Welcome to Term 1, 2016.

As you are aware the beginning of this year has been difficult with the sudden death of our School Counsellor, Mr Jackson. Although he had only been a member of staff for a short 12 months Mr Jackson left a lasting impression and legacy for students, staff and parents alike. His restorative justice approach to dealing with students experiencing anxiety, depression and general behaviour issues is evident in the way the students are responding to our new classroom approach this year.

Mr Jackson was also responsible for introducing the Learning Curve as a mainstay of our Pastoral Care Program. Teachers have embraced this new program and are incorporating the philosophy of Positive Psychology, Habits of the Mind and other aspects to enable the students to develop good study skills, a positive attitude to learning and build resilience and positive mental and emotional wellbeing.

Mr Jackson and the creative skills he brought to many aspects of the school culture including Student Voice and lively assemblies will be missed.

Year level classes are now structured to provide intensive support for student learning. Each year level has two teachers and two school support workers to ensure maximum access by students to the core subjects including English, Maths, HASS and Science. This allows students to seek additional help, provide catch up time if lessons are missed and intensive learning around core concepts. By adopting a conceptual, integrated approach learning becomes connected across the various curriculum areas. Through observation, anecdotal information and time to plan and develop the core concepts using a team approach, the implementation of this methodology is working. Evidence from increased attendance rates and minimal disruptive behaviours indicates that we are on the right track.

Jeanette Conroy
Principal

GOVERN COUNCIL
This is a new year with the prospect of electing a new Governing Council at the AGM. We are looking for parents who are interested in the way the school runs and who would like to have a say in its future direction. All you need to do is nominate yourself or another parent who can be elected onto the Council.

Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the staff room from 7pm to 9.00pm at the latest. A light supper is provided.

The members of the last Governing Council engaged in supporting the school to develop the new logo and refurbish the Year 8 suite as part focusing the direction for the school. The Chairperson presides over the meetings and is called upon from time to time to represent the school at events.

All that is required is a criminal history screening which can be facilitated by the school.

The AGM is being held on Tuesday 22nd March. Parents new to the school are especially welcome.
NEW DEVELOPMENT
The new school signs are being finalised and will hopefully will have the school name on the panels very soon. These signs mark the entrance to Stuart High School and are notable for having the panels in the school colours. The triangles represent aspiration and reaching our full potential.

The re-design of the school logo is also nearing its completion as we await approval from DECD for the new design. This is the last step before we are able to officially use the new logo on all things related to the school such as uniforms and stationary.

DRESS CODE
It has been great seeing the students wearing the school tops each day. The new year 8's are leading the way in following the dress code. It is a timely reminder that the school tops of black, white and red polo shirts with the school logo can be worn with black pants or black shorts without any motifs. Flat and closed in shoes are to be worn.

Uniforms contribute to school unity, develop a sense of belonging and pride, develop a positive image in the wider community and assist with safety and care of students when on the school grounds or on excursions.

Uniforms are available from the front office at a reasonable price and payments over time can be arranged. More information is available on the school’s website.

MOBILE PHONES
Students are able to bring mobile devices to school, however they are at their own risk. A ‘common sense’ approach prevails whilst recognising that there may be times when students need to use their phone in an emergency or to notify a change in collection time.

Inappropriate use of a mobile phone that disrupts learning time or threatens the safety of another person will result in consequences appropriate to the situation. Phones should be stored in a safe and secure place when not being used. For conditions outlined in the full policy please refer to the school’s website.

STUDENT DIARIES
Students use their diaries for a range of reasons. One of which involves effective communication between home and teaching staff. Please ensure that any absences are recorded in the diary and any other information that ensures smooth communication between home and school is also noted. The diary contains a lot of useful information so it is worth taking time to go through the diary with your child. Any consent forms should be returned as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE
It is pleasing to report that for the first two weeks of this term we have had high attendance compared with the same time last year. Whilst we are still not at the 93% desired by DECD we are well on our way to an upward trend. Unfortunately our data is influenced by a small handful of chronic non attenders but this number is slowly being reduced due to our case management through Eyre Futures. Congratulations to all the students who attend regularly.

