



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education
and Child Development



MOUNT BARKER PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Week 1, Term 1

04/02/2019

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday 5/2 -
Swimming starts
years 2-5

Tuesday 12/2 -
Acquaintance
Night 6pm

Assembly 13/2 -
9am

Tuesday 19/2 -
AGM of Govern-
ing Council 7pm

Thursday 21/2 -
Volunteers In-
duction 10am
**Please call of-
fice if you wish
to attend.

Tuesday 26/2 -
School Photos

Friday 8/3 -
Sports Day

Welcome to 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome everyone to the 2019 school year. We are all set for a very exciting year ahead.

I hope your children have settled well to the school routine and have started to establish relationships within their classroom. The feeling around the school has been a positive one with lots of smiling faces and ambitious goals.

Most classes will be having Acquaintance Night on Tuesday 12th February starting at 6pm. This is for students in years 2-7. It is an opportunity for you to visit the school with your children, meet their teacher and allow them to show you around their learning environments. Both myself and Steve will be available on that night and will move around the learning environments. The reception/1 students have had their Acquaintance Night on Monday 2nd February and this also included a workshop to support reading in the early years of school. Students that are enrolled in classes 19 and 20 (Disability Unit) will be having an open afternoon where parents/family members are invited to come into the class in the afternoon on Tuesday 12th February.

We will have a short assembly on Wednesday 13th February starting at 9am and we encourage families to attend. This assembly will have a focus on our school values and learning dispositions. Assemblies will be in weeks 3, 6 and 9 of every term. Information will be in the next newsletter about which classes will be hosting assembly.

We are constantly aiming to improve our communication with families. This year we are implementing a consistent approach across our school with all teachers using the SeeSaw app. If you require any support using SeeSaw please see your child's class teacher. We will also be sending out whole school newsletters in weeks 4 and 8 via email. If you have updated your email address please let the front office know. We have received lots of positive feedback regarding the use of our school Facebook page. We will continue to use this page to celebrate the good work that is happening across our school and to remind parents about upcoming events. Please remember to 'like' our page. We are currently in the process of updating our website and we look forward to the creation of a more appealing, interactive and informative website.

All members of our school community are encouraged and welcomed to attend our Governing Council AGM on 19th February. If you are interested in finding out more about how Governing Council contributes to our school please contact me.

Kind regards,
Jo Simpson
Principal

AGM of GOVERNING COUNCIL

The AGM will be held in the school library on Tuesday 19 February at 7pm. Nominations for positions will be accepted up to 5pm Monday 18 February. Please email your nomination to dl.0285.info@schools.sa.edu.au or come in to the office and complete a nomination slip.

Nominations must be received by close of business Monday 18th February.

Library Newsletter

Welcome back staff, students and families.

Before the holidays Mrs. Gosia Jakubowski (performing arts teacher), to see if we would be interested in donating some of our books for underprivileged children in South Africa. She was spending her holidays volunteering and wanted to take something with her from Mount Barker Primary School. This was a great opportunity to show how much we care. Now these children over-seas can experience and appreciate the beauty of books.

Students are able to visit the library and start borrowing books. Our younger students can borrow two books at a time and the older students can borrow up to six books at a time.

Premiers Reading Challenge for 2019 finishes in the first week of September. I will be handing out forms to each class for the students to start their lists. There are three different coloured stickers on books for your child to read the correct year level. Students receive certificates and medals for their participation and each year they jump a level higher only if they complete it correctly. Red stickers for reception – year 2, Green stickers for year 3 – year 5 and Yellow for year 6- year 9.

Scholastic book club starts soon. We receive points/rewards from each order that you have completed online. There are two catalogues each term. These are given to the students and orders purchased online through scholastic loop orders. When we receive the books/orders they are handed out in the classrooms. If you would like them as a gift let us know and we keep them in the library for you to collect. There will be a competition in the library soon so you need to keep your eyes out on what it may be.

Happy Reading

Suzanne, Library Manager.

Aspiration Statement:

Mount Barker Primary School

- A community of successful learners

Staffing Update

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Sally Turra in the role of Student Well-Being leader and Annette Virgo in the role of Pedagogical Change leader. Both of these staff have immense knowledge and expertise in their respective areas and we are looking forward to working with them in their new roles. Annette will maintain her teaching role in year 2 and will be released on a Wednesday to fulfil her leadership duties. Sally will be on site Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. An increased leadership team will mean better support for students and families, especially as we head into the building works.

Fire Procedure

Thank you to the parents who supported the smooth evacuation of students, OHSC and staff to the TAFE following a fire in the field behind the school gym. We made the decision to evacuate the site rather than move the students and staff into the smoke and towards the fire. The students remained calm during the process. It was a short evacuation and we were back on site by 4pm. The TAFE staff were very helpful and had an area set out for us when we arrived.

A point of learning for us all is that when we rehearse our drills between 9am and 3pm it all goes smoothly however when incidents occur before and after school the process is slightly different.

With this in mind we are going to plan to have a drill before and after school each year. We will let parents know in advance to

Building Better Schools

This year we will see the start of major building works on our site. At this stage the tenders have gone out to architects and the department have made a selection. We have been advised work will begin during the second half of the year. We will be running some consultation processes once we have more information about the design options for the building.

Uniform

It is great to see students wearing the new design of our school polo shirt. The more breathable fabric also has a sun protection rating.

We are planning a 12 months transition over to the new polo shirt which is available at Worklocker (formerly the Uniform Shop). The middle years uniform are no longer being manufactured.

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