

Tea Tree Gully Primary School

11-13 Neale Street, Tea Tree Gully, SA 5091

Phone (08) 82642677

Email: dl.0432.info@schools.sa.edu.au



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break with family and friends over the holiday period.

A very warm welcome to everyone who is returning to TTGPS this year and an extra special welcome to the students and families who are new to our school. We trust that the year ahead will be full of exciting learning opportunities, new friends and opportunities to grow and develop in many different ways.

New children in Yr 1-6 classes



New staff



Bilbies : staff and students



New receptions



This year Ms Hardy will be working 0.6 (Wednesday to Friday) in the Reception class with Ms HS who will be working 0.4 (Monday and Tuesday). Miss M is full time in the year 1/2 class. Mrs Candace and Mr G are sharing the year 3/4 class. Mrs Candace will be working Monday, Thursday and Friday and Mr G on Tuesday and Wednesday. Ms Harvey is full time in the year 5/6 class but will be released for leadership duties on a regular basis. We are still in the process of securing a contract for this backfill, but meanwhile Ms Knott, who the children are very familiar with, will be relieving for the first few weeks. We will ensure continuity of the learning program and a consistent reliever to manage the class during these days. Our specialist subjects, PE/Health and HASS will be provided by Ms Dani.

We are very excited to welcome Jo Holland who is providing AUSLAN as a specialist subject this year on Mondays.

Our Disability Unit teachers are Greg Custance (0.8) and Hannah Towler (0.4). Our SSOs in the Unit are Jackie Charlton, Yash Kapahi and Vanessa Kinnear. The Disability Unit's location, students and staff will be referred to as "The Bilbies".

Although the DU build is delayed we do expect building to begin by the end of February (expected completion is June) and we will keep you all up to date on progress, including disruptions, re-location of classrooms as required and alternative routes and access to classrooms due to the construction of access paths, ramps and disabled toilet facilities.

We welcome ALL of our staff, especially those new to TTG, and look forward to a great year ahead.

Please note the following information and reminders as we begin a new school year and work towards efficient and streamlined procedures to support the smooth organisation of our busy little school;

Before and after school procedures – The school yard is supervised from 8.35am until 8.55am when the music bell sounds to start the school day. Access to classrooms is from the *outside* entrance doors for all R-6 students. Students and families are asked NOT to use the front office OR the activity room as a thoroughfare to classes. Easy access to all classrooms is available from several entry points around the perimeter of the school. Reasonably large verandah areas also provide protection in the event of excessive heat and rain before and after school. We appreciate your support with adhering to these requirements.

One of the positives to come out of our experiences with Covid-19, included the increased independence our young students demonstrated. They were responsible for unpacking and packing for themselves before and after school and became very adept at managing these tasks. We are keen to continue to promote this level of independence so ask that you support your child to manage their belongings themselves. Please also continue to say goodbye to your child/ren outside the classrooms so that teachers and students can start their day in a calm and settled way.

At the end of the day the yard is supervised from 3.05pm until 3.20pm. Please ensure your child/ren have vacated the school grounds during this time. Of course, if you are on site, then your children are more than welcome to enjoy a play in the yard under your supervision.

Money / payments / notices - Teachers will collect notices, money / payments in the classroom as part of their morning routines. Money will then be delivered to Sandra, our Finance Officer. To assist with this, please ensure all money is safely contained in either an envelope or a snap lock bag and clearly labelled with child's name, class, etc., along with any notes or consents to identify the nature of the payment. If you make electronic payments, any consents or related paperwork can still be given to class teachers for collection and processing. We appreciate your support with these procedures.

Acquaintance Night / Parent Workshop / Governing Council Annual General Meeting – We invite all of our families to attend our Acquaintance Night on Monday the 12th of February. Classes will be open from 5.00pm – 5.45pm, giving you an opportunity to catch up with class teachers and have a good look around your child's learning environment. You may also like to visit our Discovery Centre (including our OSHC facility), our upstairs shared learning space, the Gym and the office.



At 5.45-6.30pm (in the south unit) we will be holding a parent information workshop on "Sensory Difficulties", presented by Senses Therapy who provided a similar workshop for all staff during week 0.



A creche will be provided in our Discovery Centre.

Our AGM will follow at 6.40 pm in the library. A creche will again be available to enable interested families to stay on and learn more about Governing Council. Our School Captains will provide a short presentation. Light refreshments will be available. Attendance does not mean you are obliged to commit to Governing Council but anyone who may be interested can nominate during the meeting. Alternatively you may be keen to join one of our sub-committees (Fundraising, Canteen, OSHC, Finance Advisory, Uniform). I look forward to welcoming new members to our committees this year!

Reporting

In week 9 of this term, the 25th to the 28th March we will be holding parent/teacher interviews. Teachers will share student progress so far, address any areas for improvement and set next step goals. At the end of term 2 we provide a written report with grades across all subjects (yr 1-yr 6) and comments around behaviour, engagement, literacy and numeracy growth and goals for ongoing growth. This year we are going to trial sending this report home electronically, thus significantly reducing our paper usage. Please ensure we have your most up to date email and contact details and phone numbers. Paper copies of the reports will be available on request.

