

01/02/17



Banksia Park School R-7

Newsletter

OUR VALUES

**Trust
Respect
Excellence**



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

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Important Dates

Governing Council / AGM
7pm—20/2

Reverse Interviews—8/2

Governing Council—7pm—27/3

R-5 Swimming—14/3-17/3

Parent Teacher Interviews—
28/3—30/3

Year 6/7 Aquatics—6/3

REVERSE INTERVIEWS

Information went home yesterday about Reverse Interviews. Please ensure that you use the online system to reserve a spot for each child you have to share this important information with your child's class teacher.
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
and booking code **yn6ms**.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Last year we changed school photographers due to the original booking that we made not being reserved and therefore the company not being able to fit us in. We are seeking your feedback and input about the photography service that our school received in 2016. We are in the process of booking photographs for 2017 and would like your input when the photographs should be taken (ie Term 1, 2, 3 or 4) and what company we should use. Can you please email Jason.sheehy809@schools.sa.edu.au with your thoughts, suggestions or feedback by the end of week 2 so that a decision can be made for 2017.

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school and the 2017 school year! I hope that you all had a happy, safe and relaxing holiday period and that you are refreshed and rejuvenated for a fun packed and educational school year.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome some of our new or returning staff members.

- In Room 7 we welcome Mr Derek Gallamore. Derek is currently teaching one of the two Years 6/7 classes.
- In Room 6 we welcome Mrs Amy Schiener. Amy will be teaching the Year 5 class for 2017.
- In Room 4 we welcome Mr Jason Dean. Jason will be teaching the Year 4/5 class.
- Room 14 sees the return of Ms Angela Kennedy with a straight Year 2 class.
- Mrs Emma Stewart will be teaching German and Health on a Thursday in Room 10.
- Mrs Meaghan Smythe returns two days a week, teaching R-7 Science on a Thursday and Friday in Room 15.
- Mr Mick O'Brien has had a role change and will be teaching Health and PE (M-W) in Room 15 / Gym.
- Mr Keith Jarman returns to Banksia, two days a week, working Thursday and Fridays. Keith has a wealth of knowledge and is available for parents also if they require support or advice.
- Ms Julie Anderson decided at very late notice that she would like to take Term 1 off to allow her the opportunity to pursue another employment option. At this stage, Ms Anderson will be returning to Banksia in Term 2, but in the meantime, we wish her well in her endeavours.
- We also welcome four new SSOs to our school. Mrs Angela Woodcock will be overseeing the Garden side of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden, commencing later this term. Ms Debbie Collins will be working in classrooms on a Monday and Tuesday, Mrs Michelle Bailley will be providing classroom support on a Thursday and Friday and Ms Sharyn Taylor will be working in classrooms Monday—Wednesday.
- We also congratulate Rob Rozee and Mark Williams as the successful applicants to the two permanent positions advertised last year.

I am sure that the school community will make our new staff feel very welcome. Feel free to introduce yourself and have a chat!

I would also like to take this opportunity to

welcome our many new students and families to the Banksia Park School R-7 community. At last count, we had 59 new students enrol with us for the beginning of 2017. At this stage, we currently have 262 students enrolled R-7. We look forward to working with all students and their families this year and for the coming years ahead.

Please find a Term 1 calendar of events which you may like to add to as the term progresses. Additional events / information will be sent out via the Skoolbag App and the School Blog.

Regards
Jason Sheehy

ASSEMBLIES

As indicated in the letter to families sent out in early January, please make note that the 2017 student assemblies will be held on Wednesday mornings (Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of each school term). Assemblies will start at 9am and will conclude at 9.30am. We encourage and welcome any parents or family members to stay for the assembly when possible to support your children and get a snapshot of some of the things that have been happening around the school. Assemblies this year will continue to focus on the Building Learning Power, but will be run in entirety by the classes.

COMMUNICATION

This week you will receive a Term 1 overview from your children's class teacher. This would have outlined their rules, expectations and organisational matters so that as parents / caregivers you are aware and can assist your children in being organised.

Once again, we will continue using Skoolbag as our main tool of communication. PLEASE make sure that you down load this onto your smartphone. If you do not have a smart phone, please notify the front office so that hard copies of information can be sent home to you, so that you are receiving all school communication.

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.



Mr Baxter—Update

Mr Chris Baxter visited school last week and is making great progress in his recovery. He is currently partaking in some intensive rehabilitation therapy to help him regain mobility. Chris still has his wit and a wicked sense of humour. He is missing the school; staff, students and parents and sends his best wishes.

