Fisk Street Primary School

Student Information Booklet 2016
Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the Fisk Street Primary School community. I am confident that you and your child/ren will have a happy and successful time here. Thank you for entrusting your child’s education to us.

This booklet will provide you with information about our school that will help you to settle in to our school community quickly, and hopefully access many of the programs and activities.

There are many opportunities for parents, caregivers and other community members to join in our school activities, we really value the support that many people give us. Please let us know if you’d like to be involved.

If you do have any concerns, or there is something you are not sure of, please contact us. Marion Norman and Jacinta McGuinness, who work in the office, will be able to help you with many of your queries, while your child’s class teacher, Michelle Smith, our Counsellor, and myself, the Principal, will also be more than happy to discuss any concerns you may have.

Regards

Mitchell Ollington
Principal
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Our School Values

The community at Fisk Street Primary School has decided that the values that need to underpin all of our decisions and actions are:

Respect
Honesty
Doing Your Best
Teamwork

We believe these values are the basis of our strong, caring and just school culture.

Our School Rules

These rules match with our school values and encompass the behaviours of a highly successful learner at Fisk Street Primary School:

Safe Hands and Safe Feet
Follow Teachers Instructions Immediately
Raise Your Hand to Speak
Use a Green Note to Move Around the School

The Three Imperatives

Student success is the main focal point of Fisk Street Primary School, therefore, students can expect three imperatives when they come to our school:

Students feel valued and respected by their teachers
Students have work at their ability level
Students have friends at school
Staff List 2015
Principal
Mitchell Olington
Counsellor
Noeline Gapp

Year R/1/2 (Room 6)
Andrea Dowling
Year 1/2/3 (Room 7)
Leah Cornish
Year 3/4/5 (Room 10)
Greg Dunn
Year 4/5/6 (Room 11)
Jill Allcock
Year 5/6/7 (Room 4)
Simon Trezise
Art
Philippa Fisher
Health/PE
Ana Marijancvic
Aboriginal Education Teacher
Philippa Fisher

SSO Finance
Marion Norman
SSO Admin
Jacinta McGuinness/Emily Fielding
SSO Classroom
Marilyne Smith
SSO Classroom
Tammy Sneddon
SSO Classroom
Kyle Ward
SSO Classroom
Emily Fielding
SSO Classroom
Sherilyn Sherry
SSO Classroom
Aiden Sneddon
SSO Classroom
Jordyn Meacham
ACEO
Chris Fielding
GSE
David Allcock

Term Times
Term 1: 1 February – 15 April (11 weeks)
Term 2: 2 May – 8 July (10 weeks)
Term 3: 25 July – 30 September (10 weeks)
Term 4: 17 October – 16 December (9 weeks)

School Times
8:30am Leadership are on duty in the yard and classrooms are open for teachers to greet parents and students. The office is open for payments and information.
8:50am Morning lessons begin (including intervention).
10:50am Lunch eating time.
11:05am Lunch play time.
11:25am Middle block lessons begin.
1:25pm Recess eating/play time.
1:45pm Afternoon lessons begin.
3:05pm School dismissed, leadership are on duty in the yard,
3:15pm No leadership on duty in the yard. The office is open for payments and information.
3:30pm Office closed, no staff on duty.
Administration of Medication

When you enrol your child, please ensure you inform the school of any medication your child needs to take. To make sure that students do not miss time from school, we support families by administering medication where possible, with appropriate documentation.

If your child needs regular medication we will need to have a written Health Care Plan signed by your doctor. This information must be kept up to date. All drugs are kept at the front office, in a locked cabinet and administered by staff there.

We do our best to remind students of their medication needs and times, however as students get older, responsibility needs to be shown to come and take medication. We keep records of medication administered. All drugs need to be clearly labelled in the original chemist supplied bottle/packaging, with your child’s name and the dosage.

Medications prescribed for a short term only eg, antibiotics will also need a Health Care Plan from the doctor with clear directions as above.

Assembly

We have assembly on Friday mornings, once a fortnight on the even weeks of school. Sections of the school take turns to organise, present and share learning at the assembly. We start every assembly singing both verses of the national anthem (with no music) and an acknowledgment of country. Awards are presented to a member of each classroom who displays our school values.

Attendance

Once you child starts school, regular attendance and punctuality are vital to ensure successful outcomes in their learning. If your child is absent it is important that you contact the classroom teacher. If we have not heard from you after an absence of three days the teacher will ring you. It is also very important that students attend for the full day. The first part of the day is crucial due to it being a high intensity intervention, routine and literacy learning time. Student learning is delayed and has a detrimental effect on their future education if attendance is not above 90%.

Bikes and Scooters

The bike racks are located behind the cream metal fence at the front of the school near the main office. Although this is a secure area, at times scooter and bikes have either been stolen or damaged. Please ensure that any bike or scooter ridden to school is ridden with a helmet and provided with a lock.

Concert/Sports Day

Each year a concert and sports day are held in term 4. These are both wonderful celebrations of school culture, community and learning. They are held at Fisk Street Primary School and involve students displaying their skills in the areas of The Arts, Physical Education and School Values.
Fundraising

Fisk Street Primary School staff, SRC and Governing Council are always looking for new and inventive ways to raise funds for school projects. Please come in and see us if you have any ideas or would like to assist with this process. We use these funds to support yearly events, including Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week, Sports Day, camps and excursions.

