Dear Families of Trinity Gardens School

Tuesday was the day this week . . . Pancake Breakfast, new classrooms, Acquaintance Night and the AGM of Governing Council! It all worked.

An enormous thank you is extended to everyone who contributed in one way or another to our annual Pancake Breakfast. Our senior leader, Harriet Wilmore and a small but dedicated staff committee were the brains of the organisation which worked superbly. Who would think we were a large school when we can make at least 9,000 pancakes, serve them and be cleaned up all before recess time. It worked because so many volunteers pitched in to help. We had 3 cooking areas and 7 serving areas. I didn’t get to visit each station as I was dedicated to my own (and thanks to Janet for pouring perfectly and Mark T for flipping fantastically) but I received very positive feedback about all areas. If we couldn’t find a job for you this year there will always be next year. I would like to mention those who stayed to help clean and wash up. Not the best job, but necessary. Our thanks to our wonderful community.

As I walked across the yard at recess time, one of our Year 4 students, Hannah, came up to me and said, “Thank you for our Pancake Breakfast, Mrs Stokes”. A touching moment indeed. This comment alone made the whole effort worthwhile. Later, her comment reminded me of last year’s Governing Council’s desire for us to be known as having the friendliest and most polite students in the East! This can’t be achieved without parental and staff support. Hannah and her family are doing a great job. I urge you to ponder on your family’s use of ‘please’, ‘thank you’, ‘pardon’ and remembering to smile. At school we will practise in class and at assembly.

Tuesday morning was an exciting time for our Year 7 and Year 6/7 classes when they took occupancy of their new classrooms. While it was disappointing that the classrooms weren’t ready for day 1 of school we had a lesson in using the virtue of patience and flexibility and had an opportunity to build a little resilience while we waited. The teachers were particularly pleased to be able to hold their acquaintance meetings in the new rooms, as bare as they are. We will now be able to watch as these rooms become second homes for these students. Already the goldfish are established in the beautiful new aquarium and the netbooks are being used. The wide deck is a bonus and there is a lovely outlook for these classes. Completion of the rooms now means that the fitness track can be completed. It will be bituminised tomorrow and out of action for one day only. Once the bitumen is cured the lines will be painted and, hey presto, we will have Track Trinity ready for two way traffic!

Acquaintance Night was held on Tuesday evening and again thanks is extended to all those families who were able to attend. Optimistically, we always aim for 100% attendance and some classes achieved this. This night forms part of our Assessment and Reporting Policy because it provides an opportunity for teaching staff to share the learning intentions for the class as well as particular procedural matters. It is an important first chance for parents and teachers to build working relationships. By attending this evening you are signalling to your child that school matters and you care about their learning achievement and you are showing support for the teacher. This night isn’t about individual students and their needs but please know that you are able to arrange an after school time to meet with your child’s teacher as needs arise. We hold 3-Way Conferences later this term where students can share their goals and learning outcomes.

In class meetings, teachers shared their concern about lateness to school as this is disruptive to those who have arrived on time, interrupts the teacher and frequently puts the late arrivee at risk of
reduced learning. We have noticed that some students are already coming late. Please consider how you could change a few routines to ensure you are not late to school. Lateness to school is monitored and followed up as this is a DECD expectation. This year we are going to share data about class attendance in the newsletter.

Finally, on Tuesday evening we held the annual general meeting of Governing Council. This year we trialled conducting the AGM in the middle of the evening and while this did not allow a long meeting it was well attended. Annual reports were circulated and voting undertaken for new members. Thank you to all who nominated for Governing Council. It is a pleasure to announce the new members who all have a two year term. They are:

Sheila Cooper, Julie Krasay, Mel Gotting, David Leach, Simone Douglas and Patrick O'Connor.

Our new members join Kim Devery, Cheryl Baldwin, Ellie Marafioti, Ruth Brazauskas and Pip Malin, all who are completing their second year on Governing Council.

The first meeting of the new GC is next week and this is where office bearers are elected and portfolios determined. Further information will be shared in the next newsletter where you will be invited to join a sub-committee.

Thanks to those who attended the AGM.

When I finally made it home on Tuesday after what turned out to be a 15 hour day I felt a great deal of satisfaction and continued pride in our school community. Thank you for being a part of this community.

Vicki Stokes
Principal

FINANCE NEWS

Dear Families,

Tomorrow - Friday 15 February - is the due date for the 2013 Materials & Services Charge payment.

A $10 Uniform Voucher is available until COB Friday when fees are paid in full.

School Card must be applied for each year. Please complete & return a 2013 form to the School Office as soon as possible if you feel you may be eligible for this assistance.

