

Saltia Times

Stirling North Primary School Fortnightly Newsletter

Respect - Responsibility - Resilience

A note from the Principal - Adam Wilson

Welcome

Welcome parents, students, staff and the Stirling North community to the 2017 school year. I trust that your holiday break has been a magical one with your family, and your kids having enjoyed a relaxing break. The holidays for me have been extremely relaxing as my family and I visited my parents in Mount Gambier for Christmas with my younger brother coming back from London for the festivities. We had a few days shopping in Adelaide (yuck) and we relaxed at the family shack at Blanche Harbor. The lead up to school returning has been exciting as both of my girls are now attending School and Kindy. So like you, the Wilson house will be hectic with school bags, uniforms, breakfast, sunscreen, diaries checked, homework, reading and hopefully a "normal" bedtime. It will be nice to get back into a routine again.

We have 335 students enrolled at our school and due to this high number we have created a new classroom. Our enrolment policy will continue to take effect with our class numbers increasing, therefore at this stage we will be accepting enrolments from Stirling North residents only. With 11 new staff and 64 new students it is great to see so many new faces and I look forward to welcoming these people to our school community.

2017 Staffing

Late last year Miss Belinda McInerney won the Director position at Port Augusta West Kindy. This created a Reception teacher vacancy and I am pleased to announce that Miss Magdy Jagiello has joined us for 2017. With the school expanding we have been fortunate to be able to employ more Support Staff and with 11 new staff across the school we will have a short feature in upcoming newsletters to introduce these people to you.

Communication

At SNPS we attempt various methods of communicating with you at home to continue to inform you of what is happening across the school. A fortnightly newsletter goes home every Tuesday on even weeks. These will be as a hard copy in your youngest child's bag or if you like we can email it to you. Our Facebook page is extremely popular so please ensure you "like" it to get regular updates. We also have our own "app" that can be downloaded onto your phone. Search for the School Stream app and then type Stirling North Primary School into the school that you wish to follow. Students will also have a diary or a communication book that will be checked daily by staff. We also have parent teacher interviews later this term.

Most importantly though, if you have a concern or are wondering how your child is going with their learning then please make contact with your child's teacher. Before and after school are the best times or if you would like to schedule a longer meeting then contact the front office to organise a time.

Fly Ash

I have been in contact with the EPA and SA Health regarding the Fly Ash concerns happening across Port Augusta over the Christmas break. They have assured me that the dust is not toxic but could be harmful to people with respiratory problems, in particular children with Asthma. With this in mind staff have been asked to be extra vigilant and aware of students with Asthma or any other respiratory problems. If your child has been reacting to the dust from the power station can you please let the front office know? In the event of extreme winds and raised dust levels we will not be allowing students out to play, nor conducting any activities outside to minimise the risk of a reaction or respiratory problems. If you would like to discuss the matter further please contact the front office.

AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on the 13th of February at 7pm in the Staff room. At this meeting we will be looking to ratify the upcoming budget, the 2016 annual report will be presented and to appoint new Governing Council members. We have 6 available positions and it would be great to have a good representation of parents from across the school. A nomination form will be in next weeks' newsletter, but if you are interested then please let the front office know. Do you want to have a say on what happens at SNPS? Become a Governing Council member.

2017 is poised to be a very exciting year with further grounds, facility, technology and teacher advancements occurring. I look forward to working with you in your child's education.