



Government of South Australia
Department of Education and
Children's Services

Lenswood Primary

School Newsletter



Principal: **Leah Kennewell**

leah.kennewell769@schools.sa.edu.au
Ph: 8389 8278 Fax: 8389 8552

Wednesday, 3 February 2016

Diary Dates

Thurs 4 Feb	P&F Meeting – 3:30 in the school playground (coffee & biscuits included!!)
Tues 9 Feb	Port Adelaide FC visit at 11:15am
Fri 12 Feb	Playgroup – 9am
Tues 16 Feb	Info/Family BBQ Night – 5:45 to 7:30pm

Welcome – from Governing Council

On behalf of the School Governing Council I would like to welcome the new families joining us this year into our wonderful school community, and also welcome back to all the returning families!

I would also like to formally welcome Leah Kennewell into the role of principal after her appointment at the end of 2015. Leah brings a great deal of energy, enthusiasm, passion and experience to the role and her 5 year tenure provides a wonderful opportunity to plan for the now, and also for a vibrant and exciting future for Lenswood Primary School.

The strength of a school lies as much within its community as within its staff, so I would encourage you all to get involved in some way. It has been shown that children whose parents or guardians are actively involved in their school communities have better outcomes and it certainly helps with the children and families alike with a sense of place and belonging. You will see a message enclosed with this newsletter from the Education Minister, Susan Close. She has said that a focus of her work this year is to strengthen ties between families and schools, and I certainly welcome that strong message from her.

How to get involved? Well there are many different ways and you need to find what works best for you. You can join Governing Council or Parents & Friends, or just come along and observe meetings. You can listen to younger children read, volunteer your time at working bees, join in fundraising activities or join in with a whole host of different activities. If you have an interesting job or skills which might interest the children why not share your knowledge in the classroom? If you would like to get involved, please feel free to have a chat with a staff member about the different options. I know that as a parent I am very excited about the opportunity to work collaboratively with Governing Council and staff to help shape the future of our wonderful school.

Getting involved also means having input into how you want to see our school. What do you want to see in our school? What do you love about Lenswood? What concerns you and what can be done differently? What do your children want and need? What would you love to see the future at Lenswood look like? We'd encourage you to let us know, through staff members, Governing Council or Parents & Friends. Please also feel free to chat with me directly. I'm looking forward to the year ahead and hope that 2016 is a great year for you all. Susie Green – Chairperson, Governing Council.

From the Principal

I would like to add my welcome to Susie's. It was so exciting to see all of the students and parents on Monday, and everyone seemed refreshed and ready for the new school year. The long break is a wonderful time for families, and your children seemed to have thrived – so many of them are so much taller!

All the staff were at work last week, and we spent time planning for this year. We focussed on our *pedagogy*, that is, **how** we teach. Students now have different expectations, diverse ways of learning, and have so much access to a wide range of media. We have to meet those changing needs, by holding on to what is important in the curriculum, and by linking the learning very clearly to what students experience outside of school. For a very long time now it hasn't been an option for students to sit in class all day and simply read from the board. Accessing technology daily is critical for student's later success, and all of the

staff will be collaborating to ensure that your children are using quality technology to support their engagement and their learning. That doesn't mean that we will be losing any of our current strengths though – we will continue our strong physical education focus and we are already starting to plan for the arts exhibition in term 3. I would like to congratulate all of the teaching and non-teaching staff on their willingness to share their strengths, the way that they embrace new learning, and their willingness to work so hard for your children and the school.

Alison Mason will be continuing to work at Lenswood, and she and I will be sharing the learning that students do when their teachers have non-instruction time. Our days with classes will be Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alison will also be continuing the fabulous band, supporting music hub, and I am delighted to say, will be beginning a new school choir for the Festival of Music.

As a final point, I certainly agree with all of Susie's comments above. I would love to see more family involvement in the school, and I am very open to ideas and suggestions from all of you. If you're not sure about how you might get involved, or you're worried about making a big commitment of time, please come to see me and I'm sure that we can find a solution that is a 'win-win'. You might be surprised how we can use your expertise to help the students, and as you will notice in the Education Minister's letter, the process to volunteer at school is now much easier for you. But I will warn you, please don't be surprised if you get a direct request from me – we're working towards a vibrant and exciting school, and we'll need your help to do that!

