Dear Parents and Caregivers

Look at the lovely photos on this page to see how we enjoyed Bookweek and especially visits by grandparents. Our grandparents and visiting friends day is always a highlight of our year. Children thoroughly enjoy showing their learning to their grandparents and friends. Thank you to those grandparents who purchased a book for our library and a paver for the piazza. By coming along to this day you are helping us to build a strong community and you are sending a message to children about how important they are.

Tuesday 16 September is the next opportunity for family visiting and we invite parents to visit classrooms so that your children can explain their learning to you. We call this our Showcase Evening and it is timed for early evening to allow working parents to attend. On this night you are encouraged to visit classes across the school. If you have not visited a Steiner classroom before this night provides the opportunity.

After a very patient wait I am pleased to announce that the re-development of the St Morris Disability Unit has begun. The first phase has been building a disabled toilet in between the male and female toilets at the hall. This will be a well used facility during Vacation Care. The redevelopment to the St Morris Unit is mostly internal. A new sensory room will be created and a large multi-purpose classroom. The bathrooms have been redesigned and a new operable wall will be installed in the main teaching area. The whole unit will also be painted. There will be some inconvenience to children, staff and families while St Morris is relocated to the hall but this will be well worthwhile.

On 8 September we have a school closure day and recently a new parent asked me about this so I thought I would explain the reason for this tradition as there may be other parents who do not understand this. The Minister of Education gives permission for all schools in South Australia to close on one day each year for a day of local significance. The Governing Council chooses the day and the significance and schools in the metropolitan area often select a day during the Royal Adelaide Show. This year our day is a Monday to allow families the opportunity to enjoy a long weekend. This tradition has been happening even before I went to school! I hope you are able to make some enjoyable plans.

In this fortnight’s newsletter you will find a short article about the link our Year 3/4 class has with a real life scientist. We are grateful for the ‘Scientists in Schools’ program and to Julie Hales for taking up the offer. Where possible we try to make the curriculum as authentic as possible and here is an example.

I look forward to seeing lots of Dads and Mums on 16 September and meanwhile ‘Happy Father’s Day’.

Vicki Stokes

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Term 3 Week 7
3 September 2008

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 8 September</th>
<th>School Closure Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9 September</td>
<td>New Reception’s Transition Visit</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10 September</td>
<td>After School Market</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10 September</td>
<td>Governing Council Meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 14 September</td>
<td>Festival of Music - Festival Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 September</td>
<td>Showcase Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22 September</td>
<td>Steiner Spring Festival 11.50am - 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 1 November</td>
<td>Family Fun Fair</td>
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Please Remember:

| School Closure Day | Monday 8 September |

Virtues of the Week

| Week 8: Detachment |
| Week 9: Cleanliness |
**MARS mini olympics**

Recently all the junior primary classes went to the MARS sports stadium for a ‘mini Olympics’ to celebrate the Beijing Olympic Games. This was a great opportunity to practice working in teams, learning new skills and good sportsmanship.

By Hagen, Year 1

By Chloe, Year 1

By Samuel S, Year 1

Shaima played badminton and Aya played volleyball.

Ella enjoyed badminton and Ryan played dodgeball.

Congratulations to all our Year 2 to 7 children who participated and enjoyed their soccer season learning new skills and having lots of fun.

A big thankyou to our coaches Emma, Tom, Steve, Simon, Bronwyn, Sarah, Peter, Mark and Grant and all our helpers who volunteered their time and skills and offered patience, generosity and commitment to our students. Our dedicated band of supporters including parents, grandparents and other spectators who always offered support and assistance to our teams are a wonderful asset to our students as they begin their involvement with after-school sporting activities which may become a lifelong interest. As we encourage all children to be active, it is pleasing to note that we had a record number of children participating in soccer this year - we actually doubled our number of teams.

Now is the time to please wash those soccer uniforms and return the tops and shorts or just tops to the office by Wednesday 24 September at the latest.

**WHERE’S YOUR HAT?!**

Our SunSmart policy has recommenced and hat wearing is now a compulsory requirement.

Please remind your children of the ‘no hat, no outdoor play’ policy!

