

Newbery Park Primary School



Principal:
Stuart Miller

Week 1 – 3rd February 2017

Web www.newberypkps.sa.edu.au

Email dl.0970_info@schools.sa.edu.au

Fax (08) 8733 2377

Phone (08) 8733 2864

SMS Attendance 0434 077 091



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome

It is wonderful to get back into the swing of things after our school holiday break. We welcome our new reception students whom look fresh, excited and ready to learn and develop throughout their primary school time. Along with our reception students, we welcome a number of students and families who join the Newbery Park Primary School community. We encourage all families and parents, new and old, to get involved in our school; either as a classroom helper, volunteer or as a committee member, as part of Governing Council or Parent Club. If you have some available time and you're not sure how to get involved please make contact with the school.

Welcome to our new students: Ashley, Chloe, Ellah, Komani, Matiria, Tui, Kaiden, Eli, Prabhneet, Guy, Storhm, Tye, Kira, Noah, Jessica, Kaiden, Peyton, Paora, Apsara and Hugo.

Trees

The trees surrounding our school are important not only to the schools aesthetics, but, provide shade and make us feel good too! Last year to ensure that we could keep our students and school community safe from falling limbs and trees we had an arborist assess our trees. As a result 60 trees have been removed to ensure the safety of everyone. Just this week alone in Sydney on the first day of school a number of students were hospitalised due to a falling limb. What we have been left with is a bare looking school. To remedy this we will be planting new trees, with a focus initially on the front of our school and eventually the rest of the school, with the help and leadership from our year 6/7 class, who through their key STEM project will advise and present to the school Governing Council on the best way to rehabilitate our school grounds.

Uniforms

It has been wonderful to see most of our students in school uniform. Uniform creates a sense of identity, belonging and a preparedness to learn. It certainly makes parents and students lives a lot simpler first thing in the morning with not having to think about what to put on! Our red polo tops are available from the front office with navy shorts, skorts, track pants and check school dresses available from Big W, Kmart, Target or any good sports store. A reminder that denim, leggings, items of clothing with stripes or large branding, shorts and track pants which are black do not constitute as school uniform.

Our Newsletter

Our schools newsletter is available on odd weeks. This can be accessed on our schools website www.newberypkps.sa.edu.au The newsletter will also be available on the schools facebook page and will be emailed out to families. If you wish to have the newsletter emailed, please update your details at the front office. You have received this weeks addition in paper copy, as of week 3 we ask that parents access the newsletter via the multiple electronic platforms outlined here. There will be a small number of paper copies available at the front office.

How do you fix a problem?

From time to time a concern or issue may arise which directly effects your child and / or their education. In most circumstances a simple conversation with your child's classroom teacher will resolve the problem. My door is always open to support families and their children. If you have had an issue, please give it time to resolve before escalating it further: a follow up conversation can always help with this. With this newsletter we have included DECDs expectations for resolving and raising a complaint. We hope that you will not need this, however, it is always helpful to know and understand the processes.

DATES TO REMEMBER

7th, 8th, 9th, February
Student Portfolio Meetings
(Room 10 only)

14th, 15th, 16th, February
Student Portfolio Meetings

3rd March
Assembly 9:15am

17th March
Sports day

2th April
SAPSASA District Athletics
Day

TERM DATES 2017

TERM 1 30th Jan - 13th April
TERM 2 1st May – 7th July
TERM 3 24th July – 29th Sep
TERM 4 16th Oct – 15th Dec

We are a Learning Community that values...
PRIDE ~ INTEGRITY ~ RESILIENCE

Raising a complaint with DECD

We recognise that sometimes things go wrong and you may feel that your expectations are not being met. If you have an unresolved issue or a complaint, please raise it. It is important to work together, talk, listen and find solutions so we can improve our services to the community.

The following information will walk you through the steps you can take when you have a complaint or concern.

Types of concerns and complaints

You may choose to make a complaint if you believe that a government public education or early childhood service has:

- done something wrong
- failed to do something they should have done
- acted unfairly or impolitely.

Your concern or complaint may be about:

- the type, level or quality of services
- the behaviour and decisions of staff
- a policy, procedure or practice.

Complaints may be about something we have to do because of state or federal law. In such cases we will talk to you and help you understand the requirements and why they exist.

Find out more

www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/general-information/feedback-and-complaints/schools-and-preschools

Your local contact point

In the first instance please contact your child's classroom teacher.

OR for all other matters contact:

Stuart Miller
Principal
ph. 08 8733 2864
stuart.miller779@schools.sa.edu.au



Raising a complaint with DECD

Working together to resolve complaints in DECD schools and early childhood services

Steps to take if you have a complaint...

Step 1: Talk to the school, preschool or other early childhood service first

We try to resolve concerns or complaints at the local level wherever possible. The care worker, teacher or staff member involved should always be your first point of contact. Make a time to talk to them to discuss your concerns, either in person or over the phone. You may want to put your concerns in a letter or email.