Thank you, Karen Barrow

HEALTH NEWS

WHOOPING COUGH

There has been a student in the school diagnosed with a case of Whooping Cough. Whooping Cough has become more evident in our society over the last few years and some precautions need to be taken if you are in contact with the disease especially in the case of pregnancy and newborn children. If you suspect anyone in your family may have Whooping Cough please see your medical practitioner.

The following website may be of some interest www.dh.sa.gov.au/pehs/youve-got-what.htm

Please contact your medical practitioner if you have any other questions.

Thank you.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

The school is hoping to introduce a walking school bus as a transport option to the school. Walking school buses are well established in other states and are used in some school in SA. The idea is that children and a small group of volunteer parents (in a ratio of about 1:10) gather at a location about 2km from the school and walk to school. The benefits of the ‘bus’ include fitness and well-being for children on the bus, reduced traffic congestion around the school and the development of a healthy school spirit. Ideally, the bus would run daily, leaving from a park near the school at about 8.00am and arriving at 8.30am. For this to work we will need about 20 parents willing to commit to doing the 30 minute walk once a week. If you think this is something you would like to help set up, or if you think you might be able to volunteer as a ‘walking driver’, even for just a term, please contact Alex Reilly at alexander.reilly@adelaide.edu.au. When the bus gets going we’ll send out a call for passengers.

Thank you.
Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is a sign of growing up.

Friendliness is being a friend. It is taking an interest in other people. It is going out of your way to make others feel welcome or to make a new person feel at home. When you are friendly, you happily share your belongings, time, ideas, and feelings. You share the good times and the bad times together. Friendliness is the best cure for loneliness.

Trinity Gardens School is currently involved in a project termed TG E-Connect that is seeking to improve current methods of communicating learning and school activities with the school community.

Parents are invited to participate in this project by joining a small TG E-Connect group that meets on a regular basis to discuss possibilities of the project.

If you would like to join or require further info, please email to Amelia Field ICT Coordinator at amelia.field173@schools.sa.edu.au.

Thank you.

Steiner Inspired Parent Led Playgroup

Tuesdays 9-11am
Trinity Gardens Children’s Centre
P: 0413 425 024 for information.

The playgroup is also looking for donations of Steiner toys—if you have any please drop them off at the Children’s Centre.

Thank you.

Please come along and support this wonderful school community event. Many handmade items, coffee, cakes and much more will be available.

If you are interested in holding a stall, please register at the school office by Monday 18 March. 10% of stall takings is donated to school fundraising.

For further details contact
Anna 0409 695 940
After 4pm
Thank you.

Week 3 - Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is a sign of growing up.

Week 4 - Friendliness is being a friend. It is taking an interest in other people. It is going out of your way to make others feel welcome or to make a new person feel at home. When you are friendly, you happily share your belongings, time, ideas, and feelings. You share the good times and the bad times together. Friendliness is the best cure for loneliness.

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Thank you.
**City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters**

The council has made free homework support available to students in our district. In 2013 yourtutor is available to all library members between 4-8pm Mon-Fri, providing live, on demand, real time tutoring from the highest level tutors in Australia.

For more information visit www.npsp.sa.gov.au or contact one of our 3 libraries.

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**Scouting in the North Eastern Suburbs**

Hiking, camping, enjoying the outdoors and learning new things. Do it all in Scouting.

Joys 6-8yrs, Cubs 8-12yrs, Scouts 12-15yrs.

The nearest Scout group to TGS is either College Park Scout, or Tranmere Sea Scout.

Contact Lisa Preston at dc.foothills@sa.scouts.com.au

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**Cirkidz is now enrolling for Semester 1**

Try out the trapeze, master the unicycle, trampoline and stilts walking. Learn to juggle and much more.

Contact P: 8346 5735 www.cirkidz.org.au

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**MILO in2Cricket Program**

MILO in2Cricket is a fun introduction to the game of cricket for boys and girls from Reception to Year 2. It provides children with an enjoyable and safe environment where they can learn skills and play games.

Adelaide Oval i2C Centre

Marryatville Primary School

Payneham Oval.

For more details contact www.in2cricket.com.au and type in your post code.

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**SCHOOL UNIFORM**

School hats are a compulsory requirement at Trinity Gardens School. Please remind your children of the no hat, no outdoor play policy.

Currently there are a number of hats, plus many other school uniform items in the Lost property box. Please have your children check for lost property.

The Uniform Shop opening hours have remained the same for this year.

Monday 2.30-3.30pm

Thursday 8.30-9.30am

Thank you.

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**SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

Our school newsletter is available for perusal via the school website. Just go to: www.trinitygps.sa.edu.au