From The Principal

Morning Tea
What a wonderful turn out for the special morning tea for parents sponsored by our School’s Parent Committee. It was absolutely wonderful to have so many of our parents in and about the school. Oh, and wasn’t the food great! Our School community thanks Cheryl Merrett for her leadership in organising this very successful event for us all to enjoy.

Welcome/Congratulations
This week we welcome a new student to our school, Olivia Garraway. Olivia is a Year 6 student in Mrs English’s class. In other news, we congratulate a former teacher at our school, Kirsty Lush (nee Mackereth), who has been appointed Principal of Naracoorte South Primary School for a seven year term. Kirsty began her teaching career at Padthaway before transferring to Naracoorte South Primary School eight years ago.

NAPLAN
NAPLAN testing has now been completed for another year. I commend the Year 3/5/7 students for their perseverance and positive attitude throughout the testing period over three days. NAPLAN results are released to schools and families in September.

SE Cross Country
A large number of students from our Middle and Upper Primary classes participated in the Upper South East District SAPSASA Cross Country Championships held at Naracoorte Primary School last Friday. With almost one thousand runners competing, the event created quite a spectacle. Congratulations to all runners who competed on what proved to be a nice day.

SRC News
The Student Representative Council (SRC) is organising a garden design competition with the support of the School’s gardening guru, Tammy Mathews. We look forward to several imaginative entries! Prizes include several of Mr Long’s pencils. As well, the SRC completed a comprehensive list of guidelines for cubby participation, a feature of terms two and three play at our school for some years.

Uniform
Following a democratic process involving students, staff and the School community, the School’s Governing Council has endorsed a new uniform polo shirt. To ensure a timely transition from our current shirt to the new shirt Governing Council has decided to provide, free of cost, one new shirt for each student at our school. Please ensure you drop by the school to properly size your child/ren for the new uniform polo shirt prior to our bulk order. The new uniform polo shirt will become recommended wear from the beginning of term three. In other uniform news the current School jumper will remain unchanged.

Volunteers
Our School community has long had a proud tradition of parent/community involvement. No better example of this was the involvement of several families in assisting our School during the holidays by renewing with oil the wood panels between the Junior Primary classroom and the main building, removal of excess soil from the cricket pitch surrounds and preparation of the new garden project. As well, minor works were completed in areas of the school frequented by our Preschool students. The School community would like to thank the Elden, Hayes, Mathews and Ward families for their wonderful efforts. In other School community news, our School thanks Kim Doecke for her willingness to accept the role of Tuck Day coordinator this term. We welcome Kim’s enthusiastic approach to this role.

Numeracy and Literacy
Currently, all schools within the Tatiara/Wrattonbully Partnership are involved in developing and implementing strategies to further improve the numeracy and literacy skills of students. DECD currently
promotes the Numeracy and Literacy Results Plus initiative as a key component to gaining higher achievement in both numeracy and literacy. This initiative will support schools to drive numeracy and literacy improvement while sharing consistently excellent practice in:

- tracking and monitoring learners’ growth in numeracy and literacy
- effective numeracy and literacy improvement cycles
- enacting change in teaching practice
- responding to and differentiating varying intervention practices.

National and international data suggests a decline in mathematical literacy rates in Australian 15 year olds over the past twenty-five years. Studies suggest students from Year 5 to Year 9 experience considerable difficulty interpreting problem solving situations, applying their knowledge to solve unfamiliar problems, explaining their problem-solving strategies and communicating with appropriate mathematical language. Our school’s teachers will focus their professional development in semester two on mathematical reasoning. Through this process we hope to increase our knowledge, confidence and disposition in mathematics that will, in turn, give each of us the confidence to emphasise problem-solving and mathematical reasoning in our teaching strategies. Currently, Olivia English is developing a mathematics framework/whole of school policy in consultation with her school peers. This framework will provide our School with a starting point for a learning journey that, we anticipate, will lead to the provision of best practice teaching strategies in problem-solving, mental routines and appropriate data collection. This professional development will include the collegiate support of both staff members and the Partnership TfEL (Teaching for Excellent Learners) team.

Harry

Lost Property
Please check the accumulated Lost Property pile in the Front foyer on your next visit to school.

Kiriilie

Spare Clothing
We would appreciate donations of spare clothing to have on hand for misadventures. We have plenty of jumpers but we are short of track pants, knickers and jocks, particularly in the smaller sizes. You may like to pack some spare clothing in your children’s bags as they do prefer to wear their own.

Sandi

3rd Light Horse Brigade
Due to the centenary commemoration of Anzac Day the Year 2/3/4 Class has been doing projects on ANZAC Day as part of their history lessons. Karla and Ella’s poems are included in the insert. The 2/3/4 and 5/6/7 classes were very fortunate to have a visit from the 3rd Light Horse Brigade Naracoorte re-enactment group. Mark Watters, Brian Slape and Cameron Strachan visited the school wearing replica World War 1 uniforms along with Cameron’s horse. Mark, a former soldier, explained their uniform, equipment and some of the history of Gallipoli. Mark answered the students’ questions. Cameron also demonstrated tent pegging which originally was used by the horsemen to cause the enemies’ tents to fall down over them, so they could be captured.

Pam Steer
2/3/4 Class Teacher

At the end of the day three students got into SAPSASA Cross Country; these are Poppy Moyle-Read, Karla McCarthy and Lara Brown. Mrs English was our organiser for the day. Thank you to our parents that took us to Naracoorte.