If your concern is about the staff member, then you may wish to contact the site leader. This will be the director in early childhood services, or the principal in schools. The leader will look into your concerns and get back to you. They will work with you and the staff member to resolve the issue.

Most complaints are resolved quickly, often within days. The local site leader will aim to resolve your complaint within four weeks, although complex and contentious matters may take longer. If this is the case we will advise you.

Step 2: Central resolution

If you are not satisfied that your complaint has been resolved at the local level, you may choose to seek support from our complaints resolution services:

Complaints about education and early childhood services

Education Complaint Unit
Phone: 1800 677 435
Email: DECD.EducationComplaint@sa.gov.au

We can help you by:

- providing advice and support about the issues behind the complaint
- advocating with local sites to ensure all options for resolution have been explored
- objectively reviewing complaints that have not been resolved at the local level, including through a formal review.

Step 3: Other ways to resolve your issue

If we can't resolve your issue through the previous steps, you may choose to seek independent advice and review by an external agency. The circumstances of your complaint will influence whether this option is available.

External agency contact point:

SA Ombudsman
Toll free: 1800 182 150
Phone: 8226 8699
Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.sa.gov.au
www.ombudsman.sa.gov.au

Steps for raising your concern or complaint



FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONTINUED...

Reminder Assessment and Reporting Student Portfolio Meetings

In student book packs you would have received a copy of our updated Assessment and Reporting Policy. This policy outlines the ways in which staff at Newbery Park will communicate your children's progress and achievement, along with a timetable of when this will happen. The purpose of these meetings is for teachers, students and parents/caregivers to discuss current student achievement, and then to set goals to plan for future growth. In Term One, the first Student Portfolio Meetings will be held during Week 3 on Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th February.

As Mr Scanlon will not be available post week 2, due to the birth of his first child, students in Room 10 will be completing the Portfolio Meetings in Week 2 on Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th of February. Fifteen minutes has been allocated to each meeting, and where possible, families with more than one child will have their meetings booked consecutively. Confirmation of your meeting times will be sent home by the end of Week 2.

All meeting bookings will be made through the Front Office, please direct your inquiries accordingly. Bookings will be made on a "first in, first served" basis, so please complete your booking slips and return them to the Front Office as soon as possible, but no later than Tuesday 7th February.

AGM

Our Annual General meeting will be held on the 1st of March starting at 4pm in the school library. This is a great opportunity for families to hear about our 2016 achievements along with an opportunity to become a part of our schools governing council. The main role of governing council is to support, contribute to and oversee the broad direction of the school. However, becoming a member of governing council does give you an insight into the behind the scene's operation of a school. If you would like to be consider for a position on the schools governing council, however, are unable to attend the AGM please make contact with the school.

Attendance

We have had 3 consecutive years of improvement with our student attendance. This is wonderful and parents and students should celebrate this. As a school we would love to continue this growth. So what can you do as a parent? Some tips include:

- o Establish school / home life routines early on. Set regular bed times, breakfast routines, home expectations for homework and chores.
- o Promote school as an important part of your child's development and life.
- o Celebrate and acknowledge academic and school milestones which your child achieves.
- o Don't allow your child to have a day off for their birthday or have a day off just because.....e.g. to go shopping for new shoes.
- o Establish a home-school partnership. Get to know your child's classroom teacher, attend assemblies, and help out in the classroom and school. This demonstrates to your child that you value their efforts, learning and the importance of school.

Finally, we know that the more time that children spend at school, the more they learn and the greater their academic achievement and personal growth. If your child is going to have a day away from school, please let your child's classroom teacher know or contact the front office. Five days off a term equals almost half a term of lost schooling in a full school year. Over the period from reception to year 7 this equates to almost one full year of lost learning and can potentially make your child less competitive in their future education post primary school and in the workforce.

Let's see if we can achieve 4 consecutive years of growth. Keep up the great work.

Kind Regards,



Stuart Miller,
PRINCIPAL

News from our CPSW

Welcome to 2017!

Hi! Let me introduce myself: My name is Nathan McDuff and I am Newbery Park Primary School's Pastoral Care Worker. I am employed by School's Ministry Group (SMG) in partnership with DECD to provide a chaplaincy service to the School. I started this role at the beginning of 2010 and I continue in this role for 2017. I want to say welcome back to the existing students and a special welcome to the new students. My aim is to get to know you and your name as soon as possible!

What is a Pastoral Care Worker? My role is focusing on the wellbeing of a person. This includes a person's emotional, physical, social and spiritual wellbeing. In other words, my concern is for you and how you are doing in life. At Newbery Park Primary School my role is to make sure you feel safe, you are coping with life and, in particular, that you are able to focus whilst at School and make the most of your time here at School.

I do this through individual and/or group discussions with students, teachers, staff and parents. I try and provide some coping mechanisms and/or solutions to the way you can overcome any problems or issues you may have at school or home. One of my main strengths is to listen and then offer advice about your problem. I do this through relationship building and helping out wherever I can.