Canteen To continue to be able to provide a snack service during our second break time, we are asking for parent volunteers to help by serving the students from 1.25pm to about 1.40pm each day ; either weekly, fortnightly or even once per month. The more volunteers we have, the less often your help will be required. Generally students purchase ice-blocks, popcorn, drinks and crackers. From time to time we run specials according to the season, eg, hash browns, corn on the cob, fruit salad, jelly cups, etc. Please indicate your interest and availability via the return slip at the end of this letter if this is something you might like to support us with.

We don't run a lunch service from our canteen so we have outsourced this service. On Wednesday and Friday students can order from Subway. Subway can be ordered through the QKR app. If you need help to set this up please see the front office staff.



Hats



Hats are essential for outdoor play and activities in term 1, 3 and 4. Please ensure your child has a wide brimmed or legionnaire style hat at school by Wednesday of week 1 or they will be unable to play. Hats may be purchased at the front office for \$12.

Bushfire Rating 1 update

As you may be aware TTGPS is a Bushfire Rating 1 school and staff and students will not attend on advertised Catastrophic Fire Danger days. However, we also need to be prepared for unexpected fire activity during the summer months. This means we have clear evacuation procedures in place, regularly practice our fire safety drill and undertake all necessary precautions to ensure the safety and comfort of our students should we need to evacuate for any length of time. Our shelter in place is the school gym and this is where we take shelter, unless advised otherwise by local Fire Services. The school will provide additional drinking water and ensure we have adequate water to flush the toilet should our water supply be interrupted. We do however, request that all students have a snap lock bag of long life snacks (dried fruit, cereal, crackers, popcorn, tinned foods etc) which we store in the gym in the event we are required to evacuate. If you haven't already, please provide a clearly named snack pack for your child/ren.

Policies and Agreements

Please familiarise yourself with our school policies and agreements, all available on our website, or via the front office if you prefer a hard copy. All classes will be re-visiting several key policies which also come with an agreement sheet which is signed to indicate that students and parents agree with the details of the policy. For example, our 'Cyber Safety' policy clearly outlines what is acceptable and expected of students around the safe use of electronic devices (eg all personal devices are locked in teacher storage during the day and NOT used once on school grounds).

Back to School



Our Behaviour policy outlines our agreed expectations of respectful behaviour and provides details of consequences should these not be adhered to. Similarly our Uniform Policy is very clear about what is acceptable and expected (including the appropriate length of shorts/skirts, make-up and jewellery guidelines and acceptable safe footwear etc).

NUT POLICY – Please note we have students with severe anaphylactic responses to all nuts and sesame seeds and ask that you are diligent in ensuring students do not bring foods containing nuts or seeds to school. The abovementioned policies are included in this information pack for you to share with your child/ren. Please return signed agreement forms to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Consequences for ongoing disregard of the agreements will be actioned. We appreciate your support with these processes and thank you for cooperating with us in ensuring your child/ren are respectful of the expectations which are in place to provide consistency, safety, pride and responsibility.

Calendar dates

Term 1 is already shaping up to be a busy and productive term. We will send home the term planner shortly but meanwhile you might want to put these events / dates in your diaries.

**Assembly – Friday 16th Feb, 9.15. Yr 5/6s are running this assembly with all classes presenting something from their first 3 weeks at school. The next assembly is Friday the 15th March, 9:15 which the Yr 3/4s are running.



**Acquaintance Night / Parent Workshop / Governing Council AGM - Monday 12th Feb, week 3

**Aquatics Year 6 students – Friday 5th April

**Interviews – Week 9 : 25th March to the 28th March

**Swimming R-5 students – Week 10 : Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th and Friday 5th April at Waterworld Swimming Centre



** Pupil Free Day – Friday 8th March (week 6), followed by Adelaide Cup holiday on Monday 11th March

**Easter : Good Friday – 29th March week 9 and Easter Monday - 1st April week 10



I look forward to another exciting and rewarding year!

Yours sincerely

Di Scott
Principal

(Please complete and return enclosed attachments and agreements)

If any of your contact details have changed please let Sandra know via email : dl.0432.info@schools.sa.edu.au

RETURN SLIP

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT / PARENT WORKSHOP / AGM

Child/ children's name.....Class/es.....

I /we will/will not be attending the Acquaintance Night

I/we will/will not be attending the parent workshop

I/we will/will not require the Creche facility for.....child/ren to attend the workshop

I/we will/will not be attending the Governing Council AGM

I/we will/will not require the Creche facility forchild/ren to attend the AGM

CANTEEN VOLUNTEER

I am able / unable to volunteer to help in the canteen

The times / days that suit me best are:

I would like to be on a roster : (please circle below)

weekly / fortnightly / monthly

SignedChild's name.....