



# Swan Reach Area School Newsletter



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education  
and Child Development

TERM 1

WEEK 1

31st JANUARY 2018

# 2018 School Captains



**Kylesha, Anika, Simone**  
**House Captains**

**Murray Eagles**      **Mallee Kangaroos**



**Sally, Aiden, Anika, Simone**



**Michael, Tayla, Madison, Dylan**



**SWAN REACH AREA SCHOOL**

*Principal: John Robertson*

**SWAN REACH & AREA KINDERGARTEN**

*Director: Caitlin Waechter*



INTEGRITY - CARE - RESPECT - SUCCESS - PARTICIPATION

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - John Robertson

Hello Swan Reach,

During my break, I was blessed to meet with a nurse who took care of me when I first arrived in Australia as a frightened orphan. By chance I found her address and telephone number in her letter that my adoptive parents kept from 40 years ago. What a surprise for both of us when she answered the phone! I was honoured to share with her my development from the scared child to a more confident man. The fact that she fondly remembered so much detail about me was amazing to hear.

As educators, SRAS staff genuinely care about the whole child in a similar manner to the nurse. As adults we can easily reflect on the educators who were good to us and for us. It is a privilege to give back to our communities and we are confident that our care will assist our students to achieve and be successful in their future endeavours. Helping to make positive differences is intrinsically rewarding. Here's to a terrific year for all at SRAS.

*"Knowing we matter, matters a lot. Understanding we are important, is important. Realising we make a difference makes all the difference."*

## **WELCOME**

We warmly welcome a number of new students and their families:

- Corey, Charlee and Ahna enter Reception.
- Savannah, Luke and Mason join the 6/7 class
- Harley and Whyatte join the 8/9 class

We also welcome Ms Amy Farquharson who is teaching in the 6/7 class on Tuesdays and in the 2-5 class from Wednesday to Friday.



## **COMMUNICATION**

Term 1 is traditionally busy with swimming, athletics, new timetables and routines. The need for on-going and positive two-way communication, between school and home and visa versa, will enable the best positive start for our students, parents, carers and staff.

Please keep in contact with staff and share information that may affect your child's education. There are a number of ways to communicate with teachers—phone, texts, email, diaries, meetings and communication folders are some effective means. Taking 5 mins to check diaries and communication folders is a quick way to keep in touch - even with older students! We are all looking forward to working together this year.

Circumstances such as address, telephone numbers and students' needs often change over the holidays. If so, **please update details** with our office staff.

## **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

Our outdoor learning area project, next to the music room, has finally begun. It's been over 3 years in the planning and quoting phase so it's great to see real progress. Our Doorways-to-Construction team will finish it—hopefully by the end of term 1.

Our library office space has been updated and provides a modern touch as well as keeping the open and friendly customer service counter.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT CONTINUED

### SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Congratulations to Simone and Anika on their appointment as School Captains for 2016. Staff also appointed Kylesha as proxy captain. They have agreed to adhere to the school values and be role models.

### PARENT VISITORS TO SITE

It is important for parents to feel comfortable on site as we work together for our students. However it is important that all are aware of the restrictions of free movement around the school. This does not relate to parents who are simply dropping off or picking up their children at the beginning or end of the school day. Parents who wish/need to visit their child(ren) during the learning day or meet with staff without prior organisation must check in at the Front Office first. DECD site safety policy mandates that we know who is on site, at all times during the day, in case of an emergency.

### COMPUTER ALLOCATIONS

SRAS is fortunate to be able to provide 1:1 computer use for each student. Each student will be allocated a computer to use and be responsible for. As part of this scheme they will each sign a computer use agreement; please go through the agreement with your students to help them understand their responsibilities. While this need is becoming more a necessity for 21st Century learning, it is a privilege and not a right. A reminder to all parents and students to keep in mind Cyber Safety and the message to be **respectful and responsible users**.



### BUSHFIRE PROCEDURES ON CATASTROPHIC DAYS

On days where a Catastrophic Fire Danger rating is forecast:

- all school bus routes travelling through any affected Fire Ban District(s) will be cancelled
- School will still be open and lessons will run as normal
- If the Fire Ban rating changes to 'Catastrophic' during the day, school buses will operate as normal, unless advised otherwise by authorised Emergency Services personnel.

