student uniform wear and parents who continue to support a policy that ensures students continue to wear appropriate attire when at school. If you have difficulty meeting this requirement for your child/ren please contact the School to discuss the matter with me.

Parent Information Evening
What a wonderful evening of information sharing presented itself during our recent Parent Information Evening! It was indeed a pleasure to see so many happy families represented at each classroom meeting. Almost all families were represented at the information sessions and able to peruse the School environment. I commend our teachers and their capacity for sharing important information on teaching practice and insight into classroom routines. While all of us are busy this time of year, it is important to our children that you provide this support to their School and its Staff. If you were unable to attend, please make a point of visiting the School to become acquainted.

After School Activities
Both the after school cricket and T-ball programs are creating a great deal of interest and participation! Our School cricket team, coached by Andrew Frick, is attracting around fifteen students a week at practice while John Orton’s Milo Cricket program regularly attracts ten or more students at each session. Our School T-ball program has two teams of nine creating a real sense of fun, excitement and competition each Monday. I encourage you to attend these activities whenever possible; each will prove entertaining.

Governing Council Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Our Governing Council AGM was held on Monday 23rd February at the school. At the AGM the following Council members were appointed or elected: Sue Bryson, Tammy Mathews, Cheryl Merrett and Lissy Orton (who continue their current term for one more year) and Andrew Frick, Ariane Goldfinch, Bronwyn Longbottom, Kate McGregor and Sam Ward were elected to two-year terms with David Charlick elected to a one-year term.

This year’s Staff Representatives, approved by the Staff Personnel Advisory Committee, are Olivia English and the School’s Finance Officer, Kirilie Turner, while the School’s Principal, Harry Long, is an ex officio member of Governing Council.
During a short meeting following the AGM the following members of Governing Council were appointed Chairs and Coordinators in the following positions: Chairperson – Sam Ward, Deputy Chairperson – Tammy Mathews, Secretary – Bron Longbottom, Treasurer – Sue Bryson, SRC Representative – Maddi Bryson (Brad Hayes in Maddi’s absence), Parent Club Coordinator – Cheryl Merrett, Fundraising Coordinators – Ariane Goldfinch and Kate McGregor, Facilities Coordinator – Tammy Mathews, Sport Coordinator – Lissy Orton, Bus Coordinator – Kate McGregor and Finance Coordinator – Sue Bryson.

Kingston Triathlon
Over recent years a number of local families have participated in the annual Kingston Triathlon. This year students from our School participated in their relevant divisions based on age and ability. We congratulate Ella, Kiele and Toby Longbottom as well as Will Charlick for their participation. Please read more about this event with an article written by Ella and Poppy included in this newsletter.

School Bus Drivers
I am pleased (and relieved) to announce the training and appointment process for our School’s bus driving is almost complete. Di Fraser has received the necessary accreditation to drive our School buses and is, at present, relief driving on the Marcollat bus, now that Mary has retired. Soon, Deb Zilm and Olivia English will be able to relief drive any of our School buses while Genevieve Boyd will soon assume responsibility for the day-to-day driving of the Marcollat bus run.

Catastrophic Fire Information
Fire Policy information is included with this newsletter. Please read this information carefully. As our school is not considered a high fire risk school, on days of Catastrophic Fire Conditions the school will remain open, but buses will not run. We realise this may cause inconvenience to families, but these events are a rare occurrence and the safety of students, staff and families is of paramount importance. Information regarding forecast weather conditions during a heat wave can be found on the CFS website and by listening to regional ABC radio.

School Swimming Program
With the School’s swimming program now in its last day I can safely say the children have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of swimming with their classmates and learning more about swimming technique and water safety. Both aspects of water safe are critically important to the welfare of our students with water activities an integral part of the Australian lifestyle. Please ask your child/ren how much they enjoyed the swimming program and their success in the water during the week.

School SunSafe Policy
The School in now in its fourth week of term one. We ask for your continued cooperation in ensuring all students bring to school a suitable sunsafe hat. These are available for sale from the School at a reasonable price and assist in promoting the School’s Governing Council policy of wearing sunsafe hats during terms one and four. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Harry

Ipods and Ipads at School
Please be aware that as of Week 5, iPods and iPads will not be allowed at school. This is due to issues with security. This extends to use on the bus. If you would like to discuss this with us, please contact Olivia or Harry at school.

Teachers of PPS

Swimming
Well done to the students for their conduct at Swimming this week. We have all been impressed with the eager attitude students have shown as they have participated in each swimming activity and their resilience with any strokes or drills they have found difficult.

Teachers of PPS

SRC News
On behalf of the SRC I would like to welcome everyone to a new year at Padthaway Primary School. I look forward to working with the new SRC members Anna Orton, Alex Charlick, Bailey Turner, Tom Orton, Patrick Fraser and Bradley Hayes. I look forward to running SRC Tuck Days, Dress Up Days, organising events at school and building my leadership skills.

