Dear Families and Friends,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July

DIARY DATES
Friday 4th July – Last day of term
Tuesday 22nd July – Crows visit
Wednesday 13th August – Governing Council meeting
Wednesday 17th September – Governing Council meeting
Sunday 21st September – City to Bay

EARLY DISMISSAL
Students will be dismissed at 2.30 p.m. this Friday 4th July (last day of term).

Dear Families and Friends
It has certainly been a busy few weeks! And there is more to come.

SPECIAL PERSONS’ DAY
What an exceptionally special day this turned out to be with parents, grandparents, carers and friends attending. Each class provided morning tea for their guests followed by a special assembly in the hall. Classes presented a special item or performance. Thank you to all who attended and helped make this a very special day for our students. It was great fun and a terrific way to showcase learning. Thank you to the students and staff for making this a very memorable assembly.

STUDENT PORTFOLIOS
Your child’s portfolio will be sent home this week. Please take time to read it and see what your child has been doing for the first half of the year. We ask that you complete the Parent Comment Sheet and return it, together with the portfolio, at the beginning of next term. Portfolios will be added to and sent home again in term 4.

TOYOTA & ADELAIDE CROWS SCHOOLS NATIONAL TREE DAY
On Tuesday 22nd July (first week back at school) 40 Adelaide Crows players will be coming to our school to plant trees and shrubs, with our students. The plants are being donated by Toyota. Following the planting the players will be available to sign autographs and have photos taken. ‘Claude the Crow’ will also be making an appearance.

The players will be here from approx. 9.45 – 10.30 a.m. Parents and siblings are invited to attend. Please note that there will probably be media here on the day. Your child may come dressed in Crows colours if they have them.

PUPIL FREE DAYS
Last month we had a pupil free day on 6th June which involved schools in the Le Fevre Peninsula Partnership. Our school, together with Ocean View College, hosted approx. 350 staff who attended workshops and listened to keynote speakers based on the Australian Curriculum.

The second pupil free day held last Monday was hosted entirely at Adelaide West and once again there were approx. 360 attendees from Special Schools and Disability Units across South Australia. The focus of this day was based on the Australian Curriculum for students with disabilities. The theme for the day was ‘What does powerful learning for our learners look like?’

These days provide a valuable opportunity for staff to undertake professional development and network with their peers. Many of our staff presented workshops on the day and shared their expertise. Feedback form both days was very positive.
TRANSPORT
A reminder to families that if your child travels on a school bus/access taxi and is going to respite or you are moving permanently to a new address, forms must be lodged 10 working days prior to any change being approved by SERU. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Forms are available from Sue.

STAFF CHANGES
Lorna Fenech, Deputy Principal, returns next term after 5 weeks Long Service Leave. My sincere thanks to Cathy Roche-Wells for filling this position. Cathy in-serviced staff in the Child Protection Curriculum and updated Work Health and Safety procedures whilst she was here. Cathy returns to her usual Deputy Principal position at The Grove Education Centre.
Claire Kelton (Class 6) leaves us at the end of this term. My thanks to Claire for the work that she has done with our students and her contributions to our school. Claire is replaced by Nadine Vojnovic who fills the position of Coordinator, Teaching and Learning. Nadine comes from Roma Mitchell Secondary College Special Education Campus.

ISAAC CONFERENCE
ISAAC is the acronym for International Society of Augmentative and Alternative Communication. It is the most significant conference in this specialist area in the world and is held bi-annually. This year it will take place in Lisbon, Portugal. Leanne Shane and I will be presenting two papers at this conference. This is an extremely highly regarded conference and we were surprised and delighted to have the opportunity to share the work that we do at our school and in SA.
The first paper is entitled ‘Adelaide West Special Education Centre; Developing a Centre of Expertise’ and highlights our work with AAC for students with complex communication needs at our site and in other schools in SA. The second paper is entitled ‘All Change Please’ and will be delivered with Jane Farrall. It highlights the implementation of Four Blocks to Literacy and communication. The conference takes place form the 19th – 24th July, including pre-conference workshops, the main conference and the research symposium. We feel very fortunate to have this opportunity to share and learn form world experts in this specialist area of education.

I wish you all a happy holiday and look forward to seeing or hearing from you next term.

Sylvia Flato

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE
The school dental service is the major provider of dental services for children under years in S.A. The Commonwealth Child Dental Benefits Schedule for 2-17 year olds started in 2014. All children are welcome to continue to access dental care at the School Dental Service. Central care is free for most children and the School Dental Service will bulk bill Medicare. Children who do not qualify for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule can also attend – a small fee will apply for each course of general dental care provided. For more information visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au

2014 TERM DATES
Term 3
21st July to 26th September
Term 4
13th October – 12th December