If a bushfire is reported in the area during the day:

- affected bus runs will not to leave the school until the roads are declared safe by emergency services authorities
- Parents will be notified and students will be supervised at school, until buses can run, or until parents are able to collect their children.

A DECD generic brochure for sites in '**low risk**' bushfire areas, like SRAS, has been included in this week 1 newsletter. It provides an overview of our response to keep your child(ren) safe if needed.



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT CONTINUED

### VOLUNTEERS

Our WeMatter motto for building positive school communities is, '**Every Face Has a Place.**' Your time, presence and help is certainly encouraged. There is a new DECD Volunteers Policy that SRAS needs to implement. It makes **ongoing volunteer positions** more formal and protects volunteers and sites from possible negative experiences. Any community members interested in volunteering at the school can obtain more detailed information at the DECD website, [www.decd.sa.gov.au/volunteer](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/volunteer), or pick up a brochure from our front office.

SRAS staff will meet and identify areas where volunteers will be of most benefit to our students' needs. Once this is done, we'll inform the community and those interested can make a time to meet with the Principal, who is responsible for ALL volunteers within our site.

**The 2-5 and 6/7 classes are seeking parents and carers who can assist with swimming practise supervision during school hours, over the next 2 weeks, as we prepare for our swimming carnival. Please contact Mrs Bolt, Ms Farquharson or Mrs Gosse if interested.** Being a on-off activity, there is no need for formal processes.



### GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) AGM

You are invited to our GC AGM on **Mon 19th Feb at 7:00pm Swan Reach Hotel.** We'll be meeting for **tea at 6:00pm.** Prior to the meal will be a **Finance Committee meeting at the school at 5:00pm.**

There are positions needing to be filled. Being on GC is an important and great way to support your child and our school, especially as we go through amalgamation. **The Kindy and SRAS** will have separate AGMs and elect office bearers and councillors to their sites. However, SRAS has 2 community member positions vacant. It would be ideal for Kindy Councillors, Parents or Carers, to nominate for these to assist the amalgamation process. In 2019 we'll be one Governing Council and will need a new constitution.

Nomination forms for SRAS GC will go out in the next newsletter.



## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Troy Cowland

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable summer. I have certainly heard a lot of exciting stories over the last couple of days. This year I am excited to begin a new role as Assistant Principal. This will include the coordination of SACE, VET, Open Access, behavior management, daily organisation and Sports Coordinator.

For our students completing Year 12 here is a 5 step approach to surviving year 12:

1. Balance – find a balance between your schooling and other commitments.
2. **Don't compare yourself to others** – be the best you that you can be.
3. Find your own way to study – everyone is different.
4. Deadlines – meet deadlines throughout the year as it prepares you for the time constraints of exams and employment.
5. **Don't stress too much** – a little is normal.

It is important for senior students to establish good study habits early in the year to avoid their work load snowballing into an unmanageable amount later in the year. I look forward to keeping the communication lines open.

Troy Cowland

Assistant Principal

# Host Families Needed

## Host Families for 2018

As we do every year, we are looking for families who are interested in hosting a Japanese student at the beginning of term 3.

If you are interested or would like to know more about the exchange, please indicate on the slip below.

The school buddies will be selected from Year 7 to Year 10 students who are interested and have demonstrated our school values.

---

[Host Family expression of interest form.](#)

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

We would like to know more about being a host family.

We are interested in hosting a Japanese student in 2018.

# Japan Trip 2018

This year we are organising our exchange trip to Japan. This trip will be held at the end of term 3. I will guide and supervise our students and students from Mannum. I am planning to visit Japan from week 10 of term 3 and be back to Australia by the middle weekend of school holidays in October. The estimated cost of this trip is approximately \$2500 for the return airfares, taxes and accomodation BUT DOES NOT include spending money. This year we will have approximately 12-13 days away. This will include staying with a Japanese host family, which could be the family of a student you host in Australia if you choose to do so. We will also be visiting Hineno High School, Universal Studios Japan and a short trip to Hiroshima, famous as the first nuclear bombed city and one of the world heritage sites.

