



Term 1, Week 3
14 February 2020

Welcome!

Welcome to the 2020 school year. A very special welcome to our new families to the Mount Barker South Primary School Community. It has been a terrific start to the new school year with much positive feedback from students, families and staff. Our school enrolments at 320 students.

New Building

We are extremely excited to have our new building built ready for this year, this building joins the Middle Primary classes together. It has been a relatively smooth building process and the end outcome has been amazing as the building allows for great student collaboration.

Unfortunately we received news from the Department for Education that the refurbishment of the current Community House will not be complete until term 4 (at the earliest). We are disappointed by the news as we had exciting plans being actioned for the Senior Learning Centre to move into the new space as well as the reinstatement of our school library.

Without the refurbishment, Senior Learning Centre will remain in their current learning space and our modified library will remain in the lower part of the building. Karen Hill, our librarian, will continue with our plans to catalogue and sort our collection of resources. When the time comes, we will be ready to move straight into the new library space with an organised collection!

In the meantime, classes have small collections of resources, which students can use. Karen will continue teaching Information Based Learning as a specialist subject to the Early Years, Lower Primary Classes and the Primary class where the learning focus will still be on science.

School Facilities

We hope on your arrival to school in January that you noticed some improvements! We have had a painter busily working throughout the holidays to paint the roof of our main building. While this work isn't 100% complete, it is certainly a huge improvement already!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Theo Schmidt for his work in and around the school over the holiday break. Theo has supported in the improvements to almost all learning spaces across the school and we are extremely grateful in his work to ensure a smooth and successful start to the year.

Unfortunately our school has been the target of ongoing vandalism after school and on weekends. In the interest of student safety, we ask that any student on grounds after 3:30pm and on weekends are accompanied by an adult. While we continue to work with the Department of Education on improved security, we encourage you to report any suspicious activity that you witness to the office or SA Police.

Our trampolines have suffered vandalism on many occasions. We understand the disruption to play as they continue to be damaged, removed, replaced and so on. We are in discussion on how to move forward with this situation and hope to have the solution in the coming weeks.

Governing Council AGM

On Wednesday the 19th of February, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will begin at 6pm in the Lower Library. If you are interested in being on Governing Council, nominations will be accepted through the front office. Please see the timeline below for details...

Friday 31st January Nomination forms and roles and responsibilities sent to all families

Friday 14th February Nominations close

Monday 17th February List of nominees and blurbs published to families

Wednesday 19th February 6pm AGM with normal Governing Council meeting to follow

Year 7 to High School Information from the Department for Education

Your child's wellbeing is just as important in high school as it is in primary school. We know from our high schools that already have year 7s and from interstate learnings that year 7s look forward to the excitement, challenges and broader opportunities that high school brings. Watch the video on our website to see how year 7s are thriving at Clare High School.

Schools will help year 7s adjust to new routines and different academic demands for starting high school in 2022. They will be given evidence about what works to support early adolescents to feel safe and confident. The supports will vary across schools, so it's best to check with your new high school about how transition will work. Schools also have frameworks in place to manage interactions between students of different ages. These already operate in our B-12, R-12, area and primary schools to manage younger children interacting with older students.

In 2022, year 7 and 8 students will begin high school in the same year for the first time. We are very mindful of having a smooth transition for all new high school students. Our year 7s and year 8s will receive appropriate support when starting high school for the first time in 2022. Primary schools will be thinking about graduation and transition practices, and high schools will be planning open days and transition activities ahead of the move.

Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: www.education.sa.gov.au

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: Year7toHS@sa.gov.au

3-Way Interviews in Term 1

Our week 6, term 1 interviews are dedicated to supporting our students requiring a One Plan. This Department for Education recommendation is to meet face-to-face with students and their families, twice per year, to discuss individual learning goals. 3-way interviews for all students take place in week 5 of term 3 and is a second opportunity to meet with students on a One Plan.

We also invite new families to the school to book an appointment in week 6, term 1, with your class teacher if you have not already had the opportunity to meet. Information on how to book a 3-way interview was sent to new families via hard copy.

Our reception interviews are held in term 4 of each year in preparation for their first year of school in the following year.

Assemblies

We are trialling a new approach to assemblies this year. We would like to make our assemblies purposeful and engaging.

This term, we invite all interested families to attend our Showcase Assembly (Friday 27th March, week 9 from 2:00pm) where we ask classes to celebrate their learning from the term. This may include presentations from our specialist areas including P.E., AUSLAN and STE(A)M as well as some class presentations.

Our second assembly for the term will be on Wednesday 8th of April from 2:30pm (week 11) and will be a formal presentation of awards which recognises the achievement of individual learners.

Festival of Music Choir

Jenna Schipper and Coralie Mumford will be facilitating choir this year. This is a high expectations extra-curricular activity for students in years 4-7 who wish to be involved. Students will be released from class on Friday afternoon for their choir sessions. We are asking that students who choose to be involved make a commitment to the full year of choir and would like your support in this. There will be a trial period where students can give it a go before deciding on their commitment for the year.

