Dear all,

Thank you for your flexibility and support which enabled staff to spend Friday working together to strengthen our team and begin setting our direction for the future.

During our learning on Friday we decided that it was vital that we know where we are headed and what we need to do to get there. A review process of the school vision and values will now be undertaken to ensure that all members of our school community are collaboratively working towards these for success. I will be asking for input from all families, students and staff throughout this process.

Soon we will need to decide whether there will be 17 or 18 classes in 2018. If you are planning on moving schools at the end of this year I ask that you advise us as soon as possible so that we can have a clear picture of numbers for staffing and budgeting reasons.

We will be making a change to our class placement process this year. Families will be advised of their children’s classes for 2018 on the last day of Term 4, 2017. This means that from the first minute of day 1 next year our students will be learning and building relationships in their classrooms with their teachers. I believe that this will lessen anxiety and support the development of strong learning routines.

Take care,

Marie
CONGRATULATIONS!

Every year a number of our most capable Maths students sit for the Australian Mathematics Competition. These results are announced at the Presentation Assembly in the last week of the school year. This year we will still make this announcement at the Presentation Assembly but one of our students has been invited to the 2017 Australian Mathematics Trust Awards early next term and so we would like to acknowledge his achievement now. Therefore, our congratulations go to Alex Smith who has received the Australian Mathematics Trust Best in School Award. This is a great achievement and we are delighted for Alex. Many very talented mathematicians sit for this competition and to receive the best result in the school is an excellent accomplishment. As a footnote, to demonstrate that Alex doesn’t just have excellent academic skills, he has also been nominated by his soccer club to be part of the Football Federation SA’s Talented Player Pathway Skills Acquisition Program (SAP). We wish him every success in this endeavor.

STUDENTS ON GROUNDS BEFORE SCHOOL

Please be mindful of the fact that students are not to be on the school grounds before 8:30am. This is regardless of whether or not you accompany them. Our grounds are only supervised from 8:30 and if your child needs to be at school before that time, then they need to be enrolled in Before School Care. Likewise the Front Office is open to our school community from 8:30am and not beforehand. Mornings are a very busy time and a lot happens in the Front Office at that time.

NAPLAN RESULTS

Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 received their NAPLAN results during Week Eight, and we remind parents that teachers are very happy to arrange a time with them to go through individual student reports. The NAPLAN tests, classroom based assessment tasks, teacher observations, Australian Curriculum achievement standards, diagnostic tests (such as PAT Reading and Numeracy) etc, all serve to provide us with a picture of each student’s academic progress. Teachers base their planning for their teaching on the above information. They differentiate within their classrooms and organise additional intervention also based on this information. Each piece of information helps to support our students to be the very best that they can be.

Over the coming days, weeks and months we will use the information from the NAPLAN tests to look at individual student achievement and progress. We will also look for trends within this information. We ask ourselves “What have we done well?” “Where are the areas for improvement?” “What do we need to keep doing and what do we need to stop doing or change?”

The answers to these questions will help to inform our future planning, both at classroom level and whole school level. We are very pleased with most of our results but there is always room for reflection, discussion and improvement.

An overview of our school results will appear in our 2017 Annual Report, and our Site Improvement Plan for 2018 will reflect any curriculum based strategies put into place to support our students with their learning.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child has been prescribed medication (for example, medication required three times a day), it is generally not required during a school day: it can be taken before and after school, and before bed. This minimises the quantity of medication held on site. Medications must be stored strictly in accordance with product instructions (paying particular note to temperature) and in the original container in which dispensed. Some families supply thermal carry packs to maintain safe temperature storage and for ease of transport on excursions. Storage should be secure with clear labelling and access limited to the staff responsible for medication storage and supervision. Safe storage of medication requires, therefore, as a minimum standard, that the medication is: prescribed by a doctor provided by the parent or guardian within the expiry date of the product delivered to staff as a daily supply (or a week’s supply at the most, except in long-term continuous care arrangements). This might require the family to organise a second labelled container from the pharmacy for safe storage at home provided with written instructions from the parent, guardian or doctor. These instructions must match those printed on the product packaging.

Education and childcare workers can ask for a medication authority to be provided by the prescribing doctor to assist them with safe supervision of medication. This can be requested for over the counter medication as well as prescription only medication. If a medication authority is not provided, staff should have written instructions from the parent or guardian. In all cases the instructions must match those on the pharmacy label.