Info/Family BBQ Night

We invite you all to the family bbq and information night on the Tuesday, 16 February. This evening is an opportunity to meet with staff, hear from the principal and spend some social time with the school community. We will start in the hall at 5.45pm when Leah will talk about her vision for the school this year, and answer any questions that you have. Staff will supervise the students on the playground during this time. Then teachers will welcome you into their classes, so that you can talk with them. During that time, we'll fire up the bbqs so that you can cook what you've brought. We are asking families with their oldest children in Ms Read's or Ms Jones' classes to bring a salad to share, and families with their oldest students in Ms Browne's or Ms B-C's classes to bring sweets to share. We imagine that we'll finish the evening around 7.30, and we are very much looking forward to seeing all of you.

New school times for recess and lunch

As part of our planning this year, we have changed the times of recess and lunch. This is to ensure that students have equal access to lessons outside of their regular classes, and so receive their entitlement to all areas of the curriculum. So recess is now from 10.50 – 11.10am, and the lunch break is from 12.50 – 1.30pm, and that includes time for kids to eat their lunches. Please note that we have not changed the times for starting or finishing the school day.

Payment of School Accounts

We are going to try something new this year regarding the payment of bills. Rather than families having to send money in during the term, eg money for uniforms, lunch orders, SAPSASA events, excursions etc we have decided to invoice each family once a month with the amount they owe. Everything will be itemised on a monthly statement and you will be required to pay either by eft into the school bank account or by cheque or cash to the school within 14 days of that statement. We are hoping this will eliminate the many times parents have to find small amounts of change to send into the school. Obviously if consent forms or commitment to pay forms are required parents will need to sign and return back to the school before students can participate in an event. If you have any questions about this please feel free to speak with me. M&S fees are expected to be paid upon receipt of the invoice enclosed. Thanks, Julia.

M&S Fees – 2016

Please find enclosed your 2016 Materials & Service Charges for this year. If you believe you are eligible to claim School Card this year please ask Julia for a School Card form if one has not been enclosed with your invoice. Please be advised at this time your fees can be paid directly into the school bank account, bank details are on your invoice, or via cash or cheque into the school. Payment of these fees are due within 14 days. If you need to set up a payment plan or wish to discuss this further, please see Julia immediately.

History screening policy

Many of our parents and guardians volunteer at our school to support their child's learning. To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures. As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening. This will mean many of our volunteers can help out sooner. A screening is still necessary for parents and guardians who are volunteering at school camps and sleep overs, as well as those hosting billets and homestay students. As has always been the case, a screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school. These include concerts, fundraisers, swimming week or sports day. Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children plays a part in child protection, including watching out for inappropriate behaviour. Find out more about relevant history screening and keeping children safe at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

If you have any questions about screening or these changes, please speak with school staff.

Thank you to

- Thomas Waterhouse for his time and patience with our broken projectors late last year.
- The Wenham family for looking after our chickens over the holidays.
- Graham Mason for helping to clean up the drama room.
- Victoria and Edward Mason for decorating the drama room.

Port Adelaide Football Club Visit

We are looking forward to this visit from some players and staff from PAFC on Tuesday, 9 February at 11:15am. They will be in our area as part of the 2016 Australia Post AFL Community Camp. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend this session. Our visit includes: Introduction of each player, current pre-season activity, Eat Well (2 & 5, water consumption, food groups, limit junk food), Be Active (60 minutes of activity, reduce screen time, sleep), decision making (no smoking, smart choices in life), discuss their pathway from junior footballer to elite athlete, discuss some of the challenges they have had along their journey, question time for our students and group photo as a whole school. If students are PAFC supporters and have PAFC merchandise they are able to bring it in to receive autographs from the players.

P&F News

Term 1 Fundraiser, BBQ Uraidla Show – Saturday, 20 February

The P&F will once again be running the BBQ at the Uraidla Show to raise funds for the school. This will be the P&F main fundraiser for this term. We will be supplying egg and bacon sandwiches from 9am and lunch all day. Please return the attached slip ASAP if you are able to help out. We will be looking for people to help prepare the food on the Friday afternoon at school, helpers to collect supplies Friday after school and set up at the showgrounds Friday evening. Many hands make light work, so please volunteer some time and come and enjoy a fun and successful fundraiser.

Monday Munchies

Students enjoy the opportunity to have a canteen lunch at school each Monday. Every second Monday is the P&F lunch. Please fill in the attached slip if you are able to cook cupcakes/muffins to bring into school or are available for 1½ hours on a Monday to help serve the lunch. Generally everyone is only rostered on once per term. Part of the preparation for this lunch is shopping for the fresh ingredients on a Monday morning. This is becoming increasingly challenging with many parents working. Any volunteers that would also be prepared to call past Foodland on a Monday morning to collect fresh goods please fill in your details on the slip attached (some of you filled this in late last year so no need to do it again).