Students within the choir have the opportunity to perform in the Festival of Music in September at the Adelaide Festival Theatre. The Festival of Music is a joint venture of the South Australian Public Primary Schools' (SAPPS) Music Society and the Department for Education.

After School Sport

Each term, we will be offering one sport which your child is invited to participate in. This is a high expectations extra-curricular activity for students in years R-7 who wish to be involved. Matt Whitford, our P.E./Health teacher will communicate with families about the sport being offered, its date and time. There is a limit to the amount of students who can attend each sport, so best to get in quick!

This term, our After School Sport is Australian Rules Football and is taking place on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:15pm.

Finance

Our finance officer, Jane, is available to support your finance queries from 8:30-10:30am each day. She is located in the front office.

Risk minimisation strategies from the Department for Education

Blanket bans on food (i.e. 'nut-free environment') or other allergy triggers aren't recommended as:

- It's impossible to guarantee complete removal of all, or a specific, allergen from the education or care service or community. Children and young people can be at risk of anaphylaxis from many foods or insect bites. It's not possible, nor practical, to ban or remove all food or insect allergens from an education or care service.
- It may give parents or guardians, and children and young people suffering from allergies, a false sense of security and assume the education or care service is free from a specific allergen, ie nut-free.
- It's more important to develop appropriate risk minimisation strategies and consider children and young people with anaphylaxis when planning activities.

We're an Allergy-Aware School!

Creating allergy-aware education and care services can minimise the risk of exposure for children and young people. It is not banning food.

Our staff may not confiscate foods that contain identified allergens, but they will carefully monitor the child or young person at risk. They will also monitor peers in close proximity who are eating, to ensure no sharing of food. Children and young people will be reminded of allergy-aware strategies and the child at risk will be kept safe, ensuring that hand washing and wiping of tables occurs.

Children and young people with food allergies will not be isolated from their peers and friends.

OUR STAFF COMMUNITY

Leadership Team

Principal



Hello everyone, my name is Cassie Manton and I am the principal of Mount Barker South Primary School. I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year. I am so delighted that you are part of our outstanding learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

Over the past 11 years, I have worked as a classroom teacher, senior leader and acting principal at Mount Barker South. I absolutely love this school and am thrilled to be working alongside our staff, students and families in order to continue our growth of student learning and wellbeing outcomes.

I live in the local community so will no doubt see you out and about! I look forward to continue building strong working relationships with you all.

Senior Leader of Inclusion

Hello, my name is Emma Castleton and I am the senior leader for inclusion.

I am a passionate advocate for the inclusion of all students especially those with a disability. My role includes supporting all staff to differentiate the curriculum so that all our students can engage in their learning in a way that is meaningful to them; I assist our staff with using visual prompts and timetables and with their own continued learning. I provide sensory tools for classes or individual students including flexible seating and I liaise with external service providers such as speech therapists or occupational therapists on behalf of our students and their parents. I attend community meetings each term to discuss our local environment and how it can both help and hinder those with a disability with a view to making positive changes to Mount Barker and the surrounding area.



I look forward to a fantastic 2020 continuing building positive relationships with all our established families and welcoming all our new families.



Hello, my name is Theodore Castleton (a.k.a. Teddy) and I am a 4 year old Cavoodle (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel x Poodle). I love working with children because they are always happy to see me and they take me for long walks when they are feeling sad or worried and they tell me all their problems because I am very good at listening. I only work on Wednesdays but I am hoping to come in more days soon because I am so popular I don't always get to all the children in one day.

I run the tier 2 intervention program on Wednesday by letting the children 'train' me. This involves me eating lots of treats and having lots of pats and cuddles.

Wellbeing Coordinator

Hello Everyone,

My name is Todd Manton and I am the wellbeing co-ordinator for Mount Barker South. My role is taking a whole school approach to health and wellbeing within the school community and work in collaboration with students and parents, school staff including principals, teachers, support staff, specialist staff, student support services officers and with broader community agencies. My goal is to enhance the capacity of our school to develop a positive school culture and to support all students to engage socially and academically to maximise outcomes for all.

I have been fortunate to be working at the south for 10 years in several roles. I began by teaching in junior primary from R-2 and since then have worked in a variety of roles. I worked as a part time counsellor and part time specialist subject provider. I was lucky enough to teach music, social skills and Spanish to all students.

Some of the ways and systems I'll work with your students this year is to facilitate programs such as Skills & Strategies Building where I will provide a weekly session for small groups of students to focus on skills such as self-regulation, resilience training and conflict resolution. I will also work 1:1 with identified students to develop a wellbeing profile to build capacity in individuals. I will work with teachers and parents to develop behaviour support plans and structures to maximise classroom and yard engagement. I will continue to develop and implement Positive Behaviour Support to create positive learning environments and outcomes for our community.