Emily Fretwell and Poppy Moyle-Read, Yr 5

Hockey
Congratulations to Jorja Doecke for being selected in the Upper South East SAPSASA Hockey team.

Jorja will play in Adelaide later in the term.

For all your SAPSASA information including District and State
www.usesapsasa.org.au
or www.decs.sa.gov.au/sport

Sharon Miels, USE SAPSASA Convenor
Student News

Choir
In choir we all have been learning the basics of singing and breathing correctly. We try to read the notes in our books properly and time them right. Sometimes if we mumble the words, we read them again and talk them through a couple of times. It’s important that the audience will be able to understand and hear the lyrics. Some of the songs we have been learning are *Deep Peace, Lightning* and *Song of Australia*. The Choir this year are really enjoying these songs.
Jorja Doecke, Yr 6 and Ben Frick, Yr 5

Cooking with Frank
This term I have been cooking with Frank, a volunteer on Wednesday for LAP while the rest of the 5/6/7s are at choir. So far Frank and I have made lots of food. In Week 2 we made Jewelled Rocky Road and Week 3 was Mexican chicken wraps. I liked them both. They were really YUMMY and I could tell everyone in my class liked the Rocky Road. When I grow up I want to be a chef.
Blake Teague, Yr 7

Glenelg SANFL Visit
On Monday, Padthaway Primary School had a visit from four Glenelg SANFL football players. They taught us how to tackle with a tackle bag, hand ball and kick the football correctly. Our favourite part though was learning to mark. We were told to jump up on our preferred foot, which for most people was the foot that matched the “punching” hand when you handball. When they were leaving the players donated some Auskick footballs to the school. It was great to get out of the classroom, learn some new skills and have some exercise!
Brody Hazel, Yr 7 and Bryce Leddy, Yr 5

SRC News

Crazy Day, Tuesday 26 May
Come with crazy hair, crazy clothes and crazy jokes. You’re even allowed to impersonate the teachers! There will be a crazy SRC sandwich express line, with crazy ingredients to choose from and colourful marble cake for lunch. You will get to select your ingredients on the day!
Cost for one sandwich $3.00, two sandwiches $5.00, marble cake $1.00
Lara Brown, joint President

PSW Spot
Mothers, did you enjoy and appreciate the gifts you received last Mother’s Day? All Classes were active in putting their own stamp on this special day with the Upper Primary even cooking up delicious snacks and treating their mums to an afternoon out in their classroom after school on the Friday. It is always a joy to see items such as paper flowers in vases, paintings stuck on fridges and various other gifts made by children brightening up homes.
The love a mum has for her children cannot be measured. This thought is echoed by this quote from my favourite book, “Can a mother ever forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has born?” In other words this is almost impossible.
Heather and I were fortunate enough to be in Adelaide and our daughters and grandchildren had the day out with their mum and nanna. I am sure that the mothers of our students also had a wonderful day with their families. Not forgetting the dads who love and care for their family. Be encouraged dads by the advertisement on TV at the moment with dads and their children from babies through to grownups.
I include a quote from a mother who didn’t ever bear a child but who cared for so many and changed the lives of countless people. That lady is Mother Teresa: “Love begins by taking care of the closest ones – the ones at home.” And another from this amazing lady which is so simple to do: “We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do.”
Cheers, Stephen

Tuck Day
26th May (Week 5)
Sandwiches/Marble Cake
Helpers
SRC

2nd June (Week 6)
Pies/Pasties/Sausage Rolls
Helper
Ariane Goldfinch
[Muffins – Peta Fraser]
Kim Doecke, phone 0488 190 972
Tuck Day Coordinator

Community News

Padthaway Medical Clinic
The Padthaway Medical Clinic is 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.

Kool Kangas
Term 2 dates: Monday 1 & 15 June 2015
Cost: $3.00/child/session
$8.00/3 or more children/session
Reminder: A bus pass is required from school so your child/ren can be dropped off at the Uniting Church.
If you have any questions please contact me on phone 8765 5120 or email schutas@bigpond.com
Joanna Schutz
Team Leader
A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT SUSAN CLOSE

As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, I take this opportunity to recognize and thank all of you who donate your time and energy to volunteering.

We are fortunate to have around 26,000 South Australians – parents, carers, grandparents and other community members – who put their hand up to help out in our preschools, children’s centres, schools and child protection settings.

When I visit schools and sites, I often see or hear about volunteers’ contributions. You take on many different roles – from helping in classrooms, coaching afternoon or weekend sports, staffing canteens, organising events, accompanying students on excursions, serving on committees or governing councils, to transporting children in care so they can maintain contact with relatives, or teaching languages in our ethnic schools so children can know their heritage.

Each role provides incredibly valuable support to children and their communities.

Not only do you help schools and allow them to run more smoothly, you also help children and young people to develop skills, confidence and self-esteem. By donating your time and effort, you convey the message to children that they – and their education – are important.

Those of you who volunteer at your child’s preschool, children’s centre or school are also helping to set them up for success in their studies. Research tells us that children whose parents are involved in their education are more likely to stay in school longer and do better.

And, as many of you have discovered, helping out in the classroom is a great way to find out what your children are learning and to get to know their teachers better.

This week, I join with your schools and sites in saying “thank you” to all our volunteers.

Thank you for giving generously to your community and for being mentors and role models in children’s lives. I wish you all a wonderful week celebrating your efforts.

The Hon Susan Close
Minister for Education and Child Development