If for any reason your child is absent the school needs to be notified by a note in the diary, or by phone or text message. Support from parents and carers is greatly appreciated.

If for some reason students have an unexplained absence staff will follow up with a phone call to ascertain the reason for the absence.

BREAKFAST CLUB
This a reminder that Stuart High School runs a Breakfast Club every morning for both primary and high school students. There is a range of foods available including cereal, fruit, toast, yoghurt and juice. The occasional special breakfast is arranged such as our recent ‘pancake’ morning. Volunteers run the program and we thank them for their hard work and dedication to the program. Breakfast is also available through the canteen where hot food can be ordered.

CANTEEN
A range of food both hot and cold is available for sale through the school canteen. Students can purchase lunch and snacks at both recess and lunch. Lunch is ordered and other foods can be bought on a walk up basis. The canteen staff cater for a range of events including parent nights, Governing Council and staff functions. Lunch orders for other schools is part of the service offered by Sandra Grosso and her staff. Sandra can be contacted via the school front office if catering is required.
NEW STAFF

It is with great pleasure that we welcome four new staff members to Stuart High.

My name is Trish Jenkins, I am a graduate teacher from Flinders University and I am teaching Year 8 Mathematics, Year 9 HASS and year 9/10 Dance. I am passionate about all aspects of education, and strongly believe in supporting all students and their learning needs. My personal education philosophy is that education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. We are constantly learning, and evolving every day. I look forward to working with the students and staff at Stuart High School.

 Teachers: Lucinda McKenzie & Trish Jenkins. Centre SSO Becky Geldard

My name is Lucinda McKenzie and I am a new graduate from Flinders University. I have a double degree consisting of a Bachelor of Education (Middle & Secondary), Bachelor of Arts with major qualifications in both Physical Education and English. This semester I will be teaching Year 8 and 9 Health and Physical Education, Year 9 Outdoor Education, and Year 9 English. I am also a part of the Year 8 Care Group teaching team. Originally from the Murraylands/Mallee area, I look forward to becoming a part of the Whyalla community and forming positive relationships with students, parents and caregivers.

My name is Shanam Khurana and I am working as a pre-service teacher with Year 10 students as part of my practicum in the areas of Science and Maths. Currently we are working on 'interest' in Maths and the 'Origin of the Universe' in Science. I am really enjoying my interaction with both the teachers and students and it is important to me to continue to build healthy relationships.

My name is Becky Geldard. I am from Quorn SA but have lived in Whyalla for a few years now. This is my first year working as an SSO but I have previously worked in Childcare. My role is working with care group teachers in supporting students learning in the classroom. I am looking forward to having a great year at Stuart High School.

My name is Glenn Clarke and I am teaching year 8 & 9 Science, Aquaculture and Environment Studies. My background is in Environmental Management and Town Planning. This year students will analyse the effectiveness of restoration work carried out around the coast and in Mt Laura Conservation Park. Aquaculture students will hopefully be participating in the cuttlefish surveys in False Bay. I look forward to meeting families for the students I teach.

STAFF CAR PARK

As the new year has started it is a timely reminder that the car park at the front of the school is for staff parking. Over the past couple of weeks it has been noticed that some ‘near misses’ have occurred as students spill into this area after school. Parents and caregivers have also have been seen stopping at the entrance of the driveway where students are collected after school.

It will be appreciated if pick ups and drop-offs can be done at the kerbside in Bastyan Crescent to alleviate the potential hazard and congestion in the car park at key times.

The school is looking at ways to landscape the area to redirect the foot traffic and address the issue of parents using the staff carpark.

