From The Principal

Staffing
Our School has been most fortunate to secure quality staffing for both teaching and support of students this year. With my imminent departure fast approaching it is appropriate that I communicate to you an update of staffing positions as we move forward to next term until end of year. From term two the Foundation (Reception) and Year 1 Class with have Corrine Brookes as a full-time teacher. The School recognises the need for this Class to have stability across the entire school week. All of us recognise that in Corrine, we have an emerging teacher who is fast developing outstanding classroom management and teaching skills. As well, our highly respected and experienced teacher, Cara Maney, will assume the opportunity of managing our Non-Instruction Time (NIT) teaching that in term one was Olivia’s responsibility. Cara will continue to teach in this capacity for her three contracted days until the end of the year. Olivia will assume the role of Principal and maintain her teaching commitment to our across School Literacy and Numeracy programs.

In other important staffing news the School’s Finance/Administration Officer position has been advertised as a permanent twenty hours per week placement. Olivia has formed a panel and is chairing this process. This process should be finalised early term two.

SAPSASA Sport
Several of our students are away this week participating in the State SAPSASA Softball competitions for both boys and girls. Representing the Upper South East SAPSASA District boys’ team from our School are Ben Frick, Brad Hayes and Brody Hazel while Emily Fretwell, Jayde Fretwell and Poppy Moyle-Read are representing the Upper South East SAPSASA District girls’ team. Last Wednesday several of our students represented the School at the SAPSASA District Athletics Trials held at Keith Area School. Those students who were successful in selection to the District team will compete in the State SAPSASA Athletics Competition in Adelaide later this year. The District Team will be announced before the end of term.

Governing Council Training
For the first time in many years the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) facilitated Governing Council training in the South East. As part of the restructure and improvement focus of DECD, a small team has been appointed to support Governing Councils to function more effectively. The training included the role, function, limitation, legal obligation, dispute resolution, privacy principles, and the structure of the Governing Council as well as the role of the School Principal. Members of Governing Council able to attend included Kate McGregor and Lissy Orton.

NAPLAN
NAPLAN testing is approaching. This annual assessment program for students in Years 3/5/7/9 has been conducted annually since 2008. Testing will occur on May 10, 11 and 12 with May 13 as a ‘back up’ day for students absent during the testing period. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that develop over time through the school’s curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass/fail test, but rather shows how students are progressing in both subject areas against national standards for all Australian students. It provides information that allows Schools and Government to better target support to assist students to achieve their full potential and build successful lives.

NAPLAN assesses fundamental skills and, as a consequence, is not an examination process that students can prepare for in the short to medium term. Rather, NAPLAN should be regarded as one part of a School’s assessment program, for which students should simply be encouraged to do their best.

While all students in Years 3/5/7/9 are expected to participate in this assessment process, if you wish to
discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN, please contact me or your child’s teacher.

Facilities
Our DTEI Facilities Manager, Will Franklin, recently informed the School that our new bore will be completed by the end of the term one school holidays. This is welcome news. As well, Will informed us that the Early Childhood Redevelopment Program is at the tender stage. I am hoping to hear from Will regarding the letting of contracts to a preferred building contractor before the end of term. I will keep you informed of information as it comes to hand.

Lucindale Field Days Scarecrow Competition
Recently, our School was immersed in our annual contribution (over many years) to the Lucindale Field Days Scarecrow Competition. The students and teachers spend an inordinate amount of time, energy and enthusiasm planning and assembling these scarecrows in what is truly a collective effort across the entire School. Those who were able to attend the Field Days would have observed the damage to our scarecrows caused by unexpected inclement weather. Needless to say, upon leaving Padthaway the scarecrows were wonderful pieces of artwork. Despite the damage to our scarecrows the School managed to finish sixth in a field of ten schools.

Student Free Day
The first Student Free Day was held earlier this term when our Staff joined colleagues from Frances and Mundulla Schools to develop key understandings of some elements of the Australian Curriculum. In term two a Partnership-wide Student Free Day has been granted by Governing Council on Monday 9th May (Week Two, Term Two). This day will enable teaching Staff to further their collective knowledge of the Australian Curriculum through task design and student work moderation. As well, the day will enable Olivia to begin a four-day workshop on school leadership with Garry Costello, former DECD Chief Executive and former Principal of Mount Gambier High School.

Early Dismissal
I remind our families that our School Governing Council endorses an early dismiss policy for the last day of each School term. School will be dismissed at 2.30 pm on Friday 15th April. We look forward to welcoming back students, staff and school families on Monday 2nd May for the beginning of term two. Please stay safe over the entire school holiday period.

Harry and Helen Say Goodbye
My time as your Principal is rapidly drawing to a close. Where did the last eighteen months go! It has been wonderful to reconnect with the School students and staff and the wider community, to meet new acquaintances and reacquaint ourselves with old friends. Most importantly for me, was the opportunity to work with and enjoy the company of a great group of Padthaway youth, at school and within the community. Worthy of special mention is the warm social embrace the community has offered Helen during our stay. She will not fast forget the friendship given so freely by so many that made her time in Padthaway such a pleasant experience. Once again, I have had the opportunity to lead this special School, a School widely recognised by my peers (I remind them constantly!) as being a unique and vibrant place for learning. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to serve your School as Principal. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I look forward to hearing of continuing success by our School and I wish Olivia, students, staff and families every success.

