



Principal: Michael Koutsoukos
Deputy Principal: Melissa Mundy
Wellbeing Leader: Steve Hetherington
Senior Leader Curriculum: Victoria McKinnon
Chairperson Governing Council: Julia Mustac
Term 1 – 12th February, 2021

From the Deputy Principal

We have many exciting initiatives that have started or are taking place this year that I would like to share with you.

AUSLAN

Auslan is short for Australian sign language, a language developed by, and for, Australians who are deaf or hearing impaired. It's a visual form of communication that uses hand, arm and body movements to convey meaning. It is a language that can also benefit children and adults who are non-verbal or have a developmental delay as it provides a way for them to access communication and express themselves.

We are so fortunate that Michelle Tromp has embraced teaching AUSLAN and has created an engaging curriculum for the students to develop their skills. The students have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of learning this new language and sharing it with their peers and families.

Play is the Way

Another initiative that we have embraced is the teaching of 'Play is the Way'.

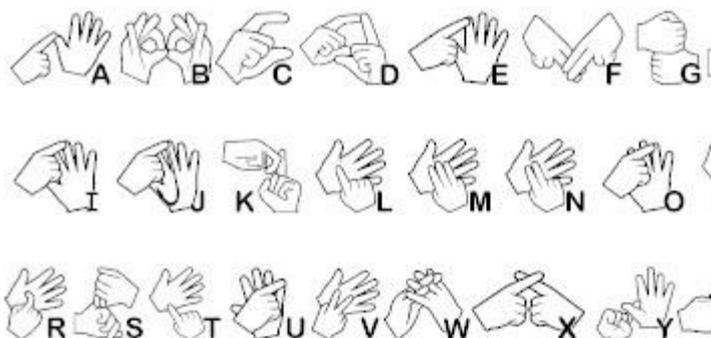
PLAY IS THE WAY is a practical method for teaching social and emotional skills using guided play, classroom activities and an empowering language.

It is a process that develops, improves and embeds the personal and social capabilities of students.

'Play is the Way' aligns beautifully with our 'Pathways to Powerful Learner' teaching of Collaboration, Communication, Problem-Solving, Mindsets and Self-Regulation. The students have started learning a range of games that:

- help to develop patterns of behaviour that are personally advantageous and culturally appropriate.
- teach how to respond appropriately to the thrill of success and the disappointment of failure. To enjoy competition with good grace and consideration for the other side.
- create a common awareness and language with which to discuss the processes of human action and interaction. They encourage empathy, respect and an appreciation of difference.
- encourage the use of skills to help others in the pursuit of common goals. They strengthen the skills of teamwork and cooperation and help children to manage relationships.

These are some of the benefits that can be achieved through regular practise of the 'Play is the Way' games and language. To



help in the implementation at Morphett Vale Primary School we have a dedicated group of teachers that have formed an Action Team that is being led by Steve Hetherington.



Dental for Schools

In Term 2, we have been fortunate to have organised an onsite dentist for two days. This is going to be an ongoing service provided