Hello families and friends

Welcome back! It has been great to see students settling quickly back into the routines and expectations of school.

FORMS

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EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW

And speaking of forms, your child will be bringing home a letter explaining the upcoming external school review with a tear off slip if you don’t want your child involved. Involvement of students entails a meeting with the external reviewers to talk about their learning. Only a small number of students will be part of this process. If we don’t get a signed form requesting that your child is not involved, we will assume permission is given. The review is on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd February.

The purpose of the school review is to evaluate what schools are doing and identify areas for further development. This will be a positive process as it affirms the great things we are doing and helps us set directions for the future. All government schools will be externally reviewed every four years. Schools will receive a written report which will be published on the school’s website. We will let you know when it is available for you to read.

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT

Acquaintance Night is tonight and by the number of RSVP’s we have received it looks like we are going to have another very successful night like last year! It’s always lovely to have the chance to chat with parents/caregivers in an informal school event.

ROAD SAFETY

We have had a number of complaints from motorists about students running out on roads without checking for traffic. Luckily motorists have been vigilant so there has not been a serious accident. Several of these incidents have happened on Adelaide Road out the front of the council chambers. Please, please, please stress to your child to be very careful when crossing the road. Younger children should always cross with an older child. We will reinforce this message at school.

Last year we joined the Way2Go Program which focusses on student travel to and from school. As part of this program a study was done on student movement around the school at the start and end of the day which involved counting the number of students crossing roads. We were hoping to have a crossing installed out the front of the school but preliminary reports indicate that this is not feasible given the numbers of students that were counted. The school will continue conversation with the council and the Department of Planning and Transport to see if the crossing on Adelaide Road can be moved. This may not be feasible for a number of reasons. I will keep you informed.

In the meantime, please drive cautiously when you see children. Research shows that children have tunnel vision and may not see you or be able to judge how fast your car is going. We all need to be vigilant to ensure we keep our children safe.

SPLASH DASH

It was great to see so many parents supporting Splash Dash last Friday. Well done to all the teams on a great effort and congratulations to Baseby on their win. The house captains and vice captains must also be congratulated on the excellent job they did organising their teams. These young leaders were fabulous! Days such as Splash Day don’t just happen, they take lots of organising. A BIG thank you must go to Mr Bryan Wilsdon for all his efforts in planning and organising the day. There were many other people (staff, students and families) who made this day a success by their contributions, from scoring, marshalling, setting up and packing away to delivering lunches. I’m not going to list all the helpers but please know that your support and efforts have been noted and are much appreciated.

Interested in helping your children with their learning?

There is a free App called Learning Potential, developed by the Federal Government with more than 160 hints and ideas for parents to help their children with their learning. It’s very popular, with over 110,000 downloads since its launch in August 2015. Additional content and functional improvements will continue this year. It is available for both Android and Apple devices. For more information visit www.learningpotential.gov.au

Have a great year everyone!

Warmest regards

Sue Record

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

WEEK 4:
MONDAY 22nd & TUESDAY 23rd February: External Review.
WEDNESDAY 24th February: CMASSA Swimming at Loxton.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR FRONT OFFICE IS NOT OPEN UNTIL 8:30am.

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**MCC CALENDAR**

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**INFORMATION BULLETIN**
FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

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Have a great year everyone!

Warmest regards

Sue Record
LITTLE THINGS MATTER
Welcome to the 2016 year of learning at Mannum Junior School. I would especially like to welcome the new families who have chosen Mannum to continue the important educating of their children. We not only welcome you to the school but to the community. Please say hello to new parents as it can be hard to settle into a new community if you don’t know anyone.

I would like to welcome new teachers to our wonderful school - Miss Michaela O’Hara Yr 1/2, Ms Chris Bennett also Year 1/2 and Ms Holly Clark Rec/Yr 1. Also Mr John Mills who will be working closely with the community and a small group of students for intensive support. Thank you for making them feel welcome!

The year has begun with a wonderful, calm atmosphere. Children seem relaxed and eager to be here. I am in the yard before and at the end of the school day so please let me know how it is going. Almost all responses thus far have been very positive and we try to sort any small issues as quickly as possible.

It is great to see so many parents in the yard and I thank you for continuing to monitor your language and noise levels whilst waiting for the bell. The little ones in particular are easily distracted if they hear or see you outside. We are very pleased with the way children speak to each other and remind you to model positive language and relationships within the school grounds. We take a firm stance in regard to swearing or disrespectful language and attitude.

If you have a concern to discuss with the teacher, please arrange a time to speak with them after school - not during the bell. The little ones in particular are easily distracted if they hear or see you outside. We are very pleased with the way children speak to each other and remind you to model positive language and relationships within the school grounds. We take a firm stance in regard to swearing or disrespectful language and attitude.

