

Diary Dates:

February

Monday 19

- AGM 7pm

Tuesday 20

- **PUPIL FREE DAY**

Wednesday 21

- SAPSASA Swimming

Friday 23

- Assembly hosted by LA1-1

Tuesday 27

- Parent Workshop 9-10am & 7-8pm Restorative Practices
- SVE Leaders' Day

March

Friday 2

- Year 7 Beach Day

Tuesday 6

- Thinkuknow Workshop 7pm

2018 Pupil Free Days

Tuesday 20 February

Tuesday 22 May

2018 School Closure

Friday 7 September

SMS Number for Absences

0427 016 460

SA Term Dates for 2018

Term 1	29 Jan to	13 April
Term 2	30 Apr to	6 July
Term 3	23 Jul to	28 Sept
Term 4	15 Oct to	14 Dec

School Values

Bravery Care
Challenge Trust

Dear Families

It was wonderful to see so many families visiting our school last Monday evening to meet with our educators as a part of our Acquaintance Night. I was most impressed with the high quality of information provided to our families and in particular the strong message across the whole school from all educators about the purpose of our school, and that is to provide opportunities for children to challenge and stretch their thinking which ensures high levels of learning and growth for each child. The relationship we have with families is integral to the success of each child and their learning, and we look forward to continuing this partnership with you throughout the year.

This year we are committed to providing numerous opportunities for our families to learn a bit more about our school through a broad range of parent workshops including:

- **Restorative Practices workshops** (Tuesday 27 February 9am and 7pm - refer further details in this newsletter)
- **Think u know Cyber Safety workshop** - Tuesday 6 March 7pm
- **The Big 6 of reading** - Tuesday 13 March 2-3pm and 7-8pm
- **Phonological Awareness workshops** with Melanie Porter (Speech Pathologist) - Monday 9 April 9-10am and 7-8pm

In addition we are always looking to improve what we do as a school and one way is through seeking **feedback** from families. One example is hearing from our families who experienced the **Orientation to School** program for new receptions who started at our school at the beginning of term 1. We implemented quite a different approach this year and we are looking forward to hearing how the experience was for parents and their child.

In the next week or so there will be an opportunity for all parents, staff and children in our school to provide feedback on our **Master Concept Plan** for the outdoor learning environment. The Environment sub-committee are very excited to be presenting this plan to the school community. This plan is currently in draft form and we are seeking as much feedback from our school community as possible as this information will be provided to the Landscape Architect for consideration in the final concept plan. It is also important to note that it is a concept only and for each area more detailed drawings and consultation will occur. When looking at the plan please take note of the written information and consider this along with the drawing. It is the intention of the Environment sub-committee that this plan will have a 5-10 year implementation timeline and will be the target of our fundraising efforts in the coming years. There will be a number of options for parents to provide feedback including:

- Survey Monkey - a copy of the master plan will be emailed to all families soon and a link to a Survey Monkey provided
- Mobile display in the school grounds - watch out for the board with the plan displayed with sheets for you to record your thoughts or a QR code to take you to the online survey

Children will be involved in the consultation process through their classes and staff at a staff meeting later this term. We look forward to hearing from everyone!

A reminder that we have our **Governing Council AGM Monday 7-7.30pm** in the Library. Everyone is welcome – even if you are not interested in joining the Governing Council, you are invited to come along and hear about the achievements of our children and the school in 2017. At this meeting I will introduce the Master Concept Plan for our Outdoor Learning Environment.

It is great to see so many families liking our school Facebook page and this social media platform is being used more consistently as a **communication** tool within our school community. This is directly linked to our Twitter account so we are 'stretching our wings' with our communication. In addition Madame Ellison has created a French website which has received very positive responses from our parent community. We hope you have had a chance to check it out!

Kind regards
Leanne Prior

Front Office Information

The front office is open for payment of accounts Monday to Friday from 8.30am-9.30am. The uniform shop is open every Friday from 8.30am to 9.30am.

Qkr!

We encourage families to make use of the Qkr app to pay for invoices and excursions, as well as ordering uniforms and canteen lunches. Please remember to update your child's class details if you haven't already done so by clicking on the "Profiles" tab. A reminder to also make sure you click on the final "submit payment" button to ensure that your transaction is successful. If you need to check your previous transactions, just go to the "activity" tab. Please refer to the Qkr information sheet which was in your Welcome Pack at the start of the year, or if you have any other queries, please pop into the front office, we are very happy to show you how it works or answer any other questions.

Excursion Payments

We would like to remind families of the importance of paying for excursions by the "last day to pay" date as nominated on the excursion form. These dates are set to enable administration to have sufficient time to process all of the necessary paperwork before the excursion, whilst giving parents a reasonable timeframe in which to pay. In this regard, we are unable to accept late payments for any excursions. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Feel free to come in to the office to have a chat with Erica, Linda or Susan if you have any finance queries.

Health Information

Nut Awareness

Paringa Park Primary is a nut aware school. We acknowledge that due to current food processing practices, it is impractical to eliminate nuts and nut products entirely. The emphasis is therefore on raising awareness and adopting the reasonable procedures termed as "Nut Awareness".

