



## Welcome

Welcome to the new school year.

I trust that you all had a chance to relax, holiday and have fun with your children over the holiday period.

You may have noticed some changes around the school. We now have a new middle school space that we were able to complete over the holidays.

We are very pleased to welcome the following new staff to our school;

### Leadership Team

Carolyn Mildrum  
*Principal*

Sonia Cooke  
*Deputy Principal*

Robert Thornton  
*Student Counsellor*

### Diary Dates

#### February

17 Early Finish 2.10pm

#### March

4 Middle School Aquatics  
9 Early Finish 2.10pm  
14 Adelaide Cup Pubic  
Holiday  
21 Harmony Day  
25 Good Friday  
28 Easter Monday  
30 Early Finish 2.10pm

#### April

5 School Photos  
15 Term 2 finishes 2pm

#### May

2 Term 2 Starts 8.45am

**Mrs Julia Johnson** has come to us from Aldinga Primary and will be teaching our Yr 1 /2 children in the GLA



**Mr Mitch Hume** has worked at Wirreanda High School and is our PE/Health teacher this year

**Ms Georgina Funes** is our Spanish teacher. Georgina will also be taking classes for Visual Arts and History/Geography



**Ms Mia Burke** has worked at Braeview Primary as a School Services Officer and will be working with our Primary years classes

**Mr Rob Noble** is our new Pastoral Care worker and you will see him working in the school on Tues afternoons and Friday mornings.



Joining me in the leadership team is **Mr Rob Thornton**, our student counsellor. Rob has worked recently in Pt Augusta but also Bowden Brompton and comes with a wealth of experience in student wellbeing.

**Ms Sonia Cooke** is our new Deputy Principal. Sonia has been working in the Departments Central office and has been working with sites to develop their Thinking and Science skills.

It is my aim as Principal to continue to develop Morphett Vale East as a site of powerful learning. This year we have Mathematic consultants, Ann and Johnny Baker, working with classes to further engage students in Maths. We will include articles in following newsletters and on the schools Facebook page so that you can keep up with all that is going on.

I look forward to an excellent 2016 and hope to see you at Acquaintance Night on Wed 24<sup>th</sup> February and afterwards at the Governing Council AGM.

**Carolyn Mildrum**

### Hello from Sonia Cooke

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Deputy at Morphett Vale East School R-7 and thank the school community for their warm welcome. I have been teaching for many years in both country and city locations - Yunta, Woomera, Grange and Seacliff to name a few. My most recent position involved working with teachers and leaders across the state in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum with a particular focus on primary science.



I grew up in the local area and was a student of Wirreanda High School. I can remember my brother and I leaving home on Saturday mornings to catch tadpoles in the creek, pick blackberries and ride our bikes around the creek and along the old railway line. Things have certainly changed!

I have been visiting classes to talk with students about what it takes to be a successful learner – persistence, questioning and being open to

challenge and suggestions. As an example of how persistence does pay off, I have been demonstrating my juggling skills. I now have another challenge ahead of me; helping some interested students learn how to juggle!

I am really looking forward to working more closely with the students and the school community.

**Sonia Cooke**

### Meet Rob Thornton

Welcome to term 1 of a new year. I am excited to be part of the leadership team at Morphett Vale East Primary school and look forward to meeting you at some time during the year. My role here as the school counsellor is to develop the student wellbeing and to work with class teachers, parent/caregivers and other providers to ensure that your child has a school in which they can thrive and succeed. Having worked in Port Augusta in a similar role, and also at a behavioural school I will be bringing a vast knowledge of counselling strategies in working with both your child and you so they feel supported and listened to. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.



### School mail out

All families should have received a letter from the school this week.

This envelope contains your Materials and Services invoice along with a Student Personal Data print out.

Payment of the invoice is due by end of term 1. Instructions on payment options are included in the letter.

Please check the Student Data print out carefully marking any changes clearly (preferably in red pen.) Please return this form, with or without changes, to the office as soon as possible so that we can ensure that we have your correct details in case of illness / emergencies.

## Acquaintance Night & AGM

We invite all our families to come along to our Acquaintance Night on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Classrooms will be open from 5.30pm for you to tour and check out what our Students have been up to so far this Term. The Spanish room and the Gym will also be open for you to have a look at the learning that is happening.