CANTEEN

Next Tuesday (Week 2—7/2/17) will be our first canteen day. 'Cheeky Monkey Catering' will continue to be our canteen provider on a Tuesday. All food is prepared fresh on site and complies with the DECD Right Bite Healthy Eating Policy. Please see attached the 2017 canteen order form.

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN (SAKG)

This year, the SAKG will encompass all classes, R-7 on a rotational basis. Thursday's and Fridays will be both garden and kitchen days. Gardening will be in the morning on both days (4 classes a week) and cooking will be after recess on both days (4 classes). This model allows the students to be involved in the garden in the morning and then using the produce in the kitchen later in the day. We are actively seeking volunteers who may like to spend some time in either the kitchen or the garden (or both) on either day. Garden lessons will be run and facilitated by Angela Woodcock and the kitchen will continue to be run by Jackie Knox (Deputy Principal) and Krys Pitt (SSO). If you would like to lend a hand, or know someone who may, we would love to hear from you.

7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

FLEXIBLE LEARNING SPACES

This year a number of classes have opted to trial flexible learning spaces. To provide parents / carers with some more information, we offer the following information.

What are flexible learning spaces? Flexible learning spaces are designed to be communal spaces which can be configured in a number of ways for specific learning experiences. This means they provide opportunities for people to work together in collaborative and exciting ways.

How are flexible learning spaces different from open learning environments? Flexible learning spaces provide a variety of spaces that can be used for specific learning tasks and activities. Areas can be configured to suit learning styles and help generate engaging and exciting learning opportunities. Open learning environments on the other hand, are completely open and do not allow for reconfiguration of the space to create other options. In open learning environments, students are only able to do one form of learning in a large space reducing the ability to create small group space, quiet areas and a spaces tailored for specific tasks.

How do different spaces help meet the individual and social needs of students?

We are able to tailor the learning to suit the students and the learning outcomes. If we need a quiet space then we have spaces to accommodate quiet work. If we need collaborative group discussion we will have customised spaces to allow this interaction.

Flexible learning spaces allow teachers to use

the space more effectively than a traditional classroom. Flexible learning spaces allow adults and support staff to work within the space meaning students have access to support more readily.

How do students use flexible spaces?

Students can be grouped in a variety of ways that take advantage of both indoor and outdoor learning environments. They enable students to work in a variety of areas enabling them to move around, work at tables, on the floor, in small group settings, as well as standing. Flexible learning spaces empower students to understand themselves as learners so they can apply different learning techniques depending on the task and outcome.

What type of learning is valued and encouraged through flexible learning spaces?

21st Century learning is underpinned by teaching methods and spaces that are engaging and motivational. Flexible learning spaces complement current and evolving pedagogies and provide creative and energised learners and teachers. Flexible learning spaces enable social and collaborative learning, integrated curriculum delivery, mix of teacher-directed and student-directed teaching and learning, independent learning, project work, direct instruction, innovative and creating thinking, relationship building, and problem-solving skills.

A number of our classrooms have opted into this style of classroom to better cater for your children. The structure allows students to select their preferred learning style; conventional tables and chairs, fitballs (excellent for helping students with posture) standing, bean bags, wobble chairs, bar tables and chairs or laying on the ground. Not only does this allow the students flexibility and added comfortability, but it also increases student engagement and the ability to work in pairs, small groups or whole class activities whilst utilising our available technologies (iPads / Laptops) to increase learning outcomes.



BANKSIA PARK CALENDAR 2017

TERM 1	Monday	 Tuesday	Wednesday	 Thursday	Friday
		Lunch Orders		Banking	
Week 1 Mon 30/1					
Week 2 Mon 6/2			Reverse Interviews Assembly		
Week 3 Mon 13/2					
Week 4 Mon 20/2	Governing Council / AGM 7pm		Assembly		
Week 5 Mon 27/2	Pancake Day				Clean Up Australia Day
Week 6 Mon 6/3			Assembly 9am		Proposed Pupil Free Day
Week 7 Mon 13/3	Adelaide Cup	R-5 Swimming	R-5 Swimming	R-5 Swimming	R-5 Swimming
Week 8 Mon 20/3		Harmony Day	Assembly 9am		
Week 9 Mon 27/3	Governing Council	Parent Teacher Interviews	Parent Teacher Interviews	Parent Teacher Interviews	
Week 10 Mon 3/4			Assembly 9am	Years 6/7 Aquatics	
Week 11 Mon 10/4				Early Dismissal 2.05pm	Good Friday