If you are interested in the possibility of a return trip, please complete the attached registration of interest and return to me via the front office by Friday Week 5 Term 1(2/03/2018). This is not a binding contract! I will be having an information session on Thursday week 2 (8/2 at 5:30 in the Japanese room)

The students eligible for this trip will be in Year 7 and above. Holding this trip is subject to the number of participating students (we need at least 5 students), so it is a good idea to talk to your family to see if it is possible. This is a great opportunity for our students to experience a different culture with complete support from staff your child(ren) know.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yuka Endersby  
Japanese teacher

---

# Japan Trip 2018

I am considering sending my child \_\_\_\_\_ (full name)  
on the return homestay trip to Japan from the middle of Week 10 Term 3 to the  
middle of the October school holidays 2014.

I understand this is only an expression of interest.

Parent full name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# SRAS School Newsletter

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email please provide your address below or email Sam.Poole708@schools.sa.edu.au using newsletter in the subject line.

I would like to receive the school newsletter via email

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

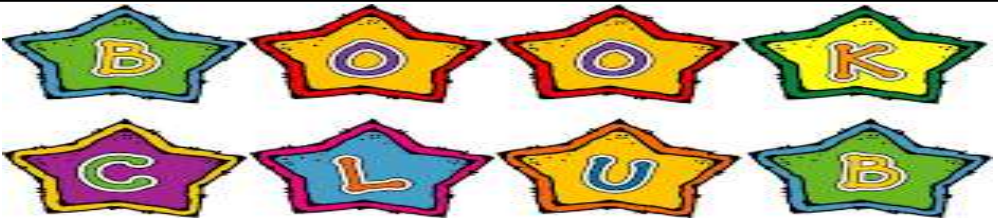
If you receive a hard copy and email and no longer require a hard copy, please let me know to help reduce our printing costs.

## Holidays and Absences

Parents wanting to take their child/ren on a family holiday for 1 week or more, need to apply for an exemption. Please see the front office staff for forms required. For a day's absence, please notify the school via a diary note, phone call or txt message.

Thank you for your cooperation.

8570 2053 or 0439 833 424



## Scholastic Book Club

Issue 1 Book Club catalogues will go out this week to students in K to 7 classes. Please keep an eye out for them and information on how to order.

Orders are due back by 19th February 2018.

Books are great gifts and the school receives awards from the purchases you make!

# Welcome to new opportunities

## New look library



## New faces



## New look Japanese room



## New outdoor learning area





The Loxton-Mardi Gras Committee  
invites you to its fundraiser...

# Strawberry Fete and more

A night of nostalgic and old-fashioned fun in an unique location  
2018 Mardi Gras theme 'when you were young'

**Saturday, February 10, 2018**  
from 6pm at the Alawoona Hall

Catering by Baker, Muller, Woodhead, Pizzas  
Adults \$25  
17-18 year olds \$15  
Under 7 free!

Dessert by Strawberries Galore, tea and coffee available, BYO drinks.

More information visit the Facebook page of the Loxton-Mardi Gras Committee  
0818 435840 or visit our website 0818 435840

**MARDI GRAS**  
LOXTON

**61st annual festival**  
Friday, February 23, until Sunday, February 25, 2018

*'When you were young'*

### Friday

5:30pm Old fashioned games and activities prior to film  
6:30pm Barbecue dinner and popcorn available  
7pm Screening of the family-friendly film Toy Story (G)



### Saturday

9am Musical entertainment, craft stalls and fun for children  
10-12pm Parade opening with civic address  
11am Parade begins from Deasch Street and up and down East Terrace  
12:00pm Lunch available from local areas near Rotunda  
From 1pm Crowning of the 2018 Loxton Mardi Gras Ambassadors at the Rotunda  
Announcement of float winners and show window competition winners  
From 5pm Nippy's Loxton Gift at the Loxton Oval. Free entry.

### Sunday

8:30am Loxton Mardi Gras Appreciation  
Service, Honoring Nurse Gertrude  
Armstrong and 2018 Loxton Mardi  
Gras Bag Owners

### Contact us

PO Box 506, Loxton SA 51331  
Peter Maguire - 0418 848 846  
loxtonmardi@bigpond.com  
Facebook: @loxtonmardi



# THE TOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN.



Walt Disney Pictures  
presents

# TOY STORY

PIKAR

Family Friendly Film  
Rotunda, East Tce, Loxton.  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. 5:30 pm Games, BBQ and then  
7:00pm - Toy Story. Hosted by Scouts SA.