A BBQ will be available from 5.30pm.

The classrooms will close at 6.30pm and all families are invited to move to the school staff room located in the Admin building for drinks and nibbles followed by the AGM which will be at 7pm.

## School Photos

You will notice in "Diary Dates" that the 2016 school photos are scheduled for later this term.



Now that all Reception students start school in Term 1 we need to bring "photo day" into alignment.

More information will follow shortly.

## Library Lingo

Our year has begun with lots of students already determined to make a good head start on the Premier's Reading Challenge 2016. I am asking students to try and have the minimum 12 books read and their sheets signed off and handed in by the end of term 1. The rest of the year can then be focused on developing reading skills, widening reading interests and continuing to find "good fit books" that will further students' reading abilities.



Congratulations to Charlotte Greenslade of Room 13 who has just completed her first sheet. Well done Charlotte!

She is now on her way to trying for the Mrs Hall Award at the end of the year.

**Helen Hall**  
Teacher Librarian

## School Uniform

We have had a huge demand for new uniform items already this term. We are trying hard to keep up with the demand and have deliveries arriving each week to help us keep stock of all sizes.

Please remember that correct school uniform is compulsory at Morphett Vale East. (e.g. No denim, stripes, etc) For full details on uniform code please check the website.

We have a range of pre loved uniforms for sale. Please see Collen Byrne (P&F) on Assembly mornings if you are interested in checking these out.

PLEASE remember that we cannot return misplaced uniform items if they are not named.

## Spare clothing

We remind the families of our younger children that they should have a change of clothes in their school bags please. There is so much happening in our busy school day that sometimes little accidents happen and it is much less embarrassing for your child if they can change into their own fresh clothing quickly and quietly.

## Gates & Bells

The first school bell goes at 8.30am each morning and this is when the gates will open for students to come onto the grounds. This is also when staff will be on duty. Students need to be in class by 8.45am when the second bell will ring. Parents are asked to leave the school grounds as soon as possible after this bell to allow the gates to be locked for safety reasons at 9am.

In the afternoon the gates will be opened again for parent access for collection at 2.45pm.

For access at any other time parents will need to report to the office.

## Police Clearance Checks for Volunteers

To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures. As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening.

A screening is still necessary for parents and guardians who are volunteering at school camps and sleep-overs.

A screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school. These include concerts, fundraisers, swimming week or sports day.

Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children plays a part in child protection.

Find out more about relevant history screening and keeping children safe at [www.decd.sa.gov.au](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au)

### 7 / 8 High School Transition

For our Year 7 Students the choice of High School is fast approaching. To help you make this important decision the High Schools have open days / nights where they showcase their schools. It is highly recommended that year 6 & 7 students and their families take advantage of these opens and have a look around at what is available.

Listed below are some of the local / popular schools for our area.

Wirreanda Secondary School	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	4pm – 7pm
Aberfoyle Park High School	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	6pm & 7.30pm
Mitcham Girls High School	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	9 – 11am 5pm – 8pm
Reynella East College	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	All Day
Cardijn College	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	5.30pm – 8pm
Hallett Cove R - 12	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	5pm – 7pm

Please contact the High Schools directly for more information.

### New sign in computer

If you have had to sign in or out of school you will have noticed the new system that we are using. Teachers now upload their class rolls via computer each morning. All students need to be in the classroom before 8.45am or they are marked absent. If your child is arriving at school after 8.45 please make sure that you sign them in using the office computer before they head to class. This way they will be issued with the necessary paper slip for the teacher which records time of arrival and reason.

Alternatively, if, for any reason, you need to remove your child from class during the day, they need to be signed out using this computer system before you collect them from the classroom.

### Lunch Orders

The price list for Adams Deli who supply our lunches can be accessed on the School website. Please check the price of your child's order as there have been a few increases lately and the shop has been covering these but cannot continue to do so and do not want students to miss out on their lunches. Thank you.



Do you or anyone you know have a child who is turning 4 by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016? If so, they are eligible to attend Preschool this year. If you would like to enrol your child or find out more information, please contact Morphett Vale East Kindergarten (next door) on 8382 8422, or drop in and see our friendly staff 😊