My role is also unique in that I offer a Christian perspective to life. It's not about preaching, but about showing love through practical ways. Throughout the year, I may offer some Christian-based and/or values-based Seminars that will help you strengthen your foundation to cope with life. If you have any questions about God, ask me...I'm not afraid to talk about my faith.

Students...my goal is to support you in your friendships/relationships as you seek to make your way through school and set yourself up for life in high school. Parents...my goal is to support you in any way I can through making myself available to meet and chat about any issues relating to school or personal life. I also have available resources to help you with many and varied issues. Staff...my goal is to support you through being in your classrooms and in the staff room as often as possible.

I look forward to meeting you for the first time or reconnecting with you from last year. Please be gracious with me if I have forgotten your name - there are lots of you, and only one of me!

I'm here on Tuesday's and Friday's so if you see me, say hi, if you want a chat, my door is always open (unless it's closed!!). Have a great year of learning and discovery.

Nathan McDuff

Pastoral Care Worker



Breakfast Club Helpers Needed!



Hi Parents,

We are in need of some helpers for the school's Breakfast Club program. The program operates every morning from 8:30am-8:50am (as well as set up and pack up time) and provides toasted sandwiches, toast, milo, fruit and other food.

This program is a vital part of the School's wellbeing program as it helps students to get the best start for the day. The School would really appreciate your assistance and availability to help maintain and offer this service. All you need is a Police Clearance and a Respond to Abuse and Neglect Certificate. If you don't have these please still consider volunteering as we can provide the training for you. So if you can spare a morning or two and would love to help serve within the school community, please see myself or the school principal, Stuart Miller for further information.

The Breakfast Club program really is a lot of fun and I would love to see you a part of it.

Thanks

Nathan McDuff

Pastoral Care Worker

Rocket Reading Volunteers Needed!



Once again we are looking for volunteers to be part of our Rocket reading program. This program is aimed at increasing the reading fluency of students and is run on:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.00-10.30am weekly.

Session times are flexible and volunteers are welcome on any of these days. Volunteers are paired with a group of students, and listen to them read individually for approximately 10mins.

If you can, or know of a grandparent that has some spare time that would enjoy interacting and supporting these students please contact the front office (phone 87332864) or our SSO Loretta Breeding.

We hope to commence this program term 1 week 3 and for any new volunteers a support session will be held to familiarize you with the program.

New members needed!

Dear Newbery Park school community,

Are you a person who likes to help out? Do you have creative ideas for fundraisers? Do you have an hour a fortnight to help your child's school raise much needed funds? If so, then please come along to our Parents and Friends meetings, which are held in the school's library.

A date has not been set for our first meeting as of yet, so keep an eye out for a flyer which will be sent home at a later date.

Let me go into a few things we do: we hold fortnightly meetings to discuss ways in which we can raise funds to help our school organise things such as:

- Sports days
- SAPSASA days
- End of year raffle
- Lunch days

And many other term by term fundraisers! We then in return use the funds to give back to your children. Here is a list of just some of the ways these raised funds are used:

- New readers for students
- Swings, boarders and soft fall
- White boards
- Soccer goals for the gym
- Contribution towards 6/7 camp
- Canteen utensils
- Headphones for classes

The list above is just a small record of some of the things we help do and contribute to. Term 1 is a big fundraising term for the Parents and Friends Committee, seeing as we have both our school Sports Day and SAPSASA day approaching.

Without your help we will not be able to have both of these very important fundraisers, so please have a think about getting involved and come along to a meeting, offer your help and ideas.

Thankyou!

- Parents and Friends Committee

Soccer: MILLICENT UNITED

Training 2017

U/12 Start Tue 7 Feb,
Tues & Thu 4.30 pm

Mal Sneddon: 0429 788 161

U/14, Tue & Thu 6pm

Warren Dewberry: 0497 802 071

Steve Galli: 0427 332 813

U17, Seniors
Start 10 Feb Tue & Thu 6pm

Marion Grgetic: 0421 592 810

Everyone Welcome!



Learn Karate!

Classes for all ages
Fitness, Self Confidence,
Flexibility, Discipline, Self
Defence

Where

No.4 Sixth Street, Millicent
(Presbyterian Church Hall)

Juniors

Monday 5:30pm to 6:00pm

Intermediate

Monday 6:05pm to 6:55pm

Main Class

Monday 7:00pm to 8:30pm
and Wednesday 6:30pm to
8:00pm



Enquiries:

Sensei Ian McGregor

Phone: 0419833031

Email: millicentkarate@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/millicentkarate

A new year is commencing at Scouts!



Starting from next week, every Tuesday night at the Millicent Scout hall
(Stark Avenue, Millicent)
from 4:30pm onwards.
Come along for a free trial!

Children of any age welcome, girls & boys encouraged to come along and join the
adventure!