From the Principal

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Being a parent is one of the most rewarding experiences in the world while at the same time, it can one of the most challenging. Every child is an individual and just when you think you have worked them out, they change the game plan and you have to learn the rules all over again. I have not come across a parent yet who hasn’t wanted their child to be happy, have a good circle of friends, develop resilience and be successful. However, to achieve this, it takes time, the need for tough love and a large amount of perseverance. Even more important though, is the parent-child relationship.

This is where some families can come unstuck; often without even realising it. The most important thing to remember in this relationship is that the adult is the parent and the child is the child. As educators we often see parents relating to their child as a friend and confidant and allow them to be privy to information and experiences that is beyond and appropriate for their age and development. I would like to share with you some examples of conversations that I have heard over the years that primary school children have been a part of:

- Asked if they like the school and been given the responsibility of which school to choose.
- Asked to critique mum / dad new partner.
- Witnessing an extreme case of domestic violence in the home.
- Discussing the family’s financial situation.
- Looking at potential partners on an internet dating site with their child.
- Asked to give opinions / spy on the other parent after parents have separated.

And these are just some examples of the many conversations we have had with children.

My intention is not to offend anyone but to raise awareness that the parent / child relationship is such an important one and that adult conversation and problems shared with children can lead to a child becoming anxious and worrying about what is happening at home. This in turn may affect their learning and development. What is important to remember is that adult problems do not need to be shared with children unless they are age appropriate. Too often we have to give children permission to “throw away” the adult problems they are carrying around so that they can just be kids. They are much happier and successful when they don’t have any adult problems to deal with.

Cheers
Shaun
NOTICES SENT HOME

Over the past fortnight the following notices have been sent home.

- Priority Notice Regarding Student Safety

If you have not received any of the above, please request a copy either from your child's class teacher or Thiele Reception.

FINANCE NEWS

Thank you to all parents/caregivers who have made payment or completed a School Card Application for the 2014 Materials & Services Fee. However to date there are still a number of families that have not made payments. A letter was sent home in Term 2 reminding families that payment for 2014 M&S Fees are now overdue – for 2014 an extension for all families was given but has now expired. If you have not paid fees or contacted me to make arrangements can you please do so as soon as possible: Jo Hicks 8270 4222 or email at Jo.Hicks915@schools.sa.edu.au. Debt collection proceedings have begun as per Governing Council recommendations and in line with our Debt Collection Policy.

I have also been looking at a number of ways to make it easier for families to make payments. I have recently consulted with our bank to set up direct payments to our bank account. If you would like to take up this option please contact me and I will pass on the information you will need. Please note that these payments can only be made if you have received an invoice for the charge and only if the invoice is for $30.00 or more.

By 2015 a Direct Debit by Instalment and Eftpos payment option will also be available to all families to assist them in making payments. I will provide more details when this process is up and running.

We hope that making these payment options available to you, it will make it easier on your budgets and time. If you would like to contact me about any of the above or ‘finance’ in general please do not hesitate.

Jo Hicks

FUNDRAISING NEWS

We have an action-packed term coming up.

First exciting event is the Thiele Disco with the DJ being our former Thiele teacher, Tom Antoniou. He did a great job at the Pedal Prix disco, and we know our disco will be even better. The junior disco is for one hour, the senior disco for 90 minutes. There will be plenty of snacks to keep energy levels up, and unlimited drinks (sounds like a great night out for any age!). Get lit up with LED necklaces and cuff bracelets.

Further information is on the ticket application, with tickets only $5! Mark August 15th on the calendar now.

Next on the events list is Father's Day. We have some great gifts already, so start saving the pocket money for a gift for Dad or Grandpa. Further information next newsletter.

Lois Watson
Thiele Fundraising

PLAY CAFÉ / PLAYGROUP

The Play Café and Play Group at Campus is in need of a good, second-hand Baby Change Table. If you have one that you are no longer needing and would like to donate to Campus, please call Philip Elms at the Campus Office on 82703077 or email Philip.Elms347@schools.sa.edu.au (Monday / Tuesday or Wednesday). Collection can be arranged.

Thank you

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PARENTS CLUBS (SAASPC)

KEEPING SAFE IN CYBERSPACE
WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW

When: August 27 9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Where: Australian Education Union
163a Greenhill Road
Parkside
Cost: FREE (lunch is provided)
Keynote speaker: Susan McLean – Australia’s leading expert on cybersafety plus other informative speakers.
Registration form available from the Thiele Front Office.
A MOMENT WITH MEL

Hi all!

Hi all! Here we are again nearly half way through the term, wondering where the time did go. I was lucky enough to spend the first week of this term at a state conference. The conference was designed for all Christian Pastoral Support Workers across South Australia. Annually we meet for 3 days of training and networking, endeavouring to increase our skills, knowledge and resource base to better support the wellbeing of students, staff and families in our schools.