I hope to help the School in a fun and positive way assuring that everyone is having fun but being safe as well.

Maddi Bryson
SRC President

Hi everyone
Mr Eddy is out of contact range for a few more days, but he asked me to write something for him as he ‘lives the dream’ and tramps through a remote, isolated and wet part of our beautiful, amazing and challenging world: Dusky Track in Fiordland in the very south of NZ.

Don’t forget AMAZING SATURDAY 5th March for your own challenges. We need to know how many students 7+ years old are coming by Friday 26th February at the latest!

Drop your completed forms and fees into Mrs Turner at the school and I will pick them up. There are more blank forms at the Front Office if you need them.

Keep your ‘What to Bring’ list. Wear your bathers. Get dropped off on Riverside Drive and walk under the railway bridge to the Scout Hall with your parents and look for Padthaway Group under the shades by the Scout Hall and duck pond.

PSW Spot
Pick up will be at the HIGH SCHOOL HALL at 8.00 pm. Parents are to come into the Hall to collect you. Any questions call me 0427 608 254 or 0417 812 106 (Mr Eddy). Hopefully he will be back 1st March.

We have a song we often sing at the end of Church that includes the two lines, “May the feet of God go with you and His hand hold you tight. May the eye of God rest on you and his love bring you home.” I think we all hope that too!

Cheers, Mrs Eddy

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**Tuck Day Reminder**

**1st March (Week 5)**
*Chicken Wing Ding* and Salad Helper
Kim Doecke – watermelon wedges

**8th March (Week 6)**
*Hot Dogs*
Sue Bryson – jellies
[Muffins – Melissa Thompson]

*Kim Doecke, Tuck Day Coordinator Ph 0488 190 972*

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**Community News**

**Padthaway Playgroup**
Dates for Term 1 2016:
- Friday Week 6 (11th March)
- Friday Week 10 (8th April).
For more information contact Kylie Pethybridge on 0417 862 861.

**Padthaway Medical Clinic**
The Padthaway Medical Clinic will be open every Tuesday from 8th March from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm or until the last appointment. Please contact Keith Surgery on 8755 1766 to make appointments. Immunisation and all Health checks are available.

**To all Auskick Parents**
We have had some serious delays in receiving last year’s Auskick packs. If you re-registered your child in 2015 and they have not received their alternative pack (T-shirt and boot bag), please ring me so I can follow up with our coordinator. Auskick will start again in Term 2. Dates will be announced as soon as possible. Registrations on the Auskick website will be available soon.

*Many thanks*
Sam Ward, phone 0438 656 012
Auskick Coordinator

**Mathooncourt P/L**

**Matho’s Basketball**

4/5 to 7 year olds basketball training/games

Starts Wednesday 9th Mar

Ends Wednesday 13th Apr

Cost $5.00 per night per player

From 4.15 pm to 5.15 pm

At the Naracoorte Basketball Stadium

All welcome

Just a lot of fun and learning along the way.

Please email mathooncourt@bigpond.com

Ph 0417 855 247 or turn up on the night and see Helen Garrigan at the desk.

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**PADTHAWAY BOWLING CLUB**

**SUNDAY TEA 28th FEBRUARY**

FISH AND CHIPS, SALT & PEPPER SQUID WITH CHIPS, CHICKEN NUGGETS DINE IN OR TAKE-AWAY PHONE ORDERS TAKEN FROM 3.00 pm ONWARDS PHONE DEREK 0488 099 546 OR ANTHONY 0417 833 074 BAR OPEN EVERYONE WELCOME

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**Keep your kids smiling**

Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.

Please call now for an appointment.
Naracoorte Dental Clinic
Phone: 08 8762 2614
Kids at Gym invite you to an

Open Day
Saturday February 27th 2016
9:30am to 10:30am
Williamson Hall - Naracoorte High School

Join us for a morning full of fun with your children, including:
- Obstacle courses
- Face painting
- Parachute time
- Jumping castle
- Sausage sizzle
- Free entry!

Kids at Gym is aimed at children 5 years and under.
Parents are to supervise their children at all times.

For more information please email: cherlemaysold@bigpond.com or find us on Facebook “Kids-at-Gym Association Naracoorte Inc”

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KidsMatter
Australian Primary Schools
Mental Health Initiative

We are pleased to invite you to attend our
KidsMatter Community Wellbeing Event
at Naracoorte South Primary School
on Tuesday, March 1st 2016
from 4:00 – 6:00pm.

Several services which are available to support the wellbeing of our local community will be present.
At 5.30pm the diverse cultures which enrich our School will entertain, followed by an opportunity to taste foods from our different cultures.
Barbeque food will also be provided.
Soft drinks will be available for purchase.

We look forward to welcoming you to our School.

Kindly RSVP to Cathie Biggins
by Friday, February 26th 2016
for catering purposes.