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 This office is located on the land of the Boonerwung people of the Kulin nation.

What's News

TERM 3 ISSUE 1 WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY
 2017



Principal's Report

Welcome back to Term 3

In addition to students returning to school this week, the other good news is that Term 3 is ten full weeks. No public holidays or curriculum days to shorten the school week. Term 3 promises to provide a busy program with two classes at camp, Kid Space for the annual birthday party, Fathers Day stall along with a full focus on classroom and programs.

Teacher Jackie George welcomed the arrival of daughter Adelaide Elizabeth George on the 15th June.

Inadequate Facilities for SAS

Our projected enrolment increase of an additional 120 students over the next five years and the lack of new facilities remains a major concern. This year, four extra classroom required the removal of mature trees and the loss of a bicycle track. Next year, further playground facilities will have to be removed to allow for two more classrooms. By 2019 we anticipate 70 more students, requiring nine additional classrooms that will be crowded onto our current site.

While the South Eastern Education Region is fully informed of our accommodation dilemma, no resolution is yet in place other than overcrowding our current site. There is little time left for any planning that will avoid the overcrowding continuing including loss of playground facilities and gardens that help to make SAS so positively different. There is a very significant risk of stress to students and staff if our current site has to accommodate up to 320 students with 25 relocatable classrooms by 2023.

Technology@SAS

Over the last four years we have seen an explosion of technology at SAS with technical support increasing from three hours per week to now four days a week. So it is great to welcome ICT technician Daniel Greig to our team of classroom support. Daniel was previously employed for three days via a contracted agency. This term, Daniel will be working full time to advance our implementation of more online systems to make SAS up-to-date with school technology.



Semester 1 Reports

Despite the use of new software, we were very disappointed with the format of student reports last semester. Problems included reports being too cluttered in format making them difficult to read, multiple teacher names but not the class education assistant and considerable editing needed to correct format problems.

There will be a complete revision of the reporting for Semester 2 to provide reports that correct these problems. Student reports must also align with the new Victorian Curriculum for students from Prep to Year 10.

IMPORTANT DATES

JULY

Monday 31st—August 4th
 SSG Week

AUGUST

Thursday 17th
 School Council
 Saturday 19th
 Kids Space Birthday Party
 Thursday 31st
 Father's Day Stall

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 21st
 School Council
 Friday 22nd
 Last Day Term 3

OCTOBER

Monday 9th
 First Day Term 4
 Thursday 20th
 School Council
 Monday 23rd—Friday 27th
 SSG Week

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 7th
 Melbourne Cup Holiday

DECEMBER

Monday 11th—Thursday 21st
 Headstart
 Thursday 21st
 Last Day Term 4
 Friday 22nd

Kids Space Birthday Party
19th August 2017

Invitations will be sent home this week.



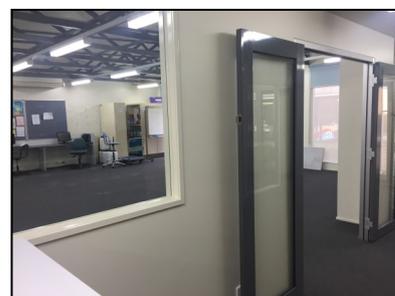
Principal's Report cont...

Many schools are now making reports only available for reading and printing online. While we may make reports available online we will also continue to provide printed reports in the future.

Details of the new Victorian Curriculum and its impact on our programs and reports will be regularly detailed in future newsletters.

Building Improvements

Building renovation work over the break has created a much needed Conference Room with capacity for staff meetings and workshops. Teaching resources previously kept in the former Resource Room have been relocated closer to classrooms in various spaces. Having one central resource area became increasingly non-viable to maintain. Each school area will now manage and update resources to specifically suits their needs for delivering curriculum. Once monitors are installed and furniture arrives we will have a contemporary multi-purpose conference room.



Progression of STAR

Further intensive support and training will be provided to the targeted STAR classrooms. US consultant Kara Magee will be at the school for five days next week to support staff in the three primary school areas to develop their skills and proficiency in delivering the essential strategies linked to the STAR program. Natalie Walsh will no doubt detail Kara's visit in our next newsletter.

Jeff Innes
Principal

2017 Parent Opinion Survey

The Department of Education is excited to announce a refreshed school Parent Opinion Survey for 2017, which will take place in Term 3. The survey has been updated to align with the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes and the refreshed Attitudes to School Survey. Core measures from the previous survey have been retained for data continuity purposes.

The refreshed survey seeks parent opinion on measures of school climate, student engagement and effective teaching practice known to influence student engagement and student outcomes; and will provide schools with actionable insights in key elements for school improvement.

Completing the survey: Access, translations and more

The survey will be completed online via the secure survey portal and can be completed by parents on any device connected to the internet.

There will be no paper survey option and schools are requested to provide access to computer facilities for the small number of parents who are unable to complete the survey online using their own devices.

The survey has been translated into 30 languages which will be available to schools to provide to relevant parents. In addition, hard copy language guides for an additional 10 languages will be available for relevant schools.

Key dates

- 24 – 31 July: Schools can download survey links and distribute to parents
- 7 – 27 August : Survey period for parents to complete the online survey

New Staff Members

Welcome to Eleanor Smetana, Education Support 301 and Sharon Barnes, Teacher 401.



Eleanor



Sharon