The Pines School Newsletter Week 5, Term 1 4th March 2022

Respect, Belonging and Engagement in Learning

Leadership News

Dear Families,

The term has begun well and it's very pleasing to see many of our students back at school in very settled classes.

We have welcomed some new families, so if you are new to the school, we hope your children are settling in well.

Numeracy improvement is a focus at The Pines. It was pleasing to see an increase in our Year 3 and 5 students achieving high bands achievement in Numeracy NAPLAN last year.

Reading improvement is also an important focus in our school and phonics teaching is assisting our students improve their reading ability. Reading is an essential skill for life and we want our students to develop a love of reading. Reading ability is also an essential component of numeracy.

Parents/caregivers can assist children by reading stories at home. When reading to or listening to children read, discussing and asking questions about what has been read, assists children develop understanding, comprehension.

I've included some more information about assisting your child develop their reading skills below.

Regards,

Cherie Collings

The importance of regular home reading

You were your child's first teacher and taught them many important skills, including how to speak. Your child will experience the most success in reading when school and home work together. Children learn about the importance of reading as they watch family members use reading and writing for everyday purposes.

Reading for pleasure, sharing a story with your child, using a recipe or reading street signs teaches them that reading is a useful skill in today's world.

Reading with your child at home will help your child in all areas of school. Research shows the importance of reading on a daily basis in developing their use and understanding of vocabulary.

Some strategies that you can use when reading with your child at home.

Pre-reading strategies – look at the title and pictures with your child and discuss what you think the story may be about.

Stop reading at regular intervals and ask your child questions about what has been read so far and what he/she thinks may happen next in the text.

Help from pictures: Encourage your child to take notice of the pictures as they may help him/her to identify an unknown word. Don't cover up pictures as they read.

It is important that children are positively encouraged to have a go with reading.

Vocabulary development by talking to your child and explaining words and their meaning, is an essential part of reading. In our busy lives its important to make some time eg 20-30 minutes to read to or listen to your child read each day. Happy Reading.



Government of South Australia





Term 1

<u>Week 7</u> 14th March Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

> <u>Week 11</u> 15th April

Good Friday Public Holiday

Term 2

Week 1 Starts back on 2nd May 2022

Principal Mrs Cherie Collings

Deputy Principal Mr Sam Konnis

Assistant Principal Mrs Toula Girgolas

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I feel so fortunate to be a part of such a thriving, positive school community. Students are back learning in the classroom and we have lots of exciting things happening again at The Pines School this year. Choir, Instrumental Music, the orchestra and music ensembles have begun again this week. Lunchtime activities will start next week, run by our social work students from Uni SA. Our student news team is working towards having their own Pines TV news channel later this year and tryouts for the Math Olympiads are currently taking place. We are even going to hold a drama production for which Year 4-6 students can audition. We continue to develop a sense of belonging within our school as a priority for the wellbeing of our students.

One way you can support your child's sense of belonging at The Pines is by ensuring they attend school every day. Being at school allows students to develop positive relationships with both their peers and teachers. It also ensures that learning is progressing, classwork is easier to follow along with and complete in a timely manner. This ultimately creates a sense of accomplishment for our students, willing them to come back day after day.

In saying this, we appreciate your support in keeping your children home when they are unwell. If you child is absent from school, please call the front office or contact your child's teacher directly on class dojo. Teachers are responsible for following up on every absence in their classroom, and with your support, you can save them valuable time that they can put towards more student focused activities.

Did you know that drinking water not only helps improves our brain function, but also boosts our immune system? We are currently encouraging students to fill up their water bottles from the drink fountains instead of drinking directly from them. Please ensure that your child brings a drink bottle, with their name on it, to school every day.

We would appreciate it if you could check to see that your child has a hat for playtime, and if they do not, they are available for purchase in the front office for \$7.50.

While I was on gate duty, there were a number of families and students crossing Andrew Smith Drive without using the designated pedestrian crossing. It is important to use the crossing during drop-off and pick-up to ensure that everyone crosses the road safely, just think about all the extra steps you will get in!

Have a great week!

DROP OFF ZONE ONLY FOR DROP AND GO

The drop off zone at the front of the school on Andrew Smith Drive should only be used to drop off students. This is not an area to park.