As most of you would be aware there has been a lot of discussion through media around Christian Pastoral Support Workers (AKA Chaplains) and our role in schools. This no doubt has many people asking some important questions. As of today a document will be available to you with the aim of answering those questions. Questions answered include the following (and more):

- Are school chaplains qualified?
- Aren’t school chaplains just out to convert students to religion?
- Shouldn’t the federal money be spent on psychologists instead?
- Will the high court decision mean the end of federal funding?
- Does my child have a choice about school chaplaincy?

I encourage you to have a read. Even if you don’t have any specific queries regarding Chaplaincy, you may learn more about the program and the role that perhaps you did not know before.

This information can be collected from the Thiele front office; a short printed brochure to read at your leisure.

Excerpt
“Several Studies around the world have shown that a school-based resource which focuses on social, emotional and spiritual support, as school chaplaincy does, has positive educational impacts, including significantly improved academic achievement. P4”

I consider it a real privilege to be both part of your school community and to have the opportunity to provide a positive presence in the lives of your children. Thank you to both campus schools (Pilgrim and Thiele) for your ongoing support. Without it I couldn’t do what I do.

Have a great day everyone. If you have any further questions feel free to contact me via the school office or email.

Mel Grierson
Christian Pastoral Support Worker

Thiele and Pilgrim Schools
Email: mel.grierson736@schools.sa.edu.au
Ph. (Thiele) 8270 4222 (Pilgrim) 8270 3033

FROM SHARON WILLOUGHBY

1. Fundraising
   Events this term – Disco-Friday August 15th
   Father’s Day Stall - Wednesday 3rd Sept

2. Shoeboxes of Love
   Thank you to everyone who brought in items or donated a shoebox of love last term
   We are still in need of:
   - Toothbrushes
   - Face washers
   - Soap
   If you are able to donate any of these items, please send them to the Front Office

3. Campus Fair
   Donations required for:
   - Second hand Stall – no furniture, electrical items.
   - Other items may be dropped off at the Fair Shed on Sunday August 17
   No items will be accepted on the day of the Fair
   - Lucky Dip – small items – McDonald toys, matchbox cars, small items
   - Plants
   - Books
   - Serviettes, paper plates plastic cups

4. Secondhand Uniforms
   Winter items have been reduced and are available from the Parent lounge on Wednesday mornings

5. Pedal Prix
   The students are training hard ready for their next event which is the 24 hour race at Murray Bridge on September 19th-21st. The last race was at Victoria Park where we saw a marked improvement in the riders.

6. In School Psychology
   We are pleased to welcome Trish Mahoney into our school to support students. If you would like more information about this service you can visit their website www.inschoolpsychology.com or contact Sharon Willoughby.

7. OPAL Maximum Power Show
   We are pleased to present the OPAL Maximum Power Show to our junior primary students in the PAC on 28th August. OPAL has been an integral part of our school wellbeing program and has provided us with support to obtain the drinking fountain on the oval, crockery and cutlery in the Art room for cooking, Smoothie Bikes for Green Day activities, pedometers for active activities and endless support through workshops and initiatives. OPAL has been behind the programs of Water the Original Cool Drink, Think Feet First, Right Bite Fruit Break, Peel Pop Pour breakfast programs.

8. NAPLAN Trial
   We have been selected to be part of the NAPLAN online trial on the 21st, 22nd and 25th August. This will involve Year 3, 5, and 7 students who will participate in online Reading, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy online papers.
FROM RACHEL BAVERSTOCK

In Science lessons this term the Year 1/2 classes have been doing a ‘Primary Connections’ topic called “Spot the difference.” This involves looking at the changes that can occur with natural and processed materials. In this lesson the students were building towers in teams using marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. The students often work in teams of three or four. They have particular roles to play in doing science activities. These roles are: **Manager** - collects and returns all materials the team needs. **Speaker** - Asks the teacher and other team speakers for help. **Director** – Makes sure that the team understands the team investigation and completes each step.

As you can see by the photos the children came up with some interesting towers and worked well in their teams.

Well done!

Mrs R Baverstock
Thiele Science teacher

**SOCcer RESULTS**

**Week 7 July 26th**
What a way to start the new term. Thick fog everywhere in the hills, and lots of muddy grounds after a fortnight of rain. But it is winter sport after all, and the kids have fun playing in the mud.

**Under 9**: Defeated Clapham 6-0 on a pitch that was more mud than grass. Goal scorers Leon S 3, William T 1, Luke R 1 and Jem M 1. Well done everyone.

**Under 10**: Defeated by St Peters Woodlands 3-10. Single goals each to Lachie H, Zane W and Gabi B. A really tough game to start the term off with but everyone played well.

**Most Inspirational Player Award** went to Sebastian O for constantly passing the ball, which is the area of focus at training.