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**SCIENTISTS IN SCHOOLS**

Interesting fossils which were formed 250 million years ago were shown to the students in Room 14J as part of the ‘Scientists in Schools’ program. Dr Evelyn Krull is the scientist which has been paired up with our class for the program, which is organized between DECS and Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training.

Some initial planning occurred between Dr Krull and myself at her worksite (CSIRO) to determine which aspects of her work would interest and benefit the students.

One of her previous assignments involved an excursion to Antarctica, where the fossils she showed us were discovered. The students were fascinated to see outlines of leaves and ferns which grew there 250 million years ago. Many students also had interesting questions to ask her about being a scientist and how she became one, as well as queries about her current work on the Coorong. Next time Evelyn visits she is going to expand on what she has told us so far about the Coorong and show us how the scientists collect cores for their sampling. For background knowledge we have looked at maps of the Coorong and Lower Lakes and discussed the surrounding environment. We have also read some of Colin Thiele’s writing which is set there.

We feel fortunate to be involved in this program and to have our scientist partnered with us. What a wonderful way for students to learn more about science and scientists.

**Julie Hales, Teacher, Year 3/4**

“It was exciting how she went to the Antarctic for the rocks.” **By Steven**

“We had a very interesting scientist called Evelyn, come into our class and show us fascinating fossils with fern on them.” **By BJ**

“It’s amazing that she went to Antarctica and got these fossils then let us hold them.” **By Anthony**

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**SOCCER NEWS**

Congratulations to all our Year 2 to 7 children who participated and enjoyed their soccer season learning new skills and having lots of fun.

A big thankyou to our coaches Emma, Tom, Steve, Tony, Simon, Bronwyn, Sarah, Peter, Mark and Grant and all our helpers who volunteered their time and skills and offered patience, generosity and commitment to our students. Our dedicated band of supporters including parents, grandparents and other spectators who always offered support and assistance to our teams are a wonderful asset to our students as they begin their involvement with after-school sporting activities which may become a lifelong interest. As we encourage all children to be active, it is pleasing to note that we had a record number of children participating in soccer this year - we actually doubled our number of teams.

Now is the time to please wash those soccer uniforms and return the tops and shorts or just tops to the office by Wednesday 24 September at the latest.
On Tuesday 9 September a canteen meal deal will replace normal lunch orders - No other lunch orders will be available on this day. Deal for week 8, term 3:

- Chicken and Corn Soup with Garlic Bread
- OR
- Savoury Corn Soup with Garlic Bread
- Apple Puff Treat
- Water

All for only $6.00

I would like to order Savoury Corn Soup and Garlic bread with / without Chicken (please circle your choice), Apple Puff Treat and a bottle of water for only $6.00

Name........................................................................................................................................... Room.........................

Amount enclosed...........................................
Healthy Eating Tips

Family Meals
Family meals are a comforting ritual for both parents and children. Children like the predictability of family meals and parents get a chance to catch up with their children. Knowing dinner is served at approximately the same time every night and that the family will be sitting down together is comforting, which also enhances appetite, and provides a perfect opportunity for your children to share what’s on their minds. Young children need the regularity of a sit-down meal so they can settle at night and all children need time to talk, to be heard and to learn from their parents. Family meals also offer the chance to introduce your child to new foods and to act as a role model for healthy eating.

Family mealtimes
Make eating as a family a priority. Children can take part in mealtimes as soon as they can sit up and grasp food. There are many goods reasons to eat as a family including:

- A happy and relaxed environment will positively influence your child’s experience of the foods they are eating.

- Eating meals as a family encourages healthy eating habits such as eating vegetables.

- Mealtimes are a great opportunity for parents to be role models for good food choices and positive social behaviours - this will also encourage children’s acceptance of new foods.

Tips for Healthy Family Meals

- Eat a healthy breakfast every morning.
- Prepare food with lots of vegetables at evening meals - vegetables can also be included in school lunch boxes.
- Drink water with meals.
- Involve children in food preparation, setting the table and cleaning up.

- Sit together at a table.

This is the first article for our new spot about healthy eating which is an initiative of our Canteen Committee.

PreMIER’S READING CHALLENGE ENDS FRIDAY

Please remember to complete your ‘student reading records’ by this Friday 5 September. Well done to all those students who have completed the challenge.

Please hand your reading records to your class teacher by Friday.