Please ensure you do not park and leave your car in this area.

Principal Cherie Collings

Student Leaders

2022 New Teachers and Teachers in New Roles

This week, our school news reporters interviewed the new teachers at our school. They also caught up with some of our teachers who have changed their role this year.

Each of our reporters planned what questions they wanted to ask our teachers before they did their interview. The students also took a photo of each teacher.

When interviewing people for our school newsletter, our news reporters learn how to introduce themselves and respectfully ask if it is OK to do the interview. Students also learn how to sit and speak confidently when asking their questions. As students become more confident, they also learn when to ask extra questions such as 'tell me more' or 'why is that?' to help to find out more information. Students learn note taking skills so that they can record what they hear. Part of being a student reporter is also about being part of a team, supporting and helping others to develop their skills.

The students who interviewed our teachers for this newsletter are:



Year 6 reporters: Caitlin, Isaia, Ben, Annabel and Joel



Year 5 reporters: Selena and Daniel



Year 4 reporters: Sanvi, Vansh and Tiffany

Teacher: Miss Esther



Role: Reception teacher, Room 3

Question: What is it like to teach the youngest and the newest children at our school?

Miss Esther: It is very fulfilling and exciting.

Question: What does it feel like to work at The Pines School?

Miss Esther: It fells very welcoming, caring and supportive. I feel very lucky to be here.

Question: What do children learn in reception?

Miss Esther: They learn so much!

They learn how to read and write, learn their numbers and sounds, and most importantly, how to be at school!

Student Leaders

2022 New Teachers and Teachers in New Roles

<u> Teacher: Mr O (Mr Orphanou)</u>



Role: Year 5 teacher, Room 35

Question: What is your favourite subject to teach and why?

Mr O: My favourite subject to teach is English because of the power of stories. I also like reading children's writing.

Question: What do you enjoy about working at The Pines School and why?

Mr O: I enjoy working at The Pines School because the kids and staff are very welcoming and care about the students learning and wellbeing.

Question: What strategies do you use to help children listen in class?

Mr O: I like to build good relationships with students so they feel comfortable to listen and talk with me.

For the whole class to listen, I find that students respond well when I count down from five as this gives them time to refocus so they can pay attention to instructions.

Teacher: Miss Emma



Role: Reception teacher, Room 1

Question: What it like being a full-time teacher this year at The Pines School? **Miss Emma:** I love it. I like the class and the students. The other teachers have been very supportive.

Question: What strategies do you use to help the children focus on tasks?

Miss Emma: I use very hands on activities. I use songs, actions and movement to help students learn lots of concepts such as new sounds and counting.

Question: What is the biggest challenge teaching reception children?

Miss Emma: New reception children needs lots of support and guidance to learn everything about being at school for the first time.

Teacher: Mr Z (Mr Zanyar)



Role: Year 5 teacher, Room 25

Question: What do you enjoy about teaching?

Mr Z: I enjoy teaching children the skills they need to be successful. I also enjoy guiding them and having a positive influence on them.

Question: How are you feeling about teaching in mainstream classes this year?

Mr Z: I am enjoying mainstream because I am looking forward to a new challenge.

Question: What are you going to be teaching this year?

Mr Z: I will be teaching Year 5 students English, Maths and HASS (History and Social Science).



Splash the turtle is the class pet in Room 35.

He was too shy to come out of his shell.

Student Leaders

2022 New Teachers and Teachers in New Roles

Teacher: Mr Liam



Role: Physical Education and Health *Question:* Do you prefer teaching PE or being a classroom teacher?

Mr Liam: I enjoy both for different reasons. PE is great because I get to spend time outdoors. Coaching sports was my pathway for getting into teaching as a career. A healthy lifestyle that includes exercise and healthy eating habits is also something that I am enjoying being able to teach.

I also enjoy classroom teaching because of the connections I make with students and the bond of the group when everybody gets along.

Question: How is it different being a PE teacher instead of a classroom teacher? Is there a big difference?

Mr Liam: There are lots of differences, and it has been a big change. Some of the differences include getting used to teaching outdoors where students need more support to stay focussed. I also need to wear more sunscreen and drink more water.

Question: What will be the most important thing that the students will learn in PE this year?

