From the Principal,

We have started the year very well at Pilgrim School and on the unique place called ‘Campus’. A very warm welcome to all our new families and of course those new students, with particular emphasis on those in Reception. Our Year 7s are all leaders, and they will be looking after those new to school, as they live out their theme of ‘Leadership’. New families will be welcomed by our wonderful ‘Class Liaison Parents’, whom you will get to know soon.

A special welcome to the staff Clare Thistlethwayte, who will be sharing Year 5 with Kerry Heil in 2016. Clare will be teaching every Wednesday & Thursday in the OASIS building.

2016 will be a year of growing and improvement on Campus and at Pilgrim School and I will share more about Campus next week. However, we have already achieved the goal of placing our R-2 classes in the eastern end of the main building. This will improve our teaching and learning across these years and we have appointed Lisa Newbury, as our new Junior Primary-Literacy & Numeracy Coordinator, to help us improve our consistency, as students move through the vital early years at school.

Term 2 will see the start of a physical upgrade of our Administration area, which is focussed on better supervision and facilities for children who are unwell, improved meeting areas and working spaces. The computing facilities will be upgraded this year, as students and staff will soon notice. The teaching staff have been particularly focussed on the revised Australian Curriculum, which we are pleased is now finalised. Our main goal over the next few years is to introduce this with a biblical perspective, at each year level. The main change will be the new Humanities and Social Sciences area-called HASS. This has been a key part of last week, very well led by Julie Wicks, Dave Jenkin and Andrew Harris.

To start the year well as parents, please aim to attend two important times, so that you can be engaged with your child’s school. The Christian education we provide will be shared next Monday evening (February 8th) for the Reception – Year 3s and next Wednesday evening (February 10th) for the Years 4-7s. The specialist staff and leadership will also be sharing very briefly between sessions (please see our note for details). Our second big event, held on Saturday, February 13th at 5pm, is our annual Commencement Service at Seeds Church. Please come along and enjoy the fellowship afterwards as well, with food and fun.

In this last paragraph, I would like to share, that having spent a lot of time with pre-school and younger grandchildren over the holidays, with movies, DVDs, BBL (cricket), birthdays, the beach & pool, I am so aware there are so many messages aimed at young children. So, as a staff we are focussed on the ancient wisdom of keeping it simple (yet challenging):

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Teach them to your children. Repeat them when you are at home and when you are away, when you are resting and when you are working.” Deuteronomy 6 verses 5-7

Like those often repeated advertisements, we will do this again at Pilgrim in 2016. Have a great year!

Blessings,

Nigel Bennett
Principal
Welcome To New Students

Welcome too, to our new students and their families commencing school in 2015.

30 new Reception Students starting Term 1

The new students are:


We also have great pleasure in welcoming six other students starting at Pilgrim School

Year 1: Shantel (welcome back)
Year 2: Emily
Year 3: Jethro, Zicheng
Year 4: Molly
Year 6: Jake

How exciting!

We pray rich blessings on you as you start at Pilgrim, that you make friends easily, and your families feel a part of our school community.

New Staff

Clare Thistlethwayte – Year 5

Welcome to Clare who is teaching in Year 5 two days a week. Clare began at Pilgrim as a student teacher in 2013, and has regularly done relief teaching since registering as a teacher. Last year Clare had a contract in Year 4 while Mr Jenkin was on Long Service Leave. Please welcome her to our school community.

Campus Promotions Officer – Wendy Looi-Penhall

Wendy has begun working in the Campus Office employed as the new Campus Promotions Officer. Wendy won the position advertised at the end of 2015.

Campus Office Administration: Wendy has also kindly offered to temporarily fill the role in the Campus Office until a replacement for Carol Barons is advertised and filled. This should take 6-8 weeks.

Please be patient as Wendy is learning two jobs!

JP Literacy & Numeracy Coordinator

Congratulations to Lisa Newbury who has been appointed as the Junior Primary Literacy and Numeracy Coordinator for 2016.

Worship & Assembly Roster

Worship and Assemblies will be held each Tuesday and Thursday at 8.55am in the Performing Arts Centre. Parents and friends are warmly invited to share in these special times.

Please Note

◆ Stationery packs that were not collected last week will be going home with your child. Please label items then return to school as soon as possible.

◆ School Times – classes begin at 8.45am. The yard is supervised from 8.30am and children should not be at school before this unless they are in Out of School Hours Care – please contact them on 8270 6178.

◆ Recess is from 10.55-11.20a.m.

◆ Lunch is from 1.00-1.30p.m. (children eat lunch under supervision from 12.50p.m.)

◆ Dismissal is at 3.10p.m.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Children

◆ Kiss’n Drop – drivers are asked to remain in cars and to move up to the eastern end of Campus Drive before dropping off or collecting children. I ask for your support and for courtesy to be shown to other road users and the supervising teacher on duty after school.