Harry

Pancake Day
On Thursday 24th March our School had Pancake Day. We raised $330 which will be going to Uniting Care Mount Gambier.

Everyone had a great day and had lots of fun.

Maddi Bryson, SRC President

SRC Lunch
On Thursday last week the SRC had its annual lunch at Henry’s Drive sponsored by Mr Eddy and Mr and Mrs Long. We were accompanied by Mr Phil Brown and Mrs Rosemarie Hayes. They came and talked about leadership and how we should be a great leader in our School. We learnt great things about leadership and what great things they have done in our community. Overall the SRCs had a great time and we all enjoyed listening to them.

Maddi Bryson, SRC President

Cricket News
On Saturday 2nd April we played cricket at Naracoorte. It was a Round Robin. There was a Padthaway and a Padthaway/Penola team. There were 7 teams and Padthaway came 6th and the Padthaway/Penola team came 2nd.

On Sunday we had another Round Robin and there was one Padthaway team. We won all the games and came 2nd and we lost by 14 runs. Overall there were 12 teams. We all had a great time and had lots of fun.

William Charllick and Patrick Fraser
Student News
On Monday 4th April the School went to see a performance called *The adventures of Broer and Zus* at the Keith Institute. It was about twins going to school and the adventures they have. They did circus tricks and amazing things. People liked the juggling and balancing.

I asked some of the R/1s what they liked the best –
Alex: “the juggling apples”
Eliza: “the balancing”
Lacey and Albie: “hula hoops”
Elsie: “the whole thing”
Henry: “stand on shoulders and juggles”

Community News

Padthaway Playgroup
Next Playgroup is Friday Week 10 (8th April) in the Padthaway Preschool area.
For more information contact Kylie Pethybridge on 0417 862 861.

Padthaway Medical Clinic
The Padthaway Medical Clinic will be open every Tuesday 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.

Pizza/Movie Night
There will be a Pizza/Movie night on Wednesday 20th April at 6.00pm in the Naracoorte Anglican Church Hall. Cost $5.00. Then on Wednesday 27th April there will be Games/Pizza and Movie at 5.00 pm in the Naracoorte Anglican Church Hall. Cost $5.00. Phone Heather on 8764 8088 for further information.

MATHOONCOURT P/L
Matho’s ETS Training
U10, U12 and U14 age groups
Starts Term 2
Tuesday 3rd May
and includes the first 5 weeks of Term 3
Cost $5.00 per night per player
From 5.15pm – 6.15pm
At the Naracoorte Basketball Stadium
All welcome
Please email mathooncourt@bigpond.com
Ph 0417 855 247 or turn up on the night and see Helen Garrigan at the desk.

PSW Spot
“Hello my good friend!” It is a greeting most of us are familiar with and it often is accompanied by a request to help out in some way to make our School a better place. We all – staff, parents, students and the Padthaway community – will have our own special ‘Harry’ or ‘Mr Long’ story(ies) to tell and they will stay with us as treasured memories of a man who has impacted this School and wider community in such a positive way.
Every student is special to Harry; he is out in the school yard to greet the students as they arrive and encourage them to enjoy their day. This is a lesson we could all take on board – friendly greeting often can make a difference to a person’s attitude.
Harry’s wife Helen also has impacted on our community and staff bringing vitality and freshness to many lives.
A good leader leads from behind, bringing others forward and allowing them to blossom in their roles and this is certainly the case with our School and the leadership team. Harry leaves with the School in great shape and with the wonderful staff and Governing Council we have it will continue to prosper well beyond this term and this year.
Thursday night teas are special times for Harry and Helen and I am sure we will see them back from time to time in between their busy lives. To be the Chief Commissioner of Scouts SA in itself is almost a full time job, let alone be a School Principal the last year and a half.
So, with the expectation of seeing both of you again often, it is not goodbye but “Hello my good friends!”
Cheers, Stephen

Tuck Day
Reminder
12th April (Week 11)
Pot Luck – Hot Dogs, Pizzas, Pies, Pasties, Sausage Rolls
Helper Tara McCarthy

3rd May (Week 1, Term 2)
Pies, Pasties, Sausage Rolls
Helper Kathy Hayes

Kim Doneck, Tuck Day Coordinator
Ph 0488 190 972
Understand Your Teenage Grandchild

Parenting Teenage Grandchildren Workshop

~ Build a positive relationship with your teenage grandchild
~ Become more confident in handling challenges
~ Be able to identify behaviour that needs your attention and what to let go
~ Learn how to engage your teenager in important conversation
~ Find a balance between boundaries and freedom

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
PARENTING TEENAGE GRANDCHILDREN WORKSHOP - NARACOORTE

Would you be interested in gaining new skills to better understand your teenage grandchildren?

Venue: Anglican Church
Naracoorte
When: Saturday 14th May 2016
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Please register your interest by April 30th.
A light lunch, tea and coffee will be provided

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