Dear parents and carers,

**Powerful Learners**

Powerful learners are highly focused, motivated and active thinkers, able to communicate effectively in a range of ways and work together in teams. They can identify and solve (multi-step, non-routine and complex) problems and use creative thinking to come up with original ideas and information. Powerful learners set goals for their learning, draw on their curiosity to ask deep questions that require skilled investigation and find and use information to achieve their purpose.

Paringa Park Primary School is dedicated to providing the necessary environment and pedagogy to allow students to develop their capabilities as a ‘Powerful Learner’. We are working on a weekly basis with Kym Brown (an expert in Powerful Learners) and Harvard University (online) to ensure all staff, students and community members are working towards being ‘The Best We Can Be’.

Thank you to Jon Osborne who has compiled a creative short movie documenting the ‘Powerful Learner Forum’ held in Week 9 of Term 1. We will try to fit it into assembly next week.

**Scaffolded Literacy**

A majority of our teachers are also working with Stephanie Lane (Literacy Consultant) on Scaffolded Literacy which assists teachers to plan for the explicit teaching of academic literacies using texts as a vehicle. Students are taught to read, comprehend and write texts required for success at school and in life. Stephanie meets with teachers throughout the term to provide them with training around how language and texts of all types work with a significant focus on grammar and how it realises meaning. Stephanie negotiates to observe teachers and then provides them with feedback about their explicit teaching.

**Making Thinking Visible**

Thank you to all the teachers that are currently spending hours each week completing the ‘Making Thinking Visible’ course through Harvard. We are almost three quarters of the way through and are currently working on documentation and supporting individual/group learning. Both groups (we are split into two teams) will be collating and producing a large presentation of work in the next few weeks, so if you see a few stressed faces around you will understand why. I have included a link below to ‘Project Zero’ at Harvard if you would like to know more about their research, resources and professional development they have on offer.

http://www.pz.harvard.edu/

Paul Taylor Acting Principal
Library News

Book Week 2016

Book Week is celebrated in Australia from August 20-26. The week is a celebration of Australian Children’s Literature. The theme of this year's Book week is Australia! Story Country. During Book Week there are awards for the book of the year competition in a range of categories. We display some of these in the library and classes can vote for their favourites in each category during the week from the shortlisted books. You can read more about the books here. There are many interactive activities about the shortlisted books you may want to try here (Book Week for beginners) and here (The Book Chook) and here (Mrs Mac's Library). As we have already had a big dress up day for the Olympics this term, we will not be dressing up again until the last day of term. There will be another Book Week parade again in 2017 so start thinking about your costume for next year. (There is lots of time to plan ahead. Generally, the Book of the Year winner's announcement is always the third Friday in August, and Children's Book Week commences the following day and runs from Saturday to Sunday.) Have a fantastic book week everyone!

French News

Bonjour! It’s that time of the year again, when students are busily learning their poems off by heart, for this year’s SA French Teachers’ Association Poetry competition. There are four categories:- R/1; 2/3; 4/5 and 6/7. Auditions will be held throughout this week, in order to choose the three best students in each category, to enter the poetry saying competition. Entrants will be chosen for saying their poem off by heart, with correct pronunciation and intonation. Those students will then be filmed at the end of the week, saying their poems, and the DVD will be sent off to an independent panel of judges, who will choose the winners from the participating schools. Well done to all the students who have already spent so much time learning their poems!! At the same time, we are holding a Poetry Drawing competition, within our school, for students from R-7. There are some fantastic entries already, and Vivonne has kindly offered again this year to help judge the entries. There will be two winners per category. Well done to all those who have put in so much effort to produce these wonderful drawings!! Amitiés, Lea Garrett.

Qkr IS HERE!!!!

This versatile new app is now ready for you to download to your phone, tablet or laptop and you can begin making payments for Canteen lunch orders, buying school uniform and making payments on your school fees. Lunch orders can be ordered in advance, however, there is a cut off time of 8:30 am for an order to be placed on the day required. If you need to cancel a lunch order – no problem! You will receive a refund stamp on your screen and when you next order the money paid will automatically go towards your next purchase. This option is only available for Canteen orders. Cut down the time you take waiting for uniforms – you can now order from the selection online, pay and your order will be filled out and sent home with your child. Manage your school fees easily and from the convenience of your home, just choose the school payments option and follow the prompts. We will be expanding the options for payments to include excursions and camps later in the year with the option to sign a permission slip along with making a payment will make it so much easier for busy families to manage these activities. Download and begin using this convenient time saving tool to manage your school payments. Once you have registered your details you are ready to begin – it’s that simple! So get on board and download or scan the QR code.

Susan Mott
Business Manager

Countdown to PRC finish line…

Due date for the Premier’s Reading Challenge is September 9th. Although this sounds like a long time away we encourage you to keep reading as it is less than a month to go. Congratulations to the following students who have completed the challenge since the last newsletter.

Judy & Anne

Please note* SAPSASA Volleyball is on Wednesday 31/8/16 not on the 30/8/16 as was in the term planner in last week’s newsletter.