I look forward this year to continue to develop relationships with the Mount Barker South School community and play my part in making the school a supportive, inclusive and engaging environment for us all.



ADMINISTRATION TEAM



Michael Hawkey
ICT



Ursula Chapman
Front Office



Steve Wallis
Groundsperson



Jane Jenkins
Finance Officer and Early Years
Classroom SSO



Lauren Nolan
Front Office, Events
Coordinator and Classroom
SSO in Middle Primary and
Senior Learning



Tasma Rudeforth
Aboriginal Community
Education Officer (ACEO)

SPECIALIST TEACHING TEAM



Matt Whitford
P.E./Health Teacher across R-7



Karen Hill
Information Based Learning
across Early Years and Lower
Primary (Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday)



Kirsten Mooney
Australian Sign Language
(AUSLAN) Teacher across R-7
(Monday and Tuesday)



Cate Litchfield
Science, Technology,
Engineering, Art and Maths
(STE(A)M) Teacher across R-7



Alan Whelan
Aboriginal Education Teacher
(AET)

SENIOR LEARNING TEAM



Chantel Nunn
Year 6/7,
Senior Learning Teacher



Kate Nolan
Year 6/7,
Senior Learning Teacher



Jenna Tolley
Senior Learning Classroom SSO

MIDDLE PRIMARY TEAM



Ra Te Whare
Year 4/5,
Middle Primary Teacher



Troy Welfare
Year 4/5,
Middle Primary Teacher



Alexis Mardell
Year 4/5,
Middle Primary Teacher



Helena Stoll
Middle Primary Classroom SSO



Tess De Temmerman
Middle Primary Classroom SSO



Jessica Kneebone
3-7 Special Options,
Primary Teacher

LOWER PRIMARY TEAM



Stephanie Caire
Year 2/3,
Lower Primary Teacher



Wendy Branson
Year 2/3,
Lower Primary Teacher



Samantha Jeffery
Year 2/3,
Lower Primary Teacher



Coralie Mumford
Lower Primary Classroom SSO



Amy Dudfield
Lower Primary Classroom and
Middle Primary Classroom SSO

EARLY YEARS TEAM



Maddie Cotterell
Reception Teacher,
Early Years Teacher



Jenna Schipper
Year 1, Early Years Teacher



Zuzana Davies
Early Years Classroom SSO



Jess Blehm
Reception Teacher,
Early Years Teacher



Tamara Biddle
Year 1, Early Years Teacher
(Monday and Tuesday)



Alana Weir
Early Years Classroom SSO



Jessica Leal Moran
R-2 Special Options,
Early Years Teacher
(Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday)



Sarah Taylor
Year 1, Early Years Teacher
(Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday)



Kylie McLeod
Early Years Classroom SSO



Aleah Sexton
R-2 Special Options,
Early Years Teacher (Tuesday)



Hayley Allen
Early Years Classroom SSO



Logan Dickinson
Early Years Classroom SSO

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parents are encouraged to volunteer their time at school. You can assist students learning by undertaking reading, sight words, flash cards, quick maths, gardening, grounds maintenance, cutting up fruit for platters, attendance on excursions/camps and much more.

To do this you require:

- **A valid DCSI or WWCC clearance**
- **RAN training (Reporting abuse and neglect training)**

DCSI or WWCC CLEARANCE

Mount Barker South Primary School will require ALL volunteers (including parents, grandparents, any family members) to obtain a Working With Children Check. No volunteers are able to be onsite volunteering without a current DHS/DCSI or Working With Children Check (WWCC) clearance.

Do people who already have a check need a new one? Under the new law, people who have a current, valid DHS/DCSI child-related employment screening can keep using it until it expires. Then they will need to get a WWCC. They can apply for a WWCC up to six months before their child-related employment screening expires.

How does someone get a WWCC? Apply online at www.screening.sa.gov.au

How long is a WWCC valid? A WWCC is valid for five years (increase from previously three years).

RAN TRAINING

Current child protection legislation requires a Mandatory Reporting Abuse and Neglect (RAN) training and an Induction. This is an online training module.

What you need before you start

- A current individual email address. A computer or mobile with an internet connection.

Register for a plink volunteer account

- Go to the website: <https://www.plink.sa.edu.au/pages/signup.jsf>
- Fill in your details:
 - in the field "Select Account type" select **Volunteer**
 - enter your email address (this will be your plink username), choose a password, and type in your name
- Select "I accept the terms of use and code of ethics"
- Select "Create Account"

Start the training

- Select the course "Responding to Abuse and Neglect-Education and Care online induction session for volunteers"
- Select "Register"
- Select "Register" again
- Select "Open Module" when you're ready to start

Please email RAN certificate & DCSI or WWCC clearance to the school dl.1539.info@schools.sa.edu.au