Dear Families of Trinity Gardens School

At Trinity Gardens School we have had a great start to the 2014 school year. Like other adults, on Monday, I was wishing for cooler weather but once I had visited our air-conditioned classrooms on Tuesday the heat wasn't an issue. I always consider myself privileged to visit learning environments on the first day to see children so settled and happily engaged in learning activities no matter whether in classrooms, the St Morris Unit or the Early Learning Centre. Another positive aspect to our school culture was to see the way students familiar with our school welcome children new to our school. This year saw the start of the same first day policy and we have welcomed an amazing 190 children to our preschool and school. I believe the single intake will benefit children giving them a great start to their formal education without the interruption of new children starting throughout the year.

Families who were at Trinity Gardens last year will be aware of my decision to retire at the end of this term. Late last year I was fortunate to chair the panel for the appointment of the new principal and I am pleased to announce that the position has been won by Ms Jan Carey. Currently Jan is principal at Banksia Park Primary School. I know that Jan was delighted to win the position at our school and she is very much looking forward to taking up her position at the commencement of term 2. I will leave it to Jan to introduce herself in more detail to our community but suffice to say that Jan is experienced and her commitment to public education is second to none. We will be meeting several times this term for handover information meetings. When I realise that my last day is coming I feel quite emotional after being here for ten years and I feel so grateful for everyone’s contribution to building our wonderful school.

This year our school has made a commitment to the KidsMatter initiative and as part of this we aim to further strengthen our positive school culture. Our AGM will be held next Wednesday 5 August and prior to this short, sharp and shiny event there will be an information session for parents about KidsMatter. Please come along to find out more and while you are there join us for our AGM. You can pick up a copy of the Annual Report and enjoy a cup of coffee and a nibble and meet the carryover Governing Council members and vote in the new members. Have you considered joining our Governing Council? A nomination form was sent home with your invoice for school fees. You can also pick up a form from the school office. There are 5 vacancies this year. An enormous thank you is extended to those families who have supported the smooth running of the school by paying the school fees on time. It is so helpful to the operation of the school when you assist with this process.

This year, in line with our aim to further develop our home school relations, we are making some changes to our Acquaintance Night. Some classes will be holding their event on Tuesday evening 11/2 and some will be on Wednesday 12/2 (a program is included further in the newsletter). The evening has an adult focus as important matters about children and their education are shared and for this reason you are asked

Term 1 Week 1
30 January 2014

Diary Dates

27 January Monday
Australia Day Public Holiday

28 January Tuesday
First day Term 1,2014

5 February Wednesday
KidsMatter 7pm followed by AGM

7 February Friday
Upper Primary Assembly, 9am in the gym.

11 February Tuesday
Acquaintance Night

12 February Wednesday
Acquaintance Night

19 February Wednesday
Governing Council Meeting 6.30pm

28 February Friday
Student Leader’s Assembly

3 March Monday
Yr 6/7 Aquatics

4, 11, 18, 25 Mar & 1 Apr Tuesday
Footsteps Dance

6 March Thursday
Yr 6/7 Aquatics

10 March Monday
Public Holiday—Adelaide Cup Day

19 March Wednesday
Governing Council Meeting 6.30pm

21 March Friday
Harmony Day—Wear orange
Steiner Autumn Festival

Virtual a of the Week
Week 1 Respect
Week 2 Respect

3 Way Interviews
not to bring your children. Unfortunately with so many children we are not able to provide supervision. Each class has an hour time allocation and you are asked to arrive on time and remain for the entire hour to show respect for the occasion. During the evening there will be some time for you to meet other parents as well as to hear from the class teacher or teachers if there is more than one.

Children making a successful start to the school year is your and our business. We do need to work together on this. These days there is quite a lot of helpful information available and one good source of information is the KidsMatter website. Please try and find time to have a look at [www.kidsmatter.edu.au](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au) Starting school for the very first time is a big step and can be difficult for parents as well as for children. It can be an unknown world. Please know that we welcome your questions and will support you as much as we can. We do ask that you support us too. Please speak positively about the school and your child’s teacher in front of your child and let them know you are proud of their ability to cope. If you are anxious they will pick up on this. If you need to speak to a teacher about a personal matter please arrange an after school time (avoiding Tuesday as this is staff meeting night) and Acquaintance Night is for general matters. We look forward to seeing you all very soon!

This year we welcome Elaine Thompson as the Steiner Class 2 teacher, Helen Ricketts as the Steiner Class 1 teacher, Beau Lee as Year 5 teacher, Cheryl Cousins as the Reception/Year 1 teacher, and welcome back Hayley Dodd as year 5 teacher. I thank our dedicated teaching staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure their learning environment was organised and welcoming for children on Tuesday. Our administration staff have sorted and moved mountains of stationery and other resources and are also thanked.

Assemblies will be run differently this year using an upper primary, middle primary and junior primary rotation with two whole school assemblies per term. Parents will be invited to the assemblies where their class will be presenting. The first assembly will be next week on Friday morning at 9:00am for the Upper Primary. Until we get into the swing of things I am sure a note will be sent home if your child will be involved. Regardless, you are invited if you child is in Years 5, 6, or 7.

I wish all children and their families every success for 2014.

Kind regards
Vicki Stokes

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**AFTER SCHOOL SPORT**

Are you interested in playing basketball or cricket?

If you are in years 2 - 7 you have the opportunity to nominate to play in an after school competition.

Nomination forms have been sent home this week and need to be returned by next Tuesday 4th February.