◆ Pilgrim School Families are asked to use Campus Drive kiss’n drop. Campus Drive is supervised by a Pilgrim staff member until 3.30pm. Any students not picked up by this time wait in Pilgrim Front Office.

◆ The staff car park kiss’n drop is primarily for Thiele families. This is supervised by a Thiele staff member until 3.20pm only.

◆ Parking – Parking is limited so please use designated parking areas appropriately (please do not use the aged care car park).
With this newsletter there is an envelope, which contains information concerning the following:

- Family Data – for new families, or those who need to update their details for 2016 with accompanying instructions.
- Newsletter with Term 1 Calendar
- School Account
- Medical & Asthma forms as required for continuing students
- Commencement Celebration Invitation 13/2/15
- Meet the Teacher Evening Information
- Parents & Friends Pastoral Care

For new students only
- Government requirement data collection
- Cyber Safety Consent
- Volunteers Information for Police Checks

For Year 7 students
- Cyber Safety Consent forms to be signed by parents & student

Please return forms by Monday 8th February 2016

School Fees

Fees that are paid for a full year attract 5% discount. To receive an annual account please speak to our Bursar, Mandy, or mention it at the Front Office. All term fees paid by the 12th February receive a discount of 2.5%. Email bursar@pilgrim.sa.edu.au.

Meet The Teacher Evenings

These meetings are extremely important as each teacher presents information about the learning programs for their class. You are asked to attend. Please note that we are unable to provide ‘child minding’ at school. Meetings will be held in classrooms.

Monday, 8th February 2015
Reception & Year 1 6.30pm – 7.15pm
Meet the Principal, Specialist Teachers 7.15-7.45pm
Year 2 & Year 3 7.45pm – 8.30pm

Wednesday 4th February, 2015
Years 4 & 5 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Meet the Principal & Specialist Teachers 7.15-7.45pm
Years 6 & 7 7.45pm – 8.30pm

Commencement Celebration

5.00PM SATURDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
Worship at Seeds Uniting Church
42 Sunnymeade Drive, Aberfoyle Park

Followed by a free Barbecue. Drinks available for sale.

We invite all students, family and friends to come and celebrate the start of the 2016 School Year at Pilgrim. We will commence with worship focused on God’s blessings to Pilgrim School. Staff, students, parents, P&F and the Board will be acknowledged and prayed for during the service.

Worship will be vibrant and family-friendly, including student involvement. This is a great chance to meet and mix with other members of our school community.

Several students and classes will be involved in worship, so please make every effort to join us. We would love you to attend as a family and encourage you to sit together as we celebrate the start of 2016.

We look forward to seeing you there!

RSVP by Friday 5th February.
Please indicate if your family is going. This will really help our Year 5 parents who are catering.

HOT WEATHER

All Campus schools remain open on hot days. Pilgrim is air conditioned, and children remain indoors for P.E. and at recess and lunch times when the temperature is in excess of 35°C.

Please ensure your child brings a full water bottle and that they wear their school hat. Puratap water is available for refilling bottles.

The school provides sunblock for students to use. If your child is sensitive to the school sunblock, parents may provide their own child’s sunblock, clearly labelled.

Author Visit 16th February

Author, Holly Nunan, is sharing at Assembly on the 16th February. There will be a “book sales table” afterwards, for any parents who wish to purchase any of her three books. Holly will personally sign the books and address them to the children by putting their names on the inside cover with a special message.

Police Checks for Parents

There has been a recent change to school screening policy for Department (DECD) schools in South Australia, that has been reported in the local press.

As an independent school, we will continue to request police checks at this stage. This is on the advice of the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA).

Uniform

Please ensure that your child is dressed in the approved Pilgrim summer uniform. If you are unsure as to the requirements, please check with the School or email info@dzaustralia.com.au. Phone 8276 8449.

DZ Uniforms are open on Campus
Mondays 2.30-3.30pm
Wednesdays 8.30-9.30am
Fridays 8.30-9.30am

Order forms are available from our Front Office.
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<td>Students start Term 1</td>
<td>P &amp; F Liaison Info Evening 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Meet the Teacher Night Rec &amp; Year 1: 6.30pm Principal: 7.15pm Year 2 &amp; 3: 7.45pm</td>
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<td>Receptions ½ Day Meet the Teacher Night Years 4 &amp; 5: 6.30pm Principal: 7.15pm Year 5 &amp; 6: 7.45pm</td>
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<td>Commencement Celebration @ Seeds UCA 5pm</td>
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<td>7.30 Parents &amp; Friends</td>
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<td>Receptions ½ Day New Parents Dinner @ Seeds UCA (Year 3)</td>
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<td>Working Bee (Years 1 &amp; 4) School Tours 10am</td>
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<td>Adelaide Cup PH</td>
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<td>Easter Events</td>
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<td>Campus Fair</td>
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<td>Anzac Assembly BBQ (Yr.2) 2.00 pm finish</td>
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