**Under 10 Carnival at Bowker St Warradale** – they did well - won 2 games and drew 2 games, with a total of 5 goals kicked. Goals scorers for the night were Lachie H 2, Michard B 1, Rosie T 1 and Patrick J 1. Well done everyone.

**Under 11**: Defeated by St Peters Woodlands 3-5. Single goals to Patrick T, Milan S and Georgia O. It was a very hard game and they played very well as a team.

**Seniors 1**: Defeated by St Peters Woodlands 2-3

**Seniors 2**: Defeated by Woodend 3-4. Goal Scorer Daniel G 3

**Week 8 Aug 2nd**

**Under 9**: Defeated Mercedes 3-2. Thanks to Tonya Bishop and Sharon Sutton for standing in for Laura and Les whilst they were away. You did a great job, and the team did as well.


**Most Inspirational Player Award** went to Hoatian X for a tremendous first game back after injuring himself in the first training session back in Term 1. Well done Hoatian and welcome back.

**Under 11**: Defeated by Seacliff 1-10. Single goal to Patrick T. It was a very hard defensive game, but the opposition was just too good.

**Seniors 1**: Drew with Happy Valley 2-2

**Seniors 2**: defeated Happy Valley 9-1. Goal scorers were Lachie S 4, Daniel G 3, Riley H 1 and an own goal. Well done team.

**Week 9 Aug 9th**

**Under 9**: Defeated by St Leonards 0-2.

**Under 9 Carnival 11th Aug at Bowker St Warradale-** Won 1, Drew 1, Lost 2. Single goals to Alex R and William T.

**Under 10**: Defeated Unley 5-0. Goal scorers Lachie H 3, Michard B 2. Most Inspirational Player Award went to Ryan Mc for his consistent commitment in defence of the ball. Well done Ryan.

**Under 11**: Drew 1-1 with Glen Osmond. Goal scorer Ella P. Well done Ella for getting your first ever soccer goal, great job. And well done to everyone for a strong sense of team play. Keep it up.

**Seniors 1**: drew 3-3 with Unley. Goal scorers Tommy N 2 and Mitchell N 1

**Seniors 2**: Defeated Glen Osmond 10-2. Goal scorers Daniel G 5, Lachie S 3, Noah P 1 and Riley H 1

Cheers
Vicki Powell – Campus Soccer Coordinator

Respect – Achievement - Integrity - Sustainability
Bringing NAPLAN home: The results and your child

As parents and carers, we all take great interest in our children and their paths in life. We know it is really important that they develop key skills such as literacy and numeracy to help them through school, work and life.

NAPLAN (the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) is a national test undertaken by all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students, designed to provide information on your child’s literacy and numeracy achievements. This year NAPLAN was taken on 13, 14 and 15 May.

NAPLAN results provide additional information, which can be used along with school assessment and testing. It allows you to compare your child’s achievement with other children across Australia. By itself, NAPLAN does not improve the quality of education, but it gives us a national snapshot of how our children are doing in those important skills of literacy and numeracy.

NAPLAN is important to your child as it provides information for school authorities and schools to review the effectiveness of their programs and to address any areas requiring improvement. It is important that you know as early as possible about your child’s strengths or if your child needs assistance. NAPLAN helps with this.

Sometime in August and September you will receive your son or daughter’s NAPLAN report. I encourage you to read the report in the context of what you already know about your child’s academic performance and in conjunction with other assessment information and reports you may already have received from your child’s school. Further information on how to read the report is found on the NAP website: [www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/student-reports.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/student-reports.html)

Your son or daughter’s results will be reported against six levels of achievement. Your child’s results will be indicated by a black dot. The black triangle shows the national average for children in that year level.
This means you can compare your child’s performance to children in the same year level. As with all tests, small differences between students’ NAPLAN scores do not reflect real achievement differences.

Using this information, you can then take the time to celebrate the success that you see and/or identify areas for improvement. You should talk to your child’s teacher about what you should do next if you see areas that need improvement.

If your child is concerned with their results, remind them that NAPLAN isn’t a pass or fail test and there are no rewards or penalties for the result your child achieves. Rather, the NAPLAN student report is a point in time snapshot of your child’s achievements in the important areas of literacy and numeracy. This snapshot gives an indication of how your child compares with students across Australia.

ACARA is committed to improving learning for all young Australians through world-class curriculum, assessment and reporting. This year, we are aiming for NAPLAN results to be returned to you more quickly than in previous years.

As teachers and parents continue on with the rest of 2014, I urge you to keep NAPLAN student reports in context. Don’t stop any activities your child enjoys; don’t focus your child only on literacy and numeracy. Evidence shows that a well-rounded education, including the pursuit of other activities such as sport and art, contributes to the development of literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills. All activities are crucial to the school program and contribute to developing informed, happy children who are confident in their own abilities.

Robert Randall
Chief Executive Officer, ACARA