Staff will discuss nut awareness with students and will inform parents if there is a child in their class with a known allergy. In any case, families are requested to send food to school that does not contain any type of nut or nut based product. Children who bring food containing nuts will be required to eat that food away from other students.

We appreciate your cooperation in providing a safe school environment for all members of our community.

Medications and Care Plans

As much as possible, we encourage students to take medication outside of school hours, eg three times per day can be taken in the morning before school, afternoon straight after school and bedtime. If medication needs to be taken at school, students will be given the medication by front office staff. All medications **must** be kept securely in the front office, the only exception being puffers which are to be kept in the classroom or the child's bag. A reminder to please check the expiry dates on any medications that need to be held at school (including Epipens & asthma reliever medication) as out of date medications will not be administered to children. It is a requirement that all medications (including puffers)

be in the original pharmacy container and be pharmacy labelled with the student's name. All medications at school must have a medication authority or care plan from a doctor, and a reminder that students with asthma (even if only mild or occasional) need an asthma care plan. Please ensure that all care plans are up to date and provide a copy to the Front Office.

Please ensure that if your child's health support needs change in any way during the year that you communicate this to the front office.

Student Safety

For safety reasons, we ask that parents **do not use** the carpark as a thoroughfare when walking your children into school. There are pedestrian gates on Bowker Street near the crossing and on Margaret Avenue. Please note the car park is reserved for staff and visitors only and is not to be used by families when dropping off or collecting children. We will continue to close the carpark between 8.30-9.00am and 2.45-3.30pm.

Restorative Justice Practices

Have you heard about "circle time" from your children? Have you wondered what it is and why it has become an important part of classroom life? Do you want to know more about the way that conflict is managed in our classrooms and play times? Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend an information session being held on Tuesday 27 February – please refer to the attached flyer for more information.

Tree Climbing

At this stage we have not completed any risk assessments or met DECD requirements which are required to allow children to climb trees in our school grounds. We are certainly looking into this as we would like to advocate for tree climbing in our school (and many children are certainly very keen!) but there are a number of legalities from DECD to which we have to adhere. Therefore until such time as these requirements are investigated and met we are unable to allow children to climb trees during school hours (8.30am-3.25pm). Children are able to 'hang' from the 2 trees outside the library/LA2 but not climb them at this stage. We appreciate your understanding and support.



Canteen Volunteers

The canteen provides an excellent food service for the children and staff using the 'Right Bite' policy and is open 5 days per week for lunch orders, recess and snacks. Parents involved with the canteen have found it a worthwhile social activity by meeting with other parents with an "a la Carte" lunch (healthy sandwich), tea/coffee and best of all, friendship which is all free of charge. Volunteers will need to have a DCSI screening and RAN training. Please see Leesa or Trish in the canteen or the front office staff.

Be in the Library Loop in 2018

I'm starting the new year by asking a favour.

I think all of us want the books in our library to be of the best quality and in good condition for students to borrow. You can help by alerting Anne or I to any texts brought home by your child which are inappropriate in the current era for children to be reading. Is the theme of the book outdated? Is the message irrelevant for today? Is the vocabulary unsuitable for children in the 21st century? We also need to know about books with pages torn or missing so we can replace or mend them.

On the other-hand...if you come across books which reinforce the values of the school (care, brave, challenge and trust) and they are not dotted with a values sticker, please tell Anne or myself so we can 'dot it' appropriately.

Bravery – brown dot in the top left-hand corner

Care – blue dot

Challenge – pink dot

Trust – white dot

Thanks for helping us be the best we can be in the library.

P.S. Look at this overloaded returns trolley – a testament to the amount of books being borrowed. The trolley was all but empty at 8.30 and choc-a-block by 10.



Jacquie and Anne

French Update

Bonjour tout le monde.

Je m'appelle Bronte Ellison et je suis le professeur de français a PPPS. I am based in the library office and am working with children in their classes during this year.

Please visit our new Paringa Park Primary School French website to see what we will be doing in French around the school, useful vocabulary, French excursions and events that are coming up.

<http://paringaparkpsfrench.weebly.com>

I have recently managed to book Le Van du Livre (the French books on Wheels Van) to visit our school on Thursday May 24th from 11am- 4pm. They will work with different year levels, introducing them to a range of French texts, and will have French books on sale for the community after school on that day. More information to come closer to their visit.



Keep your eyes peeled on the website for information about the upcoming French Film Festival movies starting in March.

*A bientôt,
Madame Ellison*

Art Auction Update

In 2017, LA 2-5 and LA 2-6 hosted an art auction as part of a student led initiative to raise money for Beyond the Orphanage (BTO). There were over 100 artworks that were created and auctioned off, resulting in over \$3000 being raised. Beyond the Orphanage were so impressed by the project that their communications and social media team wanted to do a feature story on the Art Auction. Below is a link to the blog post about the Art Auction. I hope you enjoy the read.