SAASTA

In a first for Whyalla, the South Australian Aboriginal Sport Training Academy (SAASTA) is delivering lessons from the University of South Australia. The initiative seeks to break down the perceived barriers to higher learning by making students comfortable in the tertiary environment, while completing their SACE. The program has indigenous participants from all three Whyalla High Schools, led this year by Mr Darryl Wiechmann from Stuart High School with an exciting support team consisting of Mr Jarrad Lee and Deb Giles (EJEHS), Lorraine Hasseldine (WHS), Ronnie Clappis (SHS) and Lauren Shivvan (Connect Officer UniSA). For further information contact the school direct on 08 8649 0400 or go to the SAASTA website at www.saasta.sa.edu.au .

From left to right Mr D. Wiechmann (SAASTA Coordinator), Mr A. Smith (SAASTA State Manager), Laura-Ann Bull, Pro Vice Chancellor: Student Engagement & Equity, Uni SA, Lauren Shivvan, Tayla Hart-Alini, Haylee Puckeridge, Terrence McKenzie
Frank Trevorrow, Jarrad Lee (Teacher)

EVENTS

PARENT MEET & GREET

A parent ‘Meet and Greet’ will be held on Tuesday 1st March 5.30—7.30pm

Parents are invited to come along to the school to meet the staff, view the school’s facilities and see what is on offer around our new approach.

BBQ & Salad dinner will be provided on the night.

Door prizes for attendance and RSVP

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Friday 4th March

Stuart High School
Bastyan Crescent
Whyalla Stuart 5608
Ph: 08 8649 0400
Fax: 08 8649 3598
www.stuarths.sa.edu.au

Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development

Term 1, ISSUE 2
February 2016

SAASTA website at www.saasta.sa.edu.au. Further information contact the school direct on 08 8649 0400 or go to the SAASTA website at www.saasta.sa.edu.au.
YEAR 8
The new Year 8 cohort at Stuart High School is off to a cracking start. All students have a positive attitude towards their learning and are quickly becoming accustomed to the expectations of high school. As many of these students have come from different primary schools, it is great to see new relationships forming and a growing acceptance for diversity within the classroom. Teachers are diligently working together each week to provide an effective curriculum and to enhance the development of every child. The Year 8 team feels confident that, as the year progresses, each student will continue to grow and achieve individual success. The new concept integrated curriculum delivery is proving to be successful along with the number of adults in the classroom delivering the core curriculum subjects.

Lucinda McKenzie, Trish Jenkins, Glenn Clarke, Steve Walker Y 8 Teachers

PLAYGROUP COMES TO STUART HIGH SCHOOL
Gowrie SA offers a range of FREE services for families, including Playgroup on Wednesdays and Thursdays this year in a couple of locations.

Stuart High School is very excited to welcome Gowrie SA in setting up a Playgroup on Wednesday mornings between 11.45am — 1.15pm in the Library. Parents and Caregivers with young children are invited to come along to this free event to meet each other for support and have questions answered about raising young children.

The primary school section of the library is the perfect setting with books and toys being available. Other areas in the school will also be used including the school playground, the hall and outdoor setting to support the success of this program. Everyone is welcome. For further information contact Carmen 0498 352 059 or William on 0499 507 887 or visit the website www.gowriesa.org.au.

iTrack Online
Mentoring Program
About iTrack:
- iTrack is an online mentoring program that aims to support students who are beginning to formulate their post-school plans.
- Students are matched with volunteer mentors drawn from the Smith Family’s corporate and community partners.
- Mentors and students interact through weekly online chat sessions of about 60 minutes using a secure website.
- Parental consent is required and all online interactions are monitored.
- All mentors are screened, inducted and then carefully matched with a student according to their interests.

Find out more from
Jeremy Head, The Smith Family
0427291419

School Fees
School fees for 2016 are $303. These can be paid at the front office during school hours.
We have EFTPOS facilities for your convenience.
School card forms are also available at the front office. School card needs to be applied for yearly, so please come in and fill in a form if you need to apply for 2016.

Seniors Polo Tops
Year 10 Senior polo tops will be arriving at school early next month.
All tops need to be paid for before they are picked up. The cost of the tops are $40 each. We do have a few extra tops ordered, and they can be purchased when the tops arrive.