We apologyse for the quick turn around time but games begin in week 3 so teams, coaches, uniforms etc need to be finalised next week. If you have not received a nomination form you might like to collect one from the front office.

If you have any questions regarding after school sport, please feel free to contact Michelle McQuillan via the school office, P:8431 4170 or michelle.mcquillan875@schools.sa.edu.au

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**VIRTUES OF THE WEEK**

Week 1 & 2 Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves, others, and the world around us. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we would be treated. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful. It is knowing that every man, woman and child deserves respect, including you.

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**SCIENCE NEWS**

**Healthy Food - Healthy life** - Our theme of healthy living, with a focus on food continues from last year. How successful have we been so far? Possibly not very. Walking across the yard after lunch eating time, and picking up three food packages left as litter - a fruit ‘squeeze’ pack, unopened muesli bar and juice drink box and calculating just the sugars as ‘percentage of total daily recommended intake’ these three foods amounted to just over half. Some children consume multiple packages of these types of food each day at school.

If you value the convenience of this food and are unconcerned about the problems the packaging creates for the school environment then our theme will be in vain. However, if you can, line up these energy dense foods and add up the percentages based on daily intake and consider the possible consequences for your child over time. Then work out how many packaged foods you conveniently rely on each week, and, if your child is leaving these packages at school, are they left as litter, food for the rodents or adding to the work of the school community.

If you value the health and learning of your child, and accept that we all have a role in sustainable resource use, then highly processed foods are not a routine lunchbox food. Or you will limit their use to recommended dietary levels of 1-2 servings per day for children under 12 years of age - remembering to remove the packaging for disposal through home bins rather than school bins.

If you value and support TGS’s focus on healthy food the whole community benefits and we thank you.

Aussi School Initiative
Supported by the Governing Council

**Australian Health Guidelines, “Food for Health”**

**ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT**

**TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY & WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2014**

*All parents/caregivers welcome*

Come and meet your child/children’s teacher and the other parents/caregivers in your child’s class.

Please note supervision of children remains the responsibility of parents.

**PROGRAM**

Science, Music, Italian, Gym Areas will be open 5.00 – 6.00 pm Tuesday

**TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2014**

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<tr>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Classes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.00 – 5.45</td>
<td>Early Learning Centre St.Morris Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.00 – 7.00</td>
<td>Mainstream Reception (6W) Mainstream Reception (8W) Steiner Reception (10D) Mainstream Year R/1 (7W) Mainstream Year 1/2 (15J) Mainstream Year 1 (16J) Steiner Class 1 (5W) Mainstream Year 1 (4W)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.05 – 8.05</td>
<td>Steiner Class 2 (3W) Mainstream Year 2 (24A) Mainstream Year 2 (14J) Mainstream Year 3 (17A) Mainstream Year 3 (18A) Steiner Class 3 (1W)</td>
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**WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2014**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00 - 7.00</td>
<td>Mainstream Year 3/4 (20A) Mainstream Year 4 (19A) Steiner Class 4 (13J) Steiner Class 5 (9J) Mainstream Year 5 (21A) Mainstream Year 5 (23A) Mainstream Year 5/6 (22A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.05 – 8.05</td>
<td>Steiner Class 6 (25A) Mainstream Year 6/7 (28A) Steiner Class 7 (26A) Mainstream Year 6/7 (27A)</td>
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Welcome to the new school year! I hope that everybody had an enjoyable break and took part in lots of reading for pleasure!

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
The Premier’s Reading Challenge has now begun for 2014. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is a literacy engagement program that aims to encourage students to read more books and enjoy reading and improve literacy levels. It requires students to read at least twelve books between the beginning of the school year and early September. All Trinity Gardens School students will be provided with a record sheet to record the books that they read. To qualify for a certificate/medal, students need to record twelve books specific to the Challenge whilst the other books can be any other book read. Students must also return their record to the library by the due date which will be announced later in the year. Please encourage your children to participate, be responsible for maintaining their record sheet and enjoy the Challenge!

OVERDUE BOOKS
All students should be taking responsibility for resources borrowed. When books become overdue, the borrower is no longer able to borrow. The process for overdue books is as follows:
1. When books become overdue after two weeks, children will be issued two reminder messages from the library.
2. A third notice will then be sent to the parents to have an intensive search for the book.
3. The fourth notice will have an invoice attached and be added to the school fees.
We appreciate your support in this process!

SENIOR FICTION COLLECTION
The ‘Senior Fiction’ collection accommodate readers who are ready for books at a middle school level. Due to these books not generally being suitable for the majority of our school population, they have been specially labeled with a Senior Fiction label and are only available for year 6/7 students with parental permission. All year 6/7 students have been provided with a consent form.

TG E-CONNECT
TG E-Connect is a wikispace that includes a huge section dedicated to our Resource Centre. Here, you can find information about Resource Centre procedures, news and events such as new books, links to children’s literature websites, information about research, and MANY links to quality websites related to the curriculum. Access the wikispace by going to www.trinitygardens.wikispaces.net. Please encourage your students to access TG E-Connect at home.

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS
Present and future friends are welcome to be part of our ‘Friends of the Library’ for 2014. These parents can volunteer their time to help cover books and perform other duties to help keep our library performing to a high standard and looking fantastic. Please come and visit Janet Grimes and me in the library if you would like to become a ‘Friend of the Library’ for 2014.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES—NEW IN THE 2014 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
Each fortnight there will be a section dedicated to promoting a number of recommended websites for parents/students in the school newsletter. Any new parent resources will also be promoted in this space. Stay tuned for the next school newsletter!

Regards,
Amelia Field
21st Century Coordinator – IBL and ICT