Infectious Diseases/Head Lice

If your child contracts an infectious disease or head lice, please let us know. It will help us to minimize the spread of the infection and/or head lice at school, we can inform parents of these outbreaks. There are regulations about how long students need to stay away from school for some diseases/infections and we need to ensure that we follow these rules to safeguard the health of other students.

Lost Property

All lost clothing is placed in a basket near the front office, please see front office staff. Anything not claimed is sent to local charities or kept for spare uniform. Please name all items, as this helps with quick return. Lost money is held at the office. At the end of each term lost money not claimed is returned to the finder.

Lunches and Breakfast Club

We have an arrangement with Stuart High School Canteen, who make healthy and well priced lunches for the students. Menus are available at the front office and in every class lunch order basket. To order their lunch students write an order on an envelope found in each class and place their orders in the class lunch order basket, the baskets are taken to the front office by monitors. Students are also, between 8:30am and 8:50am, able to access the free breakfast club service in our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen.

Please Note: If students are late, lunch orders will need to be placed at the front office before 9:15am. Any lunch orders after this time will not be accepted.

Our school tuckshop is open at various times throughout the week to provide snacks. Ice creams and a range of drinks are available for purchase. To buy from the tuckshop the student needs to bring their money and line up at the tuckshop during playtime. Please do not send more than $5.00 for this.

Money Collection

Any money for camps, excursions or fundraisers is collected at the front office, preferably in the morning from 8:30am until 8:50am. A receipt will be provided.

Newsletter

We send home a newsletter on the same day as assembly with the youngest member of each family.
Parent Participation

We encourage parents to be involved in our school and their child/ren’s learning. You can be involved in the following ways:

Support at home: We set homework for our students, your interest and encouragement in this is vital. The students should not need a lot of help with this learning, if they do, please let the classroom teacher know.

Classroom support: Class teachers are always keen to have support with programs. This could be listening to reading, helping students with learning or assisting in our canteen and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden. We realise that many of you have younger children, so if you would like to help please feel free to bring them along. We really value any time that you are able to offer.

Governing Council: Our Governing Council is the major decision making body of the school. It ratifies the budget, helps develop policies and ratifies all policies. It oversees all the work of the sub-committees. The sub-committees include: Finance and Fundraising.

Aboriginal Parent Meetings: Our Aboriginal parent group meet twice per term to plan school events, including NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week, to discuss the learning outcomes of students at Fisk Street Primary School and plan for community involvement within the school.

Reporting to Parents

We believe that our students learn best when parents are involved and know what their child/ren is/are learning. We have developed a plan for reporting student’s learning. Term 1 and 3, parent/teacher interviews are held, giving an opportunity for parents and caregivers to discuss their child’s learning with the classroom teacher. Term 2 and 4, student reports are given to Parents/Caregiver stating their progress in a letter grade format (A-E) measured against the Australian Curriculum. If we have any concerns we will contact you, usually by phone, to discuss them.

Smith Family Partnership

The Smith Family works very closely with Fisk Street Primary School to support successful learning outcomes for all students. This includes student scholarships, Student to Student Reading and Wednesday afternoon learning club. Please come in and see our front office staff if you would like any more information on these services.

Sports Carnivals

As a school site we participate in the Whyalla District Sporting Carnivals. We do not enter teams in all sports, due to our school size, but ask students which carnivals are their preference and enter teams in the most popular sports. We value the opportunity that our students have in participating in these events, as they are able to represent their school, develop leadership skills and work as a team, as well as develop and display their sporting skills.
Starting School

At Fisk Street Primary School children can start following the Department for Education and Child Development Same First Day Policy. If your child turns five before May 1st they will start school on the first day of term 1 that year. If your child turns five on or after May 1st then they will start school the following year.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program was undertaken by Fisk Street Primary School in 2014.

‘It is underpinned by the philosophical belief that if a child is regularly engaged in activities in the garden, in the kitchen, is invited to the table, encouraged to taste and learn about healthy, delicious food, that child will grow to embrace fresh, seasonal flavours and will understand more about the world and how it relates to others’.

Students from years 3-7 participate in a fortnightly gardening and cooking lesson which culminates with the group sharing a cooked meal together.

Student Behaviour Management

At Fisk Street Primary School we teach students to be responsible for their own behaviour. Using the school rules and values we identify expected and inappropriate behaviours.

We offer rewards for exceptional behaviours and also impose consequences for inappropriate ones. These consequences may include time out from play, phone calls home, take homes, internal and external suspensions and exclusions. We encourage students to speak about issues that may be occurring so they can be resolved before the use of consequences.

Student Decision Making

At Fisk Street Primary School we encourage and teach all students to be involved in democracy. All classes have Circle Time, to discuss issues that either the teacher or the students want to discuss. The Student Representative Council (SRC) is made up of 2 peer elected members from each classroom. They address whole class issues that are raised during class Circle Times.

Uniform and Hats

Fisk Street Primary School has a strict school uniform policy as directed by our Governing Council. The uniform is stocked at school and can be purchased from the front office. Students who choose not to wear school uniform will be unable to play in the school yard at lunch and recess breaks. For more information please refer to our school uniform policy on our website.

A red bucket hat (purchased at the school front office) must be worn when students are outside including: excursions, playtime and physical education. The school uphold a strict no hat, no play policy and student not wearing a hat must sit on the no hat, no play bench.
Year Book

At the end of every year we produce a school year book. The year book contains highlights from the year including classroom learning, school programs, events and excursions. This is an excellent record and great memento of the year.