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance last week dropped much lower than we would like to see, but we believe that this is because of the number of illnesses that are around at the moment and also because last week was Show Week. Show Week is always an interesting dilemma for parents as visits to the Show cannot always work in nicely with weekends and school ‘Show Days’. Hopefully our attendances will improve this week. While 100% attendance would be wonderful we know that when students are ill the best place for them is at home where they can receive lots of TLC, and also hopefully not share their illness with others.

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**EARN AND LEARN**

The Woolworths Earn and Learn program will finish next Tuesday 19th September. Please send your stickers and sticker sheets to the front office for collating. We are looking forward to ordering some new equipment and supplies to benefit all of our students. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed the vouchers to our school.

**COMMUNITY PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION**

Send in one or more photographs that represent your unique perspective on life. Photos can be of things that inspire, delight or provoke emotion – tell us your story of people, places, culture and history.

You don’t need to be a professional photographer. Photos can be taken on your phone, tablet or camera. Email your photos along with a short blurb to Jess Flynn, Community Development Officer at Jessica.flynn@ankaparinga.sa.gov.au by close of business Friday 22nd September 2017. Photos will be exhibited as part of the Inspire Festival – Celebrating Inspirational Communities.

Photographs will be displayed digitally at the Arts Centre, Port Noarlunga for the launch of Inspire Festival 2017 on Friday 13th October from 5:30 – 7:30pm and then on display at the Noarlunga Civic Centre from Monday 16th October to Friday 10th November 2017.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Have you changed phone numbers, email address or address? It is vital that we have up to date contact information in the event of an emergency. Please phone the school on 83822455 or email dl.0362.admin@schools.sa.edu.au to let us know of any changes.

**REMEMBER TO SIGN IN**

Don’t forget that if you are on school grounds after 9:00am and before 3:05pm you need to sign in and collect a visitors badge from the front office. This does not apply at whole school events when parents and caregivers are invited to attend such as tomorrow’s Fun Run.

**FUN RUN**

PNPS Fun Run is a major fundraising initiative on behalf of the Fundraising Committee. Family support is most appreciated. Funds raised will provide additional resources for the students and equipment to improve areas around the school.

Students have received a sponsorship form with a selection of over 70 prizes to choose from. We ask you to seek donations on a $2 or $4 or $5 or $10 per sponsor. Students who receive $10 or more in donations will be entitled to a prize of their choice. Prizes will be awarded to the highest fundraising student and class. Sponsorship can be collected online. Details of how to set this up are on the sponsor form. We hope this will help students who wish to ask family and friends from interstate or overseas. For more details on this promotion and how to enter, please view the Sponsorship Form or go to www.myschoolathon.com.au

Please ensure sponsorship money and prize selection forms are submitted to the Front Office before Wednesday 20th September. Happy fundraising and we look forward to seeing you at our Fun Run to cheer on the students.

Caroline Duke - Fundraising Committee

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

As in previous years Leading Image Photographers will be in the school all day on WEDNESDAY 20th September to take all students’ photos. Please make sure that your child/children are wearing full school uniform. Coloured headbands etc. are not part of our school uniform. You will have received an envelope for each of your children.

Students will need to bring the envelope to school on the day (not before) to be handed to the photographer. Please ensure that each of your children have their own envelope and that the correct money is inside.

(Unfortunately, the school will be unable to change money on the day).

You may pay by credit, just put the details on a piece of paper and slip it into the envelope. ***Families with 3 or more children only pay for the first two children when paying online with any option the 3rd and 4th child is FREE.

If you would like to have a family photo taken, please arrange to pick up a family envelope from the front office. Only children who attend school can be included in this photo.

**OPEN NIGHT FEEDBACK**

We are seeking feedback regarding this year’s Open Night. If you wish to provide feedback please email dl.0362.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

The winners of the Staff Book Quiz and the Passport will be announced at the next assembly. Winners will be contacted as soon as possible. The Staff Book Quiz is being made into a book to be kept in the front office for students to look through.

**YOUNG LEADERS**

The Young Leaders are having a Uniform Free Day on the last day of Term 3 (Friday 29th September). A gold coin donation is required if students are not in uniform and all proceeds are going to the Young Leaders Social Justice Fund. Broad brimmed hats are still a requirement on Uniform Free Days.