



Welcome to the 2017 School Year!

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I trust that you all had a Happy Christmas and enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with family.

This year we have new staff that I'd like to welcome to our school;

Steve Hetherington - our new school counsellor. Steve has previously been a teacher at our school but most recently has been school counsellor at Pt Noarlunga Primary School. Steve will also be taking History and Geography lessons with our Junior Primary classes.

Liz Rowley is our new R/1 teacher who has taught for many years and most recently has been working for SPELD.

Aleesha Parsons is our new History and Geography teacher who will be working with year 4 to Year 7 classes.

Andrea Clarke is our new Spanish teacher, Ola!

Georgia Allen is our new digital technologies teacher who will be working with our Junior Primary classes.

Dan D'Cruz is a new School assistant working with some of our students.

Judy Jones is our new Pastoral Care Worker. Judy replaces Rob Noble who worked with us in 2016.

We are also pleased to see **Julie Brown** and **Tracy Warncken** return again this year. Julie will cover Tristam Wildy's class whilst Tristam settles in their new addition to the home, Angus, who was born during the first week of school while Tracy continues to support students in our school. **Mitch Hume** has also accepted the position to continue as our Health and PE teacher for students across the school.

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Leadership Team

Carolyn Mildrum
Principal

Sonia Cooke
Deputy Principal

Steve Hetherington
Student Counsellor

Diary Dates

February

- 15 2.10pm finish
- 15 Acquaintance Night
- 17 Kindy AGM

March

- 2 Clipsal rms 17,18,19
- 8 2.10pm finish
- 13 Adelaide Cup Holiday
- 17 Aquatics 17 & 19
- 22 Governing Council Mtg
- 29 2.10pm finish

April

- 4 School photos
- 13 2.00pm Finish - EOT

May

- 1 Term 2 starts



It was great to see so many of you attend our Acquaintance Night on Wed night. The service groups that attended commented how useful they found the night to connect with many families.

Our state member for Reynell Katrine Hildyard, attended our AGM. She commented how impressed she was by the changes and growth that the school was making. She is also keen to support us to further develop our connections with other community groups.

Our first work in this venture will be the Clean Up Australia Day on Fri March 3rd. Katrine will work with community and our students to clean up our surrounding creeks.

I'm looking forward to another great year,

Carolyn



**Morphett Vale East
Kindergarten**

Kindy are running a play group for all pre-school aged children. If you are free on a Friday morning why not join in the fun. This is a great way to meet other families in the area. You do not have to have children at the kindy to attend. Sessions run from 9.15am to 10.45am. Please phone the kindy on 8382 8422 for more information.

The AGM for the Kindy Governing council will be held at 11am on Friday 17th February. Being part of the Council is the way to help with the important decisions for your children.

Safety in the school yard

In the interest of the safety and wellbeing of all our students we remind families that dogs are not permitted on school grounds. This is a blanket restriction and does not depend on the size of the dog. Thank you for your understanding.



Students on holiday

Families are reminded that formal DECD paperwork must be completed for a student to be exempted from school for family holidays etc that fall during the school term. Please see Colleen in the office to have the appropriate form completed for you to sign. Verbal advice to the Teacher does not suffice in this situation.

Choir & Guitar

Interested students in years 5 to 7 are participating in guitar and / or choir sessions. Those that show interest in continuing will bring home more information around week 6.



Absences

To enable us to comply with DECD regulations regarding student absences we send an SMS to the families each time their child has an unexplained absence or late arrival. We ask that parents take the time to reply to these messages to ensure that their child's attendance records are kept correct. Please also understand that if you have more than one child absent we require separate SMS replies as these automatically update against their individual records.

M&S Charges – School Fees

All families were issued with their 2017 M&S invoices early this week. They were sent home with the youngest child in each family. Payment of these invoices, or arrangements to pay, must be made by the end of Term 1. School card application forms for families that feel they may qualify for this government funding are available from the office.

JP spare clothes



Can we please ask families of all our JP students to ensure that they have a change of clothes in their school bags. This will allow us to get your child sorted quickly and easily rather than having to call you away from work to bring them clothes. Thank you.

Bus Travel

Judy Jones, our new Pastoral Care Worker, is already making things happen around our school. Judy has arranged the kind donation from the Morphett Vale Lions club of Metro Cards to be used to support children's travel when and if the need arises.



Name your uniforms

Please, please, please make sure that all your children's uniform items are named. We can't return them if we don't know who they belong to.



