Dear parents and caregivers,

What an exciting and productive few weeks we have had so far this year. It was terrific to see so many parents and caregivers attend the Acquaintance Night sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. The overwhelming response has been how informative and welcoming the school and teachers have been.

**Join a 2016 School Committee**

The improvement of our school relies on the partnerships we have with our parents. We value the voices and opinions of our community, and invite all those parents who may wish to contribute to discussions and actions in the following school committees for 2016; Governing Council, Fundraising, Grounds/Facilities, Sports, OSHC, Education and a brand new committee; Community Connections. Would you like to be involved? Please read the following pages and return to the School Office by 7 March.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

Are you interested in knowing more about our school Governing Council and the 2016 committees? Do you have an interest in shaping the direction of the school improvements? Please join us for our Annual General Meeting on Monday 7 March at 6.30pm in the Resource Centre.

**Volunteer Training Requirements**

You may have seen in the media recently that DECD have changed their requirements for volunteers in schools, and no longer require a criminal history screening check. While this would make it easier for parents to volunteer in our school, we are concerned that this lowering of safety standards puts our students at a higher potential of risk. Our School Governing Council discussed this matter and agreed that the screening process will continue at Trinity Gardens School as per our current processes. If you are wishing to volunteer at our school, please see the School Office staff to collect a screening form. Volunteers are also required to participate in ‘Responding to Abuse and Neglect’ training. There are sessions being offered very soon in various locations to do this. (See info on following pages).

**Traffic behaviour puts our students at risk**

Safety around our school is a high priority for all our students. Over the past year the school has worked closely with the local council to review, audit, monitor and improve the parking and traffic conditions around our school, particularly at drop off and pick up times. However, driving behaviour is still putting our students at risk. Please re-consider double parking near gates and drive-ways and conducting u-turns at the kiss and drop area as these are extremely dangerous behaviours for all our students. We plead with all community members to put the safety of our students above the convenience for the driver.

Kind regards

Jan Carey
Principal

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**MARK YOUR DIARY!**

**Pupil Free Day**

Monday 29 February

**Governing Council AGM**

6.30pm Monday 7 March

**Public Holiday—Adelaide Cup Day**

Monday 14 March

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**Term 1 Week 3**

**18 February 2016**

**Diary Dates**

**23 February Tuesday**

Grounds/Facilities Sub Committee Mtg 6.30pm

**26 February Friday**

Reception Family Breakfast

**29 February Monday**

Pupil Free Day

**4 March Friday**

Ride2School Day

Year 6/7 Aquatics, West Lakes

**7 March Monday**

RAN Volunteer Tmg, 11.30am-1.30pm

Governing Council AGM 6.30pm

**Weeks 6-11, Tuesday**

Footsteps Dance

**10 February Thursday**

Year 6/7 Aquatics, West Lakes

**14 March Monday**

Adelaide Cup Day, Public Holiday

**18 March Friday**

Harmony Day Event

**23 March Wednesday**

After School Market

**25 March Friday**

Good Friday, Public Holiday

**28 March Monday**

Easter Monday, Public Holiday

**8 April Friday**

Steiner Autumn Festival

**13 April Wednesday**

Sports Day
In 2015 funding criteria for First Language Maintenance (FLM) changed. The aim of the 2016 FLMD (First Language Maintenance and Development) funding is to support students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who speak a language other than English as a normal means of communication at home on a daily basis.

The funding now targets students who most recently arrived in Australia, with those arriving within the past five years given priority. The targeted languages have also changed and as a result of this our school will no longer offer Italian FLM as this language is no longer being funded through this program.

Our site has successfully applied for Chinese / Mandarin FLMD and Punjabi FLMD as we met the criteria for these languages. If you have any questions regarding FLMD, please contact Stephanie Burton.

**First Language Maintenance (mother tongue)**

Aikido lessons and training will be commencing at our school on Monday afternoons. We meet at 3:15–4.15pm in the Stokes Centre. I have worked alongside Sensei Peter to help create this opportunity at our school because I have observed the respect, sense of reverence and fun which he has brought to the classes. Many families already show a martial interest with their children so I feel it opportune to foster Aikido at our school because of its ethos. You can contact Peter about Aikido if you have any further enquiries.

Some of you already know that this opportunity is one you would like to take advantage of and some may be wanting to see what it’s like first. As a matter of principle, Peter offers the first two training sessions free, but we would like to know potential numbers. Please contact Peter, through email, if your child will be attending a session. His email address is: peter@adelaideaikido.com

Thank you and bye for now, Mark Molloy

**Trinity Gardens Volunteers**

**Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training**

In line with Trinity Gardens School guidelines, as recommended by our Governing Council, we are providing information to volunteers about their roles, rights and responsibilities. Schools are responsible for ensuring that volunteers access a Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training session as part of the Children’s Protection Act, 1993. We are offering the following sessions this term and across our partnership.

