Dear Families,

The past couple of weeks have been filled with class camps, whole school events and some great learning happening in classrooms. I have had the opportunity to visit 3 classes for lesson observations so far this term and have been extremely pleased with the quality of learning in classrooms, particularly during explicit Reading lessons. I am looking forward to my lesson observations throughout the remainder of the term.

**Attendance**

As you are aware, this year we are striving to meet an overall attendance rate of 93%. Each class also has an opportunity to win the *Attendance Trophy* and earn a 20 minute special activity with their teacher. Our winners for weeks 7 and 8 are as follows. Congratulations to these classes on amazing attendance percentages!

- **Week 7**  Room 14  98.5%
- **Week 8**  Room 13  98.5%

Our SRC students in Rooms 16, 15, 9 and 8 are taking on the role of Attendance Monitors this year on a rostered basis. These students will be responsible for handing out the *Attendance Trophy* on odd weeks, as well as updating our school attendance display. This display is located at the main entrance to the school. Each week is shows the winning class with the highest attendance percentage, as well as our overall school percentage for the year.

I am pleased to report that our school percentage so far this year is meeting our target of 93%. Keep up the good work everyone!

**Harmony Day**

On Friday, 20th March we will be celebrating Harmony Day. Students are encouraged to wear orange on this day!

**Student Data**

Teachers have been busy in classes collecting data on their students in order to best plan and cater for their needs. One of the areas we have completed our start of year data collection for is sight word recognition.

Our end of year benchmarks for sight words are as follows:

- **Reception**  96 words
- **Year 1**  216 words
- **Year 2**  440 words

Students work on completing one set of words at a time until they can read these words automatically. By reading these words quickly it helps students to read texts more successfully and fluently.

Please help your child by practising their sight words with them as often as possible. This includes completing homework, as well as looking for these words in other texts around the home and the community. For example, reading sight words on signs, in magazines, on DVD covers, etc.

**Pupil Free Day**

Please remember that Thursday, 26th March is a pupil free day, as teachers are engaged in a range of training and development sessions on Numeracy. The training has been booked for this day as it is a Whyalla wide training in which schools are accessing a range of presenters who are travelling to Whyalla for the day. Unfortunately our OSHC is not able to operate on this day. School will resume as normal on Friday, 27th March.

Sincerely,

Tracey Ward
### Calendar Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20th</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23rd—</td>
<td>Room 2’s Sleepover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 24th—</td>
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<td>Wed 25th</td>
<td>Room 14’s Camp</td>
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<td>Wed 25th</td>
<td>Governing Council 7:00pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 26th</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th</td>
<td>Choir Rehearsal 9:30am—1:00pm</td>
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<td>Mon 30th</td>
<td>Assembly—Room 8</td>
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<td>Tues 31st</td>
<td>Easter Olympics</td>
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### March

#### Week 9 Monitors
Cody Risborg, Alec Smith, Tynan Ezzy

#### Week 10 Monitors
Tiarna Ezzy, Natasha Steart, Kiarra Medwin

#### Week 11 Monitors
Zane Sparrow, Halle DeValle Beaty, Nathan Tavra

Morning times: 8:30am—8:50am
Afternoon times: 3:10pm—3:25pm

A teacher will be on duty from 8:30am in the mornings and until 3:25pm in the afternoons. If your child is going to be away on a day that they are rostered on to do Road Crossing, please phone the school.

### April

#### Pink Stumps Day
Young Leaders raised money and awareness for the Pink Stumps Day last week. Students were able to purchase Pink merchandise and give a gold coin donation to wear pink on Thursday.

Young Leaders also ran a very successful “Paint it Pink” nail varnish salon to raise more money.

We still have 6 caps @ $20 each and some Pink sunglasses for sale.

#### Special Award
This week a special award was presented to Ellouise Grillett. This was in recognition of her fantastic help in the library during lunch times. Ellouise has learnt how to put books back in their correct places on the shelves and has been doing an amazing job helping with this. Well done Ellouise!
EASTER RAFFLE

Thank you for all those who have donated to our Easter raffle. It's still not too late to donate. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 30th March at assembly. All raffle tickets need to be returned by Wednesday 25th March.

SA Football Academy is coming to Whyalla
For boys and girls aged 8 to 16.
Clinics are focused on possession football, playing out from the back, ball mastery skills and game conditioning for the new season. All participants booking on line will receive an academy top at no charge.
For further information call Nino on: 0401025319
E: Nino@safootballacademy.com.au
Bookings: www.safootballacademy.com.au

Book Work Awards
Annabell Baverstock, Oscar Pyman, Taitem Percy, Caitlin Thomas, Tayla Kogas, Alicia Borrick, Kristina Lowe, Ben Spigiel, Nate McDougall, Darcy Mrgan, Jasmin Kirkwood, Kayla Watt, Chloe MacDonald

Class Awards
Ryan Datson, Nicholas Gaughan, Wez Lines, Brody Stuart, Nathan Tavra, Brianna Bradtberg, Cody Risborg, Brett Roesler, Ava Bennett, Rahni Hughes, Alex Watson, Liam Franks, Joshua Rawlings, Nate McDougall, Chloe Gynell, Shah Hughes, Celeste Fragomeni, Railey Reedy, Logan Clarke
Students from Year 6 travelled to Adelaide on March 2nd to attend the Halogen Foundation National Young Leaders Conference on Tuesday 3rd March. Students were asked to submit a written application addressing their leadership skills and future goals before being chosen to participate. On Monday, students travelled to Glenelg for lunch on the lawns before catching a tram up to the city. Our group walked through the Rundle Mall, watching some Fringe Festival performers and buskers, visiting Smiggles and Dymocks, before visiting the South Australian Museum. On arrival back in Glenelg, students walked along Jetty Road, had an ice cream at Cool Rocks and headed, by bus, to the Adelaide Shores Caravan Park. After unpacking, the group swam in the pool, played on the bouncing pillow and in the water park, before having tea.

We travelled to Adelaide on Tuesday morning and went to the Convention Centre to attend the Young Leaders event. Megan Dredge, the compere welcomed 1300 students from across the state to start the day. The theme was “Get Started”. The first speaker was Mike Martin, Executive Director of the Halogen Foundation. He spoke about science, DNA and stem cells and told the audience that, “Leaders influence the size and shape of everything that happens.” Get started! Andrea Boyd, Flight Controller at the International Space Station, shared her life story and told students, “you can make things happen.” Get started! Rachael Leahcar shared her journey, sang for the audience and said, “the dream starts with you.” Get started! Matt Cowdrey OAM, Paralympian, talked of his efforts in the pool and in life. “Everybody is different, set your goals.” Get Started! Victoria Cox was the final speaker. She is a doctor, volunteer, athlete and finalist in the Young Australian of the Year 2015. She said, “Try new things and see how good you can be.” Get started! The Young Leaders were wonderful ambassadors for themselves, their families and our school. It was a great privilege to accompany such an amazing group of young people who are keen to “Get Started”.

In week 7 Room 7 went to Wallaroo for their class camp. While in Wallaroo they participated in a range of activities. Some of the activities included a visit to the Moonta Mines Museum, the heritage train ride and a walk around part of Wallaroo.

We would like to thank Kelvern Borrick, Carolyn Foote, Kimberly Allen and Joanne Jones for their support during camp.