Early Finishes for the year

Please mark these dates on your calendars, phones, etc so that your children are collected promptly on these early finish days throughout the years. We thank you for allowing our staff to attend the training sessions that occur on these early days.

Term 1	
Week 3	15 Feb
Week 6	8 Mar
Week 9	29 Mar
End of Term	13 Apr
Term 2	
Week 3	17 May
Week 6	7 Jun
Week 9	28 Jun
End of Term	30 Jun
Term 3	
Week 3	9 Aug
Week 6	30 Aug
Week 9	20 Sep
End of Term	29 Sep
Term 4	
Week 3	1 Nov
Week 6	22 Nov
Week 9	13 Dec
End of Term	15 Dec

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.

School Photos

Our 2017 school photo day is booked for **Tuesday 4th April**. We can't wait to see everyone in their school uniforms with big smiles on the day. We will send home more information as soon as it comes through to us.



Parents & Friends

Our school Parents and Friends group meet each Friday of weeks 2 & 7 each term. You will find them in the OSHC room at 9am. All welcome



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. Students should not arrive without parent supervision before this time. 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.

Meet our new staff



Steve Hetherington

I have returned to Morphett Vale East after having 5 years' experience as a School Counsellor at another southern School. I have had many years of experience teaching children from Reception to year 7. I am looking forward to becoming a positive member of the school community

Aleesha Parsons

I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. I come with a range of experiences teaching children from Reception to Year 7. I'm looking forward to working alongside your children while teaching History and Geography through HASS.



Georgia Allen

I have been working for the last 3 years in the country- at Renmark and Roxby Downs and am happy to be back in Adelaide with my family. My experience is mostly with Junior Primary and I am early childhood trained. Outside of school I enjoy playing sports, particularly netball and hanging out with my dog, Arnie.



Liz Rowley

I've been working in Primary Schools in the UK and South Australia for over 20 years. I have been a lead teacher in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT and have a specialism in Early Years. I am also a Speld Tutor, working with children with learning difficulties



Judy Jones

Hi. I'm Judy. I live with my husband and 2 adult sons. We have two dogs - Bonnie and Poppi. I have six brothers and three sisters. I like reading, learning new things and first aid. I am a member of the Salvation Army at Noarlunga. I am also a volunteer for St Johns Ambulance brigade. I am at school on Tuesday and Thursday. If you see me around, please come and say Hi. I would like to get to know you.

Dan D'Cruz

I have been involved at Southern Junction along with Re-engage working with young children engaging them in outdoor recreation activities and vocational training.

I have always lived in the southern suburbs and in my spare time I enjoy surfing, playing my guitar and spending time with my family



Andrea Clarke

Hi, my name is Andrea. I have been teaching for 15 years, mainly at O'Sullivan's Beach Primary School. I have been teaching Spanish for the last 5 years and I truly enjoy it. I am very happy to be teaching at Morphett Vale East now too



7 / 8 High School Transition

For our Year 7 Students the decision on which High School they will attend next year 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	Thursday 23 rd March	4pm – 7pm
Aberfoyle Park High School	Tuesday 21 st March	6pm - 7.30pm
Mitcham Girls High School	Monday 8 th May	9 – 11am 5pm – 8pm
Reynella East College	Tuesday 16 th May	4 – 7.30pm
Cardijn College	Wednesday 22 nd February	5.30pm – 8pm
Hallett Cove R - 12	Wednesday 22 nd March	8.45 – 10.40am school in action 5pm – 7pm

Please contact the High Schools directly for more information.

Gift Dance at Mitcham

The Gift Dance Program at Mitcham Girls High School offers girls the opportunity to develop their skills and passion for dance performance. Students develop creative, technical and physical understanding and an appreciation of dance as an art form.

With intensive and skilful coaching students become successful performers. Our Gift dance teacher is recognised as a leader in Dance Education. She has had professional experience with teaching expertise in ballet, contemporary dance and jazz dance technique, including choreography for musical theatre productions and national choirs. She has also played a significant role in the development of the SACE Dance curriculum and the management of Dance assessment in South Australia.

For those of you who love dance and want to share and develop your gift, Gift Dance at Mitcham Girls High School is for you.

Entry by Audition:

Year 7 students: Tuesday 7 March, 9:15am & Tuesday 16 May, 9:15am

Years 8, 9 & 10 students: By appointment

Please register your interest at

www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au

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MITCHAM GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL

