Dear Families of Trinity Gardens School

It is with pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to the 2012 school year to all children and their families. How lucky to have such perfect weather this week. On Monday, the first day of school, there was a sea of happy and excited faces. I was at Aberdare before school and couldn’t believe that almost all classes were full of students and the start of school siren had not yet been rung! It was heartening to see children eagerly awaiting the arrival of friends and sharing their news. As I visited classes, St Morris, the ELC and the Children’s Centre I saw children engaged in learning in environments that were clean, tidy and welcoming. I would sincerely like to thank parents for getting your children to school and preschool on time as this is such an important part of successful schooling. I’d also like to thank staff for the many days of preparation to ensure a smooth and successful return to school and preschool.

I appreciate that with a return to school there is a lot to do and remember and this is on top of a busy family life. Schooling and the related activities however are important and children benefit when they see parents engaging with school events as this signals to them that their school is valued. This term there are some special annual events that we ask you to note. To assist you we have included a term planner and a ‘coming up dates’ column. As well, I’d like to share a little information about a few events.

Next Wednesday, 8 February, Governing Council would like to invite you to a free and special Parenting Workshop to be held in the Resource Centre at 6.30pm for 1 hour focusing on Setting kids up for success. This will be presented by Mark Le Messurier and the workshop blurb says:

“CHECKLIST, what are you setting your kids up for? Unfortunately, there’s not a universal rule to guarantee that parents consistently parent well, and kids turn out well. The truth is that to end up feeling optimistic and confident, children need their parents to sort out what really matters and a way of life that sets them up for advantage”.

During this workshop Mark challenges you to compare your family and parenting priorities with his CHECKLIST. Enjoy the opportunity to laugh reflect, share and compare without feeling judged. As Mark says, “you are what will make the greatest difference for your child, and it’s in what you think, what you say and what you do. There’s no such thing as perfect parents, perfect children or perfect families, but even in the most limiting circumstances, parents who value the relationship they have with their children make huge differences.”

Following the workshop please stay for the Annual General Meeting. This isn’t a long meeting. There are vacancies on Governing Council and you are invited to nominate for a position. Voting only occurs when there are more nominations than positions available. A nomination form was sent home with the school fees invoice or another can be obtained from the school office. If you would like more information about Governing Council please contact me through the school office. Governing Council meets twice a term on Wednesdays from 6:30pm to about 9pm.

The next important date is Tuesday 14 February when we have Acquaintance Night. Please see the program in this newsletter. The evening begins at 6pm and the last session concludes at 7:30pm so there’s still time to go out for dinner! The St Morris Unit, Early Learning Centre and Science, Music, Italian Gym areas will also be open between 6pm and 7pm for visiting. We apologise in advance if you have two sessions on at the same time. This is unavoidable for everyone. The information sessions cover many aspects of the forthcoming year including class expectations, curriculum and
It has been a long standing school tradition to celebrate **Shrove Tuesday with a pancake breakfast.** The date this year is Tuesday 21 February. This year we would like to build on a more manageable way to achieve this event by setting up three cooking and serving stations. We’d also like class teachers and class parent representatives to organise the donations for the class to ensure that we are not embarrassed with an oversupply of pancake mixture. The way the breakfast works is that we ask for donations of the ‘shake and mix’ ready made pancake mix or real homemade batter brought on the day and toppings such as jam, sugar and maple syrup. If this is gathered per class then we ought to be sure to have enough for everyone and without wastage. With three separate stations we need volunteers for each. We start cooking pretty close to 7 am and it’s all over by 9am. If you can lend a hand during this time please let the class teacher know through a note in your child’s communication book or diary or leave your name at the school office. Children and families look forward to this event and there is a lovely atmosphere at school.

This term we have the biennial **Footsteps Dance Program** for 5 weeks in the last half of the term. Children love this program when they are challenged by expert teachers. Perhaps a demonstration could be arranged for an assembly. Everyone gets involved and has a great deal of fun.

Teachers are sending home **class letters** and making term curriculum overviews available for your information. As well you may be informed about forthcoming class excursions. I know the year 3s are going to a performance of Aladdin and other classes are going to the Marine Discovery Centre. There’s never a dull moment at our school!

Prior to the AGM I would like to introduce those staff able to attend. I would like you to meet our new Deputy Principal, Marg Erwin, who is working tirelessly to become familiar with our school. New teaching staff include Fiona Mockridge and Roslyn Angelos (both Year 4/5), Thea Ikon (Yr 3), Anna Kakošček (Science), Abbi Fenton (Steiner Class 1) Anne Evans (Steiner Class 7) and Mary Medeiros (Steiner Class 4). A warm welcome is extended to our Canadian exchange teacher, Shirley Brault, who is taking Year 1.

Recognising and valuing the uniqueness of every child is important to staff at Trinity Gardens and we encourage a strong working relationship with parents so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or suggestions.

Kind regards

Vicki Stokes
Our school newsletter is available for perusal via the school website. Just go to: www.trinitygps.sa.edu.au

VIRTUES OF THE WEEK

WHERE’S YOUR HAT?