When:

- **Thursday 26 February at Margaret Ives Children’s Centre** from 6.00pm to 8.00pm (19 Edward street, Norwood)
- **Monday 7 March at Trinity Gardens School (Resource Centre)** 11.30-1.30pm
- **Monday 21 March 6-8pm Magill Primary School (Cnr Magill Rd and Penfold Rd, Magill)**
- **Tuesday 5 April 6-8pm East Adelaide School** (Cnr Second Ave and Winchester St, St Peters)

Please RSVP using the slip below.

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**VOLUNTEER RESPONDING TO ABUSE AND NEGLECT TRAINING**

I will be attending the information session on *(please circle)*

- [ ] Thursday 26 February at Margaret Ives Children’s Centre (19 Edward street, Norwood) 6.00- 8.00pm
- [ ] Monday 7 March at Trinity Gardens School (Resource Centre) 11.30-1.30pm
- [ ] Monday 21 March at Magill Primary School 6-8pm
- [ ] Tuesday 5 April at East Adelaide School (Cnr Second Ave and Winchester St, St Peters) 6-8pm
- [ ] I am not able to attend any of these sessions; however I’m interested in future sessions.

Name: _________________________________ (please print)

Your child's name: _________________________________

Signature: _______________________________________

Please return to the School Office
FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT GOVERNING COUNCIL & THE SUB-COMMITTEES OF GOVERNING COUNCIL

Purpose:
General oversight and governance for the well being and development of the school.
To advise on the work of the school and the local educational needs of the community and district.
To consider the educational policies of the school.
Provide advice on buildings, equipment and grounds.
To oversee the financial matters of the school.

Membership: 11 elected parents, two staff, Principal
Office bearers: elections are held for chairperson, treasurer and secretary.

Meetings: Twice a term (Mon nights 6.30-8.30pm)

FACILITIES/ GROUNDS COMMITTEE
Purpose:
To monitor and provide advice on the suitability, use and conditions of the facilities of the school.
Support the development of the school grounds.

Membership: parents / Governing Council and staff member.

Meetings: Once per term.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Purpose:
To work with the school to draft and revise policies.
Provide advice and support with educational programs and processes.
To provide advice on our school improvement priorities:

Membership: parents, Gov Council, principal / staff

Meetings: Approx twice per term

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
Purpose:
On behalf of the Governing Council, to raise funds for the benefit of the school.
To coordinate fundraising programs in collaboration with Governing Council, staff and students.

Membership: parents/ Governing Council, staff.

Meetings: at least once per term.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Purpose:
To support the OSHC Director.
Advocate for and represent children and families using OSHC.

Membership: Governing Council, OSHC parents, staff members.

Meetings: Once per term.

SPORTS COMMITTEE
Purpose:
Coordinating school sports activities/ Active After Schools sports and communicating about these with the parent community.

Membership: parents/ Gov Council, staff member.

Meetings: Once per term.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE
Purpose:
Build on existing services to support parents and families.
Provide advice on communication, decision making and consultation.
Expand on ways to build parent engagement in school programs and events.

Membership: parents/ Governing Council, staff members.

Meetings: Approx twice per term.
Trinity Gardens School needs… YOU!

The improvement of our school relies on the partnerships we have with our parents. We value the voices and opinions of our community, and invite all those parents who may wish to contribute to discussions and actions in the following school committees for 2016.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL / COMMITTEES 2016**

**Education Committee**: Do you have ideas about programs we offer for our students?

**Governing Council**: Are you interested in knowing how the school is managed? How are decisions made?

**Community Connections Committee**: How can we engage and communicate to more parents about our school programs & events?

**OSHC Committee**: Do you have children who use OSHC? Do you have any ideas to share?

**Sports Committee**: What sports do we offer? What else is possible?

**Fundraising Committee**: Do you have great ideas about fundraising activities?

**Facilities/ Grounds Committee**: How can we improve our school grounds or facilities?

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Return slip – Trinity Gardens School Committee nominations 2016 **(return before AGM on Mon 7 March)**

I, __________________________________________ am interested in nominating for the following School Committee(s) for 2016:

- Governing Council **(election to be held at AGM on 7 March)**
- Facilities / Grounds committee
- Education committee
- Fundraising committee
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) committee
- Sports Committee
- Community Connections Committee

Contact: ph: ____________________________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________
4 March Friday

Be a part of Ride2School Day

Leave the car at home on this day and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in choosing to walk, scoot, skate and wheel to school.

Choosing active transport means:

Children start the day fresh and alert and ready to learn
Help you child achieve their 60 minutes of daily activity
Long term benefits are happier and healthier children
No issues with finding a park - be a part of the congestion solution

Bikes will again be stored in the tennis courts in class groups.

Remember to name your child’s bike, scooter, skateboard and helmet.

School Lunch boxes

Trinity Gardens School is a sustainable AuSSSI school. As such, we are on a journey to encourage sustainable behaviours so closely linked to our children’s future.

Please consider the following when packing or buying food for school.

The food in your child’s lunchbox fuels their learning for the day. Highly processed packaged salty, fatty, sugary foods produce ‘highs’ and ‘lows’ that do not help sensible behaviour choices.

