Dear Parents/Caregivers

**School Leaders and Student Governance 2015**

My congratulations to our 2015 School Captains, School Leaders and Sports Captains. At Reidy Park we are very serious about collaborative decision making, responding to feedback, focusing on improvement and keeping the momentum for excellent practice at the forefront of all that we do. Listening to and encouraging student voice is an important part of this agenda and thus we take seriously the role of School Leaders and the Student Representative Council (SRC) as representatives of the student body as partners in decision making along with staff and Governing Council.

**Captains**
- Darcy H, Alex J and Sophie A
- Sarah D, Zara V, Alice A, Brielle W and Aaron R

**Student Leaders**
- Eaglehawk (yellow) Tom B, Katie W & Chelsea F
- Lava (red) Alexis L, Annabelle K & Mykaela T
- Lake (blue) Mikaela H, Tori R & Abbey D
- Willow (green) Piper K, Ethan N & Emily E

Very shortly each class will elect their SRC Representatives who will meet with the School Captains and School Leaders to discuss issues of importance to the students. Between these meetings classes will be holding class meetings talk about issues to take forward to SRC. One of our staff members will be taking the staff lead role in supporting our students on these important student governance groups.

**Governing Council**

The Annual General Meeting of the School Governing Council will be held on Wednesday 24th February, beginning at 8:00pm, immediately following Parent Acquaintance Night presentations. There will be brief reports and elections for the 2016 Governing Council. Please come along and support your parent representatives on this important school decision making committee.

Councillors who made up our 2015 Governing Council were:
- Andrew Hunter
- Caroline Hill
- Yunita Manfrin
- Jim Cornolo
- Lorenza Mc Mahon
- Sonya Dyson
- Cathy Lunney
- Duane Gertners
- Kelli Winterfield
- David Burt
- Laura Heesman
- Sally Alexander
- Aaron Warden

In addition John Miles completed his elected tenure as a school councillor at the end of 2015 but will not be nominating as his last child has graduated from our school and is now attending high school. John was also an active member of our school Finance Committee for a number of years. We would like to thank John sincerely for his service to our school.

Although some of these parents will be continuing in 2016 and others will be renominating for re-election there will still be a couple of vacancies for new parents to nominate for election. If you are interested in joining our Governing Council, you may either attend the AGM or nominate in writing by re-turning the reply slip included in the newsletter, or by email to dl.0290_info@schools.sa.edu.au
Parent Acquaintance Night
Just a reminder that on next Wednesday 24th February the Parent Acquaintance Night will be held. Information has previously been sent home regarding the timetable for open classrooms and the times that individual teachers will be presenting to parents. Specialist Teachers will be visiting the classrooms during the evening and will be pleased to talk with you about their curriculum plans for 2016. We hope that you will take this opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and have a look around the school.

Pupil Free Day
Last Friday’s combined Pupil Free Day with Mulga Street Primary was extremely successful. We had the opportunity to work with and learn from Chris Killey, author of Words Their Way, a spelling and grammar teaching resource that reflects the Australian Curriculum in English. Chris was a dynamic and engaging presenter and we have gained with lots of ideas for making the teaching of spelling and grammar more exciting and engaging for our students.

Chris Sheldon
Principal
Lesley Okholm
Deputy Principal

Swimming 2016
Please note that these are LESSON TIMES. Classes will leave school earlier than this.
Week 4 (commencing 22nd February)
9.15 to 10
Rooms 3, 6, 8 and 17
2.15 to 3pm
Rooms 4, 5 and 24 (Children will NOT change at the end of the lesson. See prior note.)
Week 5 (commencing 29th February)
9.15 to 10
Rooms 3 (3’s only), 6, 8 and 23
2.15 to 3pm
Rooms 4, 5 and 25 (Children will NOT change at the end of the lesson. See prior note.)
Week 8 (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday) AND Week 9 (Wednesday/Thursday/Friday)
( commencing 21st March and 29th March)
9.30 to 10.30
Room 1, 2 and 7
9.30 to 10
Room 18
10 to 10.30
Room 20
10.30 to 11
Room 15
11 to 11.30
Room 22
Week 10 Surf Education (commencing 4th April) from 10 - 2.30
Monday/Tuesday Rooms 11, 12 and Year 6 from Room 13
Wednesday/Thursday Room 9, 10 and Year 7s from Room 13

Hello Reidy Park Primary School!
My name is Trudi Shelton and I am thrilled to be filling the position of Pastoral Care Worker at your school. My role will be to support the spiritual, social and emotional wellbeing of the students and to extend that support to the parents also. I will be providing support for a range of day to day matters affecting the school community.
I have recently completed studies in Community Services and had the privilege of being a member of YSAT (Youth Services Action Team) during that time, which had me networking with over 30 youth focused agencies throughout the Limestone Coast.
I am passionate about supporting and promoting the intellectual development and wellbeing of the young people in our community.
I will be fulfilling my duties at Reidy Park Primary School on Mondays and Wednesdays and I am situated in the ‘Huddle’. I look forward to meeting as many parents as possible, so please come and say hello if you get a chance. ‘Learning Together, Caring Together’, Go Reidy!!!!