Mr Liam: The importance of exercise and how it positively affects students' mental health. I will be teaching new ideas and skills that students can use for life.

Teacher: Mrs Manju



Role: Year 1 teacher, Room 43

Question: What do you like about teaching year 1 compared to teaching English?

Mrs Manju: Some of the things that I like are being able to have my own class and being able to teach all the subjects. Having my own class also means I can cater to each student's needs a lot more.

Question: What is your favourite subject and why?

Mrs Manju: My favourite subject is English because I taught English in India and now I enjoy teaching in Australia. I have been teaching English at The Pines for almost eight years. I love teaching English because it gives me the opportunity to develop the skills students need to build their learning and thrive.

Question: What are some of the teaching strategies you use?

Mrs Manju: I use PowerPoints and the white board to show information for lessons. I use research based approaches like whole brain teaching and playful literacy. I also make sure that I cater for all the different learning needs in the class.

Our student reporters thank all the teachers who gave up their time to be interviewed for this newsletter. We appreciate your support.



Learning about the butterfly lifecycle at Preschool

At preschool, we have been learning about the lifecycle of the butterfly. We observed the changes of the Wanderer Caterpillars turning into Monarch Butterflies. The children were very curious and excited, noticing stripy caterpillars, beautiful green chrysalises and even a Monarch butterfly emerging! The butterfly then stayed very still drying its wings before it was able to fly. We then let it go to fly around our garden.

We have learnt new words such as spun, chrysalis, emerging and metamorphosis. We read fiction and nonfiction books about caterpillars and butterflies such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle and 'From Caterpillar to Butterfly' by Deborah Heiligman. We also watched a time lapse video of the lifecycle of a butterfly. The children demonstrated their learning through discussions, 'reading the pictures' of books and drawings. It was also lovely to see the children sharing this experience with their families.





2023 Preschool Enrolments

If your child turns 4 before 1st May 2023, they are eligible for Preschool next year! Come to The Preschool to fill out a Registration of Interest form or email The Preschool at <u>cpc.info87@schools.sa.edu.au</u> for one to be emailed to you.

ثبت نام پیش دبستانی2023

اگر کودک شما قبل از ماه ۱ مه 2023 چهار ساله را تمام کرده واجد شرایط پیش دبستانی میتوانید بروید دبیستان برای پر کردن فورم ثبت نام و از طریق یکی از آنها برای شما ایمیل شود . .و از طریق یکی از آنها برای شما ایمیل شود . .cpc.info87@schools.sa.edu.au

2023 Đăng ký vào Trường Mẫu giáo

Nếu con của quí vị lên 4 tuổi trước ngày 1 tháng Năm năm 2023, các em sẽ được nhận vào học ở trường Mẫu giáo năm tới.

Xin đến trường để lấy form (mẫu đăng ký), hoặc có thể gởi email qua địa chỉ này cpc.info87@schools.sa.edu.au để trường sẽ gởi form qua email cho quý vị





*Must have completed one term of Auskick

Would \$500 help with back to school costs in 2023?

Join Saver Plus today and start saving for the next 10 months. Upon finishing the program, your savings are matched up to \$500, just in time for back to school expenses in 2023.

Eligibility criteria applies. To enquire, visit saverplus.org.au







Qkr!

masterpass

Q. How do I cancel food orders that have already been paid for?

A. To cancel a food order from your itemized eReceipt:

1. Open Qkr! and tap Activity.

2. Scroll down to 'Order History' and sign in with your password.

 Tap the red circle with a minus symbol on the order to be cancelled. Select the entire order or individual items to cancel and tap 'OK'.

4. If your eReceipt contains food orders for more than one child, you will need to cancel one by one. OR

To cancel a food order from the calendar view:

1. Open Qkr! and select the relevant menu.

2. Tap on the tick icon on the date for which you want to cancel the order.

3. Tap the red circle with a minus symbol on the order to be cancelled. Select the entire order or individual items to cancel and tap 'OK'.

Cancelled items are shown in red on your eReceipt confirming they have been cancelled and a credit is available for future food orders. The value of any credits will be automatically deducted from your next Qkr! food order.

Please contact your school office to cancel any other (non-food) school payments according to school policy.



TIP OF THE WEEK