Food packed in boxes is more likely to vary in taste, be healthier, be a portion size to suit your child and eliminates packaging returned home.

Children at the ELC level learn that they take all wastes back home. This is also a Trinity Gardens School procedure.

This process works best if:

All children bring a lunch box each day even if buying lunch as the bag and wastes go in it.

Food is packed in boxes and placed in the bag with an ice brick.

Minimize or eliminate packaging, open yoghurt pots, plastic wrap and plastic sandwich bags.

Children are taught to unload their lunch bag when they get home and use the appropriate home bins for wastes.
Are You Ready?

What a positive start to the school year it’s been! All classes have been participating in Are You Ready?, a two week program designed to set up safe, supportive and positive classroom environments. Classes could be seen playing Play Is The Way games, engaging in circle time, class discussions and group discussion about the Key Concepts and understanding phrases like ‘Code Switching’.

Through explicit teaching of the key elements of Play Is The Way teachers have led activities to collaboratively develop class expectations, routines and responsibilities for the year. At the conclusion of the two weeks students were asked to reflect on their learning and choose a behaviour goal they will work on at school relating to one of the 5 Play Is The Way Key Concepts. The Key Concepts are:

At Assembly last Friday every student brought along a personal behaviour goal which was written or drawn on a coloured circle matching the colour of the Key Concept they will be working hard to improve on for the Term. SRC members collected them all and worked together to form an effective visual on the back wall of the gym.

Exciting opportunity for families on **Monday 2 May 6:30pm- 8pm**

**Play Is The Way Parent Workshop with program founder and Director- Wilson McCaskil**

The parent information session gives participants a hand-on experience of the Play Is The Way methodology. The session is not a workshop on parenting and does not give advice on parenting within the home and family setting. It does illustrate how the Play Is The Way methodology works in schools and ways in which parents and carers can support the social and emotional learning of their children.

Register now for this great opportunity Parents can secure their spot by registering through the School Office.

Don’t forget to visit the Play Is The Way website for more information on the program [www.playistheway.com.au](http://www.playistheway.com.au)
AFTER SCHOOL SPORT

Are you interested in playing Netball or Soccer in Term 2 & 3?
If you are in years 2 - 7 you have the opportunity to nominate to play in an after school competition.

A nomination form is attached to this newsletter and one will be available for your child to collect from their class teacher. Forms can also be found on tge-connect and via the skoolbag app.

Team nominations will only be finalised with appropriate associations if there are adequate numbers of players and a dedicated coach/manger for each team.
It is important to understand - NO COACH = NO TEAM.
Team numbers cannot be infinite (too many players means less court or field time) so please send your registrations in by FRIDAY 26 February so your child does not miss out!

All players whose nominations are received by the due date will play.

** Players whose nomination form is late will go on a waiting list if the team is full. **

If you have any questions regarding after school sport, please feel free to contact Miranda Jackson via the school phone number p: 8431 4170 or e: miranda.jackson160@schools.sa.edu.au

SOCCER COORDINATOR WANTED!

At TGS we are fortunate to have had some very generous and long standing parent volunteers working as our after school sport Coordinators, Coaches and Managers. Without parents willing to give some of their time to support after school sport we would be unable to enter teams into competitions. Playing team sport can be an extremely valuable experience for our children.

Currently, we are seeking a Soccer Co-ordinator. Each after school sport has a parent volunteer who assists coaches and managers with questions they may have about training, game day and managing the team. The coordinator role has a good understanding of the sport and will attend association meetings (rarely more than one or two per season). This role could easily be undertaken alongside a coaching role as it is relatively undemanding.

If you’d like any further information or just wish to discuss the role please don’t hesitate to contact me p: 8431 4170 or e: miranda.jackson160@schools.sa.edu.au

Many thanks, Miranda Jackson - After School Sport Coordinator

SA Dental Service

Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider. Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service. Please call now for an appointment. Magill School Dental Clinic P: 8333 0707
Two FREE Parenting SA seminars

Presented by Dr Justin Coulson
- Nationally recognised parenting speaker
- Newspaper columnist
- TV commentator, author and researcher

Tuesday 5 April
When: 7.00 - 9.00pm
Where: City Rooms
Adelaide Convention Centre
North Terrace, Adelaide

Toddlers and touch screens: What should I do?
- the pros and cons of the digital age for children 0-5 years
- how and when to introduce phones, tablets, apps, e-games
- how to manage electronic media use

Wednesday 8 April
When: 7.00 - 9.00pm
Where: City Rooms
Adelaide Convention Centre
North Terrace, Adelaide

Children, teens and pornography: What every parent should know
- the alarming statistics
- are we becoming desensitised?
- the impact on boys and girls
- how parents can guide children and teens

Register to attend in person or view the live webcasts at:
http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au

Phone: 8303 1660
Email: health.parentingsa@sa.gov.au

Find out more about Dr Justin Coulson at www.happyfamilies.com.au

For the benefit of all participants unfortunately we are unable to admit babies and children.