# Lamington Drive Fund Raiser

Chocolate or Raspberry Lamington 6 packs  
**\$10 per pack**



Orders to Sonya Friebele or Dee Waechter  
C/O Nildotte Post Office, SA 5238 Phone 08 85701066 or 0429 701099

Place your order by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Please include your payment with your order.

**Delivery on Monday afternoon, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

*Time and place to be confirmed*

Proceeds raised will go towards the maintenance  
& upkeep of the Nildotte Church & Cemetery

Sunrise  
**BAKERY**



## Expression of Interest

If there was the opportunity for participation in a Junior netball training session at Swan Reach and/or Blanchetown on a Wednesday Night or Saturdays would you be interested?

BSR are part of the Riverland Independence Netball Association and play from 1pm on Saturdays all around the Riverland. E.g. Lyrup, Paringa etc.

Senior sides train at 7pm on Wednesdays at Blanchetown and Swan Reach alternately. We are looking for senior players to join our senior sides and depending on numbers/commitment there could be a push for trainings and potentially scratch matches, before senior trainings and games on a Wednesday or Saturday for juniors.

---

## COACH WANTED

BSR are seeking an enthusiastic B grade Netball coach for season 2018. Due to the range in age and netball experience of our players, potential coaches must be committed to training nights & Saturday games, require a sound knowledge of Netball rules, game tactics & training drills along with good communication skills. The B grade coach will be working with an experienced A grade coach who is willing to collaborate to make season 2018 a success! Please send expression of interest to Elly Marks – 0421330079 - [estalenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:estalenberg@hotmail.com)

If you are considering or want more information, please contact  
Mrs Cowland - 0448947821 - [holly.cowland12@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:holly.cowland12@schools.sa.edu.au)  
OR

Elly Marks – 0421330079 – [estalenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:estalenberg@hotmail.com)

Please complete and return the slip below or email with interest and times.

---

Age-range interest? \_\_\_\_\_

Driving/drop off availability for:

- Saturday games (All around the Riverland)
- Just Home Games on Saturday
  - Swan Reach
  - Blanchetown

Yes No

Yes No

Yes No

Preferred time? \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday Night Trainings

- Swan Reach
- Blanchetown

Yes No

Yes No

Preferred time? \_\_\_\_\_



ChemCert Course to be held in Swan Reach on 20th and 21st February 2018

For more information please phone 8584 5147 or 0448 328 227

A \$50 discount is available to this course ONLY.

**Wanted Wanted Wanted**

Old Christmas and Birthday cards  
If you have any please leave them at the library. Thank you!

# Swan Reach Women's Rest Rooms

Thank you to everyone who coloured or decorated a gift for the SRWRR 'Christmas is all wrapped up' display. The favourite community wrap up vote was equally won by the SA Ambulance - Swan Reach and the Swan Reach Bowling Club



**OUR VISION**  
**Swan Reach Area School**  
develops learners with  
**integrity, resilience, confidence and respect.**



Our students are encouraged to actively pursue **life long learning skills**, enabling them to be **successful thinkers** and **collaborative contributors**, in the communities they are part of - now and in the future.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Term 1 Wk 1 2018	29th Jan 2018 First day term 1	30th Jan	31st Jan <span style="color: orange;">Newsletter</span>	1st Feb	2nd Feb
Wk 2	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th <span style="color: green;">SRAS Swimming Carnival</span>
Wk 3	12th	13th	14th <span style="color: orange;">Newsletter</span>	15th	16th
Wk 4	19th <span style="color: blue;">SRAS Governing Council AGM</span>	20th	21st <span style="color: green;">CMASSA Swimming</span>	22nd	23rd

### Up coming events

12th March : Adelaide Cup Day

16th March : SRAS Sports Days

#### MID MURRAY IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

10.30am - 11.00am

at the Swan Reach Area School/Community Library

3rd Tuesday of each month except December.

FREE Pneumococcal Vaccination is available for infants up to 2 years

Swan Reach Area School P.O. Box 31, Swan Reach, S.A. 5354

Phone: 8570 2053 Fax: 8570 2325

[www.swanrchas.sa.edu.au](http://www.swanrchas.sa.edu.au)

or email: [dl.0423.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0423.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

Swan Reach Community Library: Phone: 8570 2298