Please make note that we will be having our first meeting of the year tomorrow, Thursday afternoon at 3:30pm in the school playground (so you can hang around with your kids!). We would love to see some new faces to our group this year. It's a wonderful way to meet other parents, help the school and community and a real positive way to show your child the benefits of volunteering.

Uniform Order

Please return the enclosed uniform order by Thursday 11 February, remember, no need to send in money (but you can if you want).

SRC – Ice Blocks

We will once again be selling ice blocks at lunchtimes, Tuesdays to Fridays. 50 cents each with a 10 cent refund when the wrapper is returned. Students, if you would like to buy an ice block for a friend please ask you mum or dad to sign a note for you. All ice blocks are made from 99% pure fruit juice with no added sugar. Thank you to our older students for volunteering to sell the ice blocks.

Monday Lunch Orders

You will find both the FPP and the P&F lunch order forms with this newsletter. The FPP lunch is due back this Friday 5 Feb for the following Monday lunch, and the P&F lunch order is due back next Wednesday, 10 Feb. You are not required to send money in with these lunch orders this year. As previously said, we will invoice families for these lunches at the end of each month.

Recycling Old Batteries

Goldstar Tyres & Batteries – 30 Glebe Road, Balhannah is a locally owned and operated business. If you have any old car, boat, ride-on, tractor or truck batteries take them in and our school will receive \$3 for a small battery and up to \$12 for an X large battery. Battery deposits can be made Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm and on Saturday mornings 8:30am-12:30pm. Our SRC would love your support.

Asian Champions League Play Off - Adelaide United Football Club

Kids are able to purchase tickets for only \$5 for the next Asian Champions League play off. If you would like to take up this special offer for the match on Tuesday, 9 February follow the link <http://bit.ly/SAClubs> to buy online using the code word GRASSROOTS. The match will either be between Shandong Luneng (China) or Mohun Bagan (India). The bigger our home crowd then the team's job will be easier on the night to qualify and place the club in the group stage of the tournament. Thank you for your support!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Lobethal Netball Club – Junior Academy commences Sunday, 14 Feb at 9am at the Lobethal Netball Courts. This is the first time we have organised an Academy on this scale, and we encourage all girls whether they play for the Tigers or not to come out and help improve their netball skills. It's for players from 9&U to 15&U and will be held over 6 consecutive weeks every Sunday. It will be run by our club/senior coach as well as past and present players and will concentrate on skill development in all areas. **Kate Shimmen** from the Adelaide Thunderbirds will be our special guest at the first session, working with both groups. The cost of the Academy is **\$20 per person which includes all sessions, a drink bottle and snacks** (it may have been advertised as free however we apologise for the error). As it is important for us to have an idea of numbers attending, please ensure that you register with before February 14. The 9's and 11's will run from 9-10am with the 13's & 15's will be at 10-11am. For registration and more details contact the club secretary, Katherine Wimberley at katherine.wimberley@bws.com.au or Julia Cowlam on 0439 007153.

Registration Day – Lobethal Netball Club Registration Day for **both Senior and Junior players** will also be on Sunday, 14 Feb from 9am – 12pm. Free sausage sizzle, chat to the committee and uniforms and merchandise will be available to purchase.

Lobethal Football Club – Junior Skills Academy commences this Sunday morning, 7 Feb at 9:30am. This is free and open to all juniors. For more information please go to our Facebook page. Would love to see as many juniors out there as possible.

Uraidla Football Club – Registration Day on Sunday, Feb 14 at 10:30am to 12pm at the clubrooms. Activities include Goal Kicking, Hit the Target, Kicking Comp, Marking Comp and more, free sausage sizzle. For more information contact Daniel Ebert on 0413195034.

Uraidla Netball Club – Registration Day on Sunday, Feb 14 from 10:30am to 12pm at Uraidla courts next to the oval. Contact Lauren Parker on 0400 512431 or Mel Hunter on 0414 239838 for further details.

Woodside Warriors Soccer Club – Registration Day on Sunday, Feb 14 from 9am – 11am. Junior boys and girls from 5 – 16 and senior players 16+. For more information find us on Facebook or www.woodsidewarriors.com.au.

Make the Change – Complete Fitness Classes

Just \$7 every day at 9am. Join lots of other Lenswood PS mums, drop the kids off at school and go straight to a fun workout! Located on Swamp Road at Lenswood, contact Shannon on 0488 224564 for more information.