Registration for 2016 Soccer Season
Meet your coach too.

Friday 12/2/2016 - 3pm - 5pm.
Mannum Community College Oval.
Ages 5 +

Come and try:
Tuesday 16/2/2016 - 3pm - 4.30.
Tuesday 23/2/2016 - 3pm - 4.30
Tuesday 1/3/2016 - 3pm - 4.30

Training for season begins:
Tuesday 8/3/2016 - 3pm - 4.30

More information at registration.
Come and join in the fun of Soccer, everyone welcome - everyone plays.
Sports vouchers accepted.

Any enquiries please contact Kym Strauss
kstrauss36.ks@gmail.com.

Acquaintance night - tonight.
Even if you know the school and the teacher - please take this opportunity to come along and introduce your self to your child’s teacher, catch up with other parents and enjoy a sausage sizzle.

There will be a short 30 minute session on supporting early reading aimed particularly at Rec/Year 1 parents in Room 8 at 4.30

Our ‘targeted learning support’ groups will begin in Week Two. Sometimes a child just needs a short intense focus on an area to develop a particular important skill. You will receive a note if your child will be involved and don’t hesitate to contact us if you would like more details.

Please check that your child is wearing black pants and school top as they leave in the morning. It may seem a small thing but the sense of belonging to a group has a very powerful impact. It is a good time to check that their jumper still fits them as some of the mornings are cool and they will need the school windcheater soon.

Please listen to your child read every night - there is nothing that can replace practise, practise, practise. Even children who are able to read independently need to be listened to and asked questions to check they can understand what they have read. The purpose of reading is to understand - so by simply asking a few questions we can encourage children to read for meaning rather than just sounding out words.

Older students still need to be listened to for this reason.

Remember - be involved with your children - they grow up all too fast.

Michele Holloway
Junior School Leader
Tuning in to Teens!

A 6 week workshop for all parents, grandparents and caregivers...

Parenting can often feel like an emotional roller coaster that we are ill equipped to ride, no more so than in the teen years.

Come along to learn strategies and approaches based on the Tuning In to Teens program that might make the ride a little smoother and ultimately support your relationship with your teen.

This workshop will be run by: Martin Gare, Social Worker from The Edge, Better Behaviour Centre and Suzanne Fuzzard, Senior Clinician at headspace Murray Bridge.

When
6 x Wednesdays
beginning 9th March 2016
finishing 10th April 2016
From 1.30pm
Where
Murray Bridge High School
5 Lehnmann Street
Contact
Suzanne Fuzzard 8031 2122
LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY BORROWING

MONDAY: 6/7 Love 6/7 Lombardi
TUESDAY: 4/5 Grieger 4/5 Barnes 1/2 O’Hara
R/1 Clark
WEDNESDAY: R/1 Laredo 1/2 Bennett 2/3 Waters
THURSDAY: 2/3 Zrim Yr 10 Falkland
FRIDAY: 4/5 Rowley Yr 8 Groves Yr 9 Groves
Rec- Yr 5: 3 books
Year 6-10: 5 books
Year 11-12: 10 books
Students in Rec-Year 2 must use a library bag

Jo Dunn
Teacher Librarian

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Jo Dunn
Teacher Librarian

JOY’S CORNER

Welcome back for a brand new year.

The story is told of an elderly carpenter upon retiring, being asked by his boss (and good friend) to build one more house for him as a personal favour. The carpenter agreed but his heart was not in his work and he resorted to shoddy workmanship using inferior tools. When he finished his boss came to inspect the house, handed him the front door key and said, ‘This is your house…my gift to you.’ The carpenter was shocked; if he had known he was building his own house he would have done it all so differently.

It is the same with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, sometimes putting in less than our best. Then with a shock we realize we have to live in the ‘house’ we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it so much differently, but you can’t go back. This year let’s remember that we are the ‘carpenter’, and every day we hammer a nail, place a board or erect a wall. Someone once said, ‘Life is a ‘Do-it yourself project’. Your attitude and choices you make today help build the ‘house’ you live in tomorrow. Build wisely!

Joy Marks
Pastoral Care Worker

FROM THE CANTEEN

Welcome Back. New Term, New Year!

Hope everyone had a restful Holiday Break!

We will be continuing with the same Menu/Price List for this term but will change to a “Winter Menu” for Term 2 & 3.

Thank you to new volunteers who have returned forms to be a part of our canteen roster.

I will send home an information pack in Week 2.

Carol Mobbs, Canteen Manageress (85692971)

VOLUNTEER ROSTER

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