<https://beyondtheorphanage.org/2018/02/fundraisers-we-love/>

Daniel Mills

New Pastoral Care Worker - Anita Trainor



Hello, my name is Anita Trainor. I am delighted to be the new Pastoral Care Worker at Paringa Primary School for 2018 while Nerida is on leave. My role is to support the wellbeing of the school community through working alongside staff and other community resources. I have enjoyed visiting classes, meeting

the students and finding out how I can be of assistance.

I will be at school on Mondays and Thursdays until 1.30pm. During this time I will be:

- working with small groups/individuals
- with teachers and students in the class
- running Lego Club - Monday lunch in the library. All are welcome. Thank you to **Sam** in LA 1-6 for already donating Lego, it is much appreciated.
- available in the yard at break times for a chat
- contributing to school activities - particularly the fantastic Paringa's Got Talent

I have a background in teaching and have two primary school aged girls whom I enjoy spending time with. I am looking forward to getting to know the students, staff and families at Paringa Park Primary School.

Anita

Coles Sports for Schools

Yes! We are collecting the Coles Sports for Schools vouchers. The more vouchers we collect, the more sports gear we will be able to claim. We hope to have an official collection bin soon, but in the meantime you can drop off your vouchers to the front office.



Fiji Sports Equipment

Last year the Parents and Community sub-committee kindly donated some money for the purchase of sports equipment to support the Korotogo Andhra School in Fiji, an initiative under the leadership of Reverend Barb Paull-Hunt. Please find below an excerpt from an email that was sent to Rev Barb which she forwarded onto our school community:

Greetings from Sigatoka.

We are fine and really busy with the new school year. Hope you all are the same and keeping up with your great church work.

Our school topped in Year 8 exam result in our District. Our new 4 classroom construction has started and the work on the floor is near completion. Our Kindy has extended the verandah which will give the kids space for rest and have lunch.

The sports equipment you donated are now in good use and kids are enjoying.

Thanks for the help and support for Korotogo Andhra School

My love and best wishes to you all.

See you soon.

Mr Gounder

Head Teacher



ThinkUKnow cyber safety program that

parents, carers and teachers of how people are using technology, the challenges they may face online, and how to help them overcome these in a safe and ethical way. Our school will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on **Tuesday 6th March** at 7.00pm and all parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, Datacom and the Commonwealth Bank. The program is delivered in collaboration with policing partners New South Wales Police Force, Northern Territory Police, Queensland Police, South Australia Police, Tasmania Police, Western Australia Police, as well as Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The presentation will be delivered by a local law enforcement member and an industry volunteer. The presentation covers issues relating to children and young peoples' privacy and security online, their relationships with other users and their online reputation. It provides insight into the devices young people are using, as well as the popular websites, apps and social networking sites they're accessing.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

For more information, you can visit www.thinkuknow.org.au

or contact tracey.bennett463@schools.sa.edu.au

Cultures of Thinking Action Research

Next week our school will be starting our training and development with Simon Brooks, which is the beginning of a whole year project focusing on 'Cultures of Thinking' through action research.

The purpose of the Paringa Park Primary School Cultures of Thinking Action Research is to provide a practical and inspirational means through which to build a culture of thinking for students and teachers. Cultures of Thinking are places in which the group's collective and individual thinking is valued, visible and actively promoted as part of the regular, day-to-day experience of all group members. This Action Research is underpinned by the belief that if a school is to become a culture of thinking for its students, it must also be rich culture of thinking for its teachers.

In essence it addresses these two questions:

- How might we build a culture of critical and creative thinking for students, where children delight in their learning, develop deep and lasting understandings, and *become* critical and creative thinkers?
- And how might we build a rich culture of professional learning for staff, where teachers work together in a *truly* collaborative fashion to embed these ideas into practice?

The Cultures of Thinking action research will be based around 'The 8 Cultural Forces' by Ron Richhart

CULTURAL FORCES THAT SHAPE OUR CLASSROOM

THE 8 CULTURAL FORCES TEACHERS FOCUS ON THAT SUPPORT A RICH LEARNING EXPERIENCE



Language

Using language of thinking that provides students with the vocabulary for describing and reflecting on thinking.



Time

Allocating time for thinking by providing time for exploring topics more in depth as well as time to formulate thoughtful responses.



Expectations

Setting an agenda of understanding and conveying clear expectations. Focusing on the value for thinking and learning as outcomes as opposed to mere completion of "work."



Modeling

Modeling of who we are as thinkers and learners so that the process of our thinking is discussed, shared, and made visible.



Interactions

Showing a respect for and valuing of one another's contributions of ideas and thinking in a spirit of ongoing collaborative inquiry.



Opportunities

Providing purposeful activities that require students to engage in thinking and the development of understanding as part of their ongoing experience of the classroom.



Environment

Making thinking visible by displaying the process of thinking and development of ideas. Arranging the space to facilitate thoughtful interactions.



Routines

Scaffolding students' thinking in the moment as well as providing tools and patterns of thinking that can be used independently.

We will be working closely with Coromandel Primary School and Hawthorndene Primary School who are also part of the Cultures of Thinking Action Research Project. We look forward to our first full day with Simon on the 20 February – our pupil free day.

Paul Taylor

Deputy Principal