



# Errington Special Education Centre

Part of the Plympton Learning Community



## Newsletter

Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to the 2018 school year. I hope families enjoyed the break. It has been nice to chat with families and hear the holiday stories. We warmly welcome 17 new families to our school community, many of which their child is starting school for the very first time, this is exciting and can be daunting. We wish all our new students a successful Errington school journey.

We welcome new staff to our school, Nuala Pereira-Chantler in P4 and Lee Adams. Nuala has transferred from Whyalla Special School. Lee Adams, taught music in term 3 of last year and returns for this term to provide music to some classes.

Communication between school / home is vital. Over the last 18 months, several teachers have been trialling the seesaw communication app. This has had positive feedback from families and staff. Families have reported an increase in communication between school and home and it has provided them with discussion points with their child. This year all teachers will be implementing this form of teacher - parent communication and in some instances it will replace the diaries. Upon reviewing the different approaches during the trial period, it has been decided that teachers will send a brief summary of the day for all parents to read. At times, teachers will send private notes to families regarding progress, achievements, concerns or questions. Seesaw also enables teachers to upload a photo or video of the class members taking part in various activities or their work. The seesaw app will be placed onto all classroom teacher iPads and communication will be during school hours. As the iPads remain at school, you will be able to let teachers know of concerns, appointments etc. out of school hours and teachers will address these the following school day. This will ensure if the teacher is absent, the relief teacher / SSO will receive the message. The seesaw app is one form of communication and by all means does not replace the times when you may need to ring the class teacher or make a time to meet with them to discuss personal, confidential or more complex issues. A very popular part of the seesaw app is receiving photos or video of the class achieving learning outcomes. For this reason it is important to fill in and return the permission slip accompanied with this newsletter, giving permission for photos. The seesaw app is only visible to the families and staff in your child's class.

Swimming commences this week, 2017 swimming permission forms will be rolled over until week 3. Students must have an updated form sent in prior to week 3 in order to ensure continuity of their weekly swimming lesson.

A reminder that it is the parent / caregivers responsibility to inform the school each day that your child is absent. You can do this by ringing the school and leave a message, stating your child's name, class and reason for their absence or via the school website or a message on the Seesaw app.

We rely heavily on donations from the community to be able to fund all the programmes we offer our students. Andy Delaney has been a teacher at Ashford/Errington for 9 years and has taken on the role of marketing / promotions / fundraising. He is released from his PE teaching duties to do this once per week and has been very successful. Andy has established strong community partnerships with many companies and organisations e.g. in a couple of weeks S1 class will be attending Clipsal, this is all due to Andy's efforts. To our new families, if you have any contacts that may be able to support the school, whether it be cash donations or products, please let Andy know, you can email him via our website or at dl.1415.info@schools.sa.edu.au. At times we ask our families also to support us with donating their time at our fundraisers, our first being a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Mile End on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

We start the year very positively with a cash donation of \$25,000 from Seeley International and \$300 from Local Matters at Grill'd, Marion. These donations will purchase playground equipment.

Looking forward to once again working with you to provide the best quality education and care for your child.

*Kind Regards, Niki Takos*

### School Dates

**Acquaintance Night 20<sup>th</sup> February 6 - 6.45pm followed by the AGM  
Bunnings Fundraiser 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

#### **Term 1 Ends**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### **Term 2 2018 Begins**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### **For the Parents of Errington - FITNESS FOR ALL:**

WHEN: Every Monday starting 5<sup>th</sup> February 9.15 - 10am.

WHERE: In the School Hall with access to the School Gym.

Gold coin donation appreciated.

See you there Maria

### **THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME IS COMING TO THE WESTERN ADELAIDE REGION.**

For information about NDIS and the opportunities it presents, come to the community expo hosted by the South Australian Government.

#### **NDIS COMMUNITY INFORMATION EXPO**

- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018
- The Parks Recreation and Leisure Centre, 46 Cowan Street, Angle Park
- 3.30p to 8.30pm with presentations at 4.00pm and 7.00pm.