Our Sun Smart policy is once again in place. Therefore hat wearing is now a compulsory requirement.
Please remind your children of the no hat, no outdoor play policy.
Thank you for your support.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Our school newsletter is available for perusal via the school website. Just go to: www.trinitygps.sa.edu.au

FINANCE NEWS

Invoices for the Materials & Services Charge (school fees) for 2012 have been sent to all families and are payable within 14 days. If you have not received an invoice for your child/children please contact Karen in the School Office.

For those families who feel they may be eligible for School Card assistance with Materials & Services charges this year, an application form must be completed and returned to the School Office as forms are processed by Centrelink on 17 February 2012.

Approval in 2011 does not carry over to 2012. Please see the income audit table to check for eligibility, or see Karen if you feel there may be other reasons (eg hardship, self employment, change in circumstances) that would allow an application to be made.

A uniform shop voucher to the value of $10 is offered for all full payment of fees made by 17 February 2012. Many families take advantage of this offer when purchasing uniforms for the new school year.

Finally, thank you to those families who have already finalized fee payments and/or submitted School Card applications – your prompt attention to these matters is appreciated.

Karen Barrow.

**2012 SCHOOL CARD INCOME LIMITS**

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PARKING

As it is the start of a new school year it is timely to raise the issue of parking around the school boundary.
A number of (strong) complaints have been received from our school neighbours recently, particularly those on Portrush Road.
Please respect the local businesses and private residential properties, in particular driveways and/or customer parking.
Thank you for you consideration of this matter.

VIRTUES OF THE WEEK

**Week 1 & 2 - Respect**

Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves, others, and the world around us. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful. It is knowing that every man, woman and child deserves respect, including you.

COMMUNITY NEWS

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Please be advised that the Uniform Shop’s opening hours are:
**MONDAY AFTERNOON**
2.45 - 3.30
**FRIDAY MORNING**
8.25 - 9.30

**Calisthenics Club**
Hectorville—Needs girls
Contact
Lee-Ann Leis, Principal Coach
Waratah Calisthenics College
M: 0401 560 243
E: waratahcalisthenics@gmail.com

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Please be advised that the Uniform Shop’s opening hours are:
**MONDAY AFTERNOON**
2.45 - 3.30
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8.25 - 9.30

**SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

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Christmas Shoe Collection 2011

Many thanks to all who donated shoes to this very worthy cause at Christmas time. A number of very helpful year 7s helped Bonita load them into the boot of her car. There were a total of 256 pairs of shoes! That’s a lot of shoes. Once again, thank you.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Girl’s size 10
Summer Uniform Dress
$10

Contact
Brendalea
M: 0408 050 188

What’s on Term 1, 2012

Monday
Sessional preschool
8:45am – 3:15pm
Trinity Gardens Early Learning Centre
Contact Rowena: 8431 4170

Tuesday
Sessional preschool
8:45am – 3:15pm
Trinity Gardens Early Learning Centre
Contact Rowena: 8431 4170

Wednesday
Sessional preschool
8:45am – 11:45am
12:15pm – 3:15pm
Trinity Gardens Early Learning Centre
Contact Rowena: 8431 4170

Thursday
Sessional preschool
8:45am – 3:15pm
Trinity Gardens Early Learning Centre
Contact Rowena: 8431 4170

Friday
Sessional preschool
8:45am – 3:15pm
Trinity Gardens Early Learning Centre
Contact Rowena: 8431 4170

Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA)
Office attended
Tuesday to Friday
Breastfeeding Helpline
1800 606 2 666

Coffee, Chat & Craft
A drop-in morning where parents have an opportunity to meet other parents with children explore the centre (under parental supervision). Every Tuesday during school term
9am – 11am
Community Room
Cost: $5 or $1.50 for concession card holders
Enquire: 8333 3276

My Time
Support group for parents and carers who are caring for a child with a disability, medical condition or developmental delay
11:30 am – 1:30 pm
Enquiries and bookings
Silvan: 0488 157 769

Road Runners Coffee Club
By referral only
Three weekly
9:30am – 11:30am
Location and frequency of the group may change due to the needs of the group
Consulting Room 1

Trinity Gardens is proud to support and promote Let’s Read for parents and their children
Please ask the staff about it

FOR SALE

SECOND HAND UNIFORM
Girl’s size 10
Summer Uniform Dress
$10
Contact
Brendalea
M: 0408 050 188

Getting to Know Your Baby
January 16 – February 13
5-week program
1.30pm – 3.30pm
Community Room
Enquiries taken and group facilitated by Child and Family Health Service staff (CAHFS)

It’s the Children’s Centre’s 1st birthday!
Come and celebrate with a morning tea on Tuesday, January 14, 2012 from 3pm onwards

Infant music group
Music and songs for parents and their babies 0-12 months
2pm – 3pm
Commenes Wednesday, February 8, 2012
Contact: 8333 2557
Facilitated by Cindy-Jane Macdonald
Enquiries and bookings: 8333 2557

Empowered Parenting
Friday, February 17 –
Tuesday, March 20
(no session on March 16)
12:45pm – 2:45pm
Community Room (creche provided)
For enquiries re cost and to make bookings, please ring the Women’s Community Centre: 8362 6579

First Aid course
Registration of interest
 Held at Hillside Children’s Centre for a discounted rate of $50.00
Next course planned for Saturday, March 3
To book a place or register an expression of interest in future courses ring: 8365 2639

- Community Development Coordinator Cris Katsambis - Director of Education & Care Rowena Tennant