Coat hangers
If anyone has any spare coat hangers in good condition. Please drop them into the Front Office. We also require skirt or trouser hangers. These are required to organize our costume room.
Andrea Wright

Governing Council Nomination Form
NAME ..................................................... CHILD’S NAME ..................................................... RM NO...
I hereby submit my nomination to be a part of the Reidy Park Primary Governing Council Committee 2016
SIGNED ............................................................
**Rainbow Reading**

**Can you spare an hour a week first thing in the morning to assist us with a fabulous reading program?**

Rainbow Reading is a program designed to improve reading skills in children including fluency and comprehension. A student works with a reader over one week listening to the story and practising reading and comprehension tasks. It is engaging and fun. We are looking for parent volunteers to each work with one student for 15 minutes a week to help them manage this program. Ten volunteers is my goal in order to get this great program up and running. Please phone the front office if you think you would like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week. A short coffee / cake / information will be on offer to train up volunteers. For further information, please call Sue Hutchesson on 87253381 or leave your number with the front office and I will call you back.

**Regards, Sue Hutchesson**

**Medications at School**

There are occasions when school staff are asked to administer medications to students at school. This can be for long term medical conditions such as Asthma or Anaphylaxis as well as short term conditions which may require antibiotics or similar medications. In all circumstances, no matter what the medication, staff cannot administer medications unless the following requirements are met:

- The medication is prescribed by a Doctor and accompanied by a Medication Authority* which has been completed by the student’s doctor, or a short term authority which can be completed by the parent.
- The medication is in its original packaging with a pharmacy label attached (the medication MUST be in the student’s name).
- The medication has not passed its expiry date.

The health and wellbeing of your child is of paramount importance to us and ensuring these few guidelines are met means that we can administer the right dose of the right medication to the right child at the right time, each and every time it is required.

* Copies of Medication Authorities can be collected from the Front Office at any time - it is advisable that you collect one before taking your child to the doctor. This means that if your child does get prescribed medications that are required to be taken during school hours, the doctor can complete the Medication Authority immediately.

**ICAS International Competitions & Assessments for Schools**

Your child is invited to take part in the ICAS in 2016. Please return the permission slip with full entry fee(s) to the Front Office no later than Friday 1st April. The competitions take place every year in schools throughout Australia and South Pacific region. They provide an opportunity for students to measure their own achievement in an external assessment situation, and are a valuable experience. They are however voluntary, not compulsory, and we understand that there are many financial commitments which parents have at the beginning of the school year.

*Lesley Okholm, Deputy Principal*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Tuesday, 17 May 2016</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Wednesday, 31 May, 2016</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Monday, 13 June 2016</td>
<td>17.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Wednesday, 15 June 2016</td>
<td>11.00</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Tuesday, 2 August, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16 August 2016</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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**Learning Assistance Programme**

When you're young, learning can be a delight or a difficulty. Some young people are challenged by their inability to express themselves, or they hide their feelings behind a shield of self doubt. Some have a feeling of isolation, some a sense of being behind the other students, while others are more able than the rest of their peers. These barriers can be very real and children and young people often need extra personal or academic enrichment and support, as well as the opportunity to spend time in a caring atmosphere with someone they can trust.

The Learning Assistance Programme (LAP) provides the safe and well-structured framework for this to happen. Schools are able to harness the untapped resources of their communities - their parents, grandparents, senior students, old scholars and community members. These special mentors work on a one-to-one basis with the same student every week.

**LAP:**
- Is always one-to-one
- Is about relationships
- Builds confidence and self-esteem
- Takes a creative approach to learning
- Promotes parent and community participation in the school

A volunteer is matched carefully with a student to build upon the student's strengths, interests and abilities. Self-esteem and confidence is increased through the provision of personal care, extension, enrichment and learning support. LAP has unlimited potential to make a real difference to school communities.

It is important to note that LAP is **NOT:**
- Parents listening to children read in a classroom setting
- Parents/volunteers supporting a number of students in the classroom setting
- Volunteers being rotated through groups of children, e.g. a volunteer allocated a new student to work with every few weeks
- Volunteers working with groups of children
- Volunteers assisting in school elective and other programmes
- Volunteers working online from their computers at home

If you are able to be a mentor please contact Lesley Okholm on 87253381. We would love to have you!

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**BASKETBALL MOUNT GAMBIER INC.**

We invite you and your children to participate in Basketball, the game for everyone to enjoy at the Icehouse.

Basketball Mount Gambier provides a range of opportunities for your children to develop their ball and sporting skills, from a non-threatening environment up to full game situations. Basketball assists children in a range of other sports due to the following skill sets experienced and developed:-

- Ball skills, Individual and Team skills Basketball Mount Gambier offers:-
  - The Junior Training Programme on Friday nights for beginners, 5-8 year olds.
    One weekly session of one hour, 5.30p.m.-6.30p.m., teaching individual ball skills and playing modified games on low rings, is conducted by experienced coaches.
    This programme runs during school terms. Children may join the programme at any time.
    Cost is $5 Registration Fee and $4 Per Session.