



Newsletter

Ridgehaven Primary School

Term 3 - Week 1

Thursday July 25 2019

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Principal: Joe Blefari
Senior Leader: Martin Woodcock
Senior Leader: Sharon Foweraker
Governing Council Chairperson: Mel Leaver

From The Leadership Team

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Dates To Remember

Uniform Shop
Monday 5 August

Pupil Free Day
Friday 30 August

From Leadership Team

Dear families,

Welcome back for the start of term 3. I hope children enjoyed their break from school life and have returned refreshed and rejuvenated for an exciting and busy term ahead.

Staff news

I'm pleased to share the news that Sharon Foweraker has won the position of Senior Leader (Wellbeing for Innovative Learning Environments) at Ridgehaven Primary School for the next three years from 2020 onwards. This is the position that Sharon currently holds. This is a great outcome for our school community and will provide Sharon with the opportunity to build upon the work she has been involved in throughout this year. I invite you to join me congratulating Sharon on this well-deserved appointment.

We welcome back Glen Hughes from his 12 month teacher exchange experience in Canada. I know Glen is glad to be home and back at Ridgehaven and from speaking to children in his class, I know they are also happy to have him back.

We also welcome back Paul Day as our grounds person.

We wish Miss Olivia Burrow all the best as she teaches room 2 whilst Ms Ganzis is on study leave this term. We hope she enjoys her time in our school community.

Helping keep children safe through new screening laws

Stronger, more effective and transparent screening laws for people working or volunteering with children have been introduced in South Australia. The new screening laws were recommended as part of federal and South Australian royal commissions, to help keep children safe in our communities. The new laws mean that from 1 July 2019 everyone working or volunteering with children must have a valid child-related check.

Our School Values:

Caring

Honesty

Excellence

Respect

Responsibility

The Program Achieve Keys To Success:

Confidence

Persistence

Getting Along

Organisation

Resilience

From Leadership Team continued

Helping keep children safe through new screening laws continued

Also changing from 1 July 2019 is the state's current system for child-related employment screenings, which will be replaced with a **working with children check (WWCC)**. This new check is coming in to better protect your children and make sure that people working or volunteering with children are suitable. It does this through a monitored and more robust assessment of a person's eligibility to work or volunteer with children. Because the check is monitored, immediate action can be taken if a person is charged with a concerning offence. The new check covers off on a person's national criminal history including all spent convictions, pending and non-conviction charges, and other disciplinary and child protection information.

A WWCC is valid for five years and is portable across roles and organisations throughout South Australia.

Current, valid child-related employment screening checks done by DHS/DCSI will be recognised as a WWCC until they expire. There is also a 12 month transition period for anyone with a National Police Certificate assessed by their organisation, with the certificate valid till 1 July 2020.

For most people, this means they don't need to do anything to be ready for the new law starting on 1 July 2019.

For more information about the new check visit the [DHS website](#).

Parent contact with their child during a school/preschool day

The Department for Education has a number of policies, procedures and recommendations that are shared with Government schools across South Australia. Below is information related to parent contact with their child during a school or preschool day.

Sometimes parents/guardians try to use a school/preschool for personal contact with their child during school hours. For example, phoning the school and asking to speak to their child, or visiting the school during lunch. Below is an update of the Department's position in relation to this matter:

Parents should not use schools or preschools for personal contact with their child

It's not appropriate for a parent to call a school or preschool to speak to their child. It's also not appropriate for a parent to visit a school or preschool to spend time with their child during school hours.

Situations where personal contact is okay

There are some situations where parents phoning or visiting the school or preschool to contact their child is okay. Valid reasons for this include:

- passing on information in an emergency
- collecting a child for an appointment
- attending special events
- educational meetings
- assembly, sports day and similar school or preschool events
- volunteering or working at the school or preschool.

Aside from these reasons, parents must not be permitted to disrupt their child's learning. Contact should only occur subject to any applicable Family Court orders or intervention orders.

Providing parents with a place to make personal contact with their child is not the school or preschool's purpose. Schools and preschools have a duty of care for students and must remain child-focused at all time. This means maintaining a learning environment free from pressure or interference from private family matters. Personal contact with parents can disrupt this environment, interfere with learning, and cause distress.

From Leadership Team continued

2019 National School Board's week

Term 3, week 1 is National School Board's week. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Governing Council and other parents and adults who volunteer their time to support our school community. We are very fortunate to have such a large and committed group of people working in the best interests of our young people.

Nature Play

The construction of our nature play is certainly progressing well. Anticipation and excitement levels are growing as children can see the different sections taking place. The nature play is scheduled to be completed later this term.



I hope you have a positive end to the week.

Thanks,

Joe Blefari

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop, which is run by the office staff, will be open on the following dates in Term 3 between 2.30-3.30

Monday August 5
Monday August 19
Tuesday September 3
Monday September 16

2019 Pupil Free Days

Term 3 - Friday 30 August
Term 4 - Friday 22 November

2019 School Closure Day
Monday 2 September

EARLY YEARS END OF TERM PARTY



COMMUNITY NEWS

THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL PLAYERS PRESENTS...



A Bollywood adaptation of
William Shakespeare's
'A Midsummer
Night's Dream'

*Magic,
moonlight,
exotic location.
What could go
wrong...?*

scan me to
purchase tickets



of the dream

Golden Grove Arts Centre Theatre
The Golden Way, Golden Grove

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THEHEIGHTS.SA.EDU.AU

Online ticket sales end Friday 9th August. Last minute tickets available from school until Thursday 15th August.

Friday 16th August @ 7.00pm
Saturday 17th August @ 2.00pm & 7.00pm
Sunday 18th August @ 2.00pm
(doors open 30 minutes prior)

Adults: \$10; Children* (5-17) and Concession; \$5,
Family (2 children, 2 adults): \$25



Proud Sponsor:



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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LIVING ARTISTS' FESTIVAL

SALA

Annual Joint
Student and Staff
Art Exhibition

Lotus in the Mud
by Talia Chuyao Liu

at

The Heights School

Brunel Drive,
Modbury Heights

Opening Night:
Monday 19th August
5.00pm - 7.00pm

Opened by special guest,
local artist Alana Preece

Refreshments served upon arrival

FREE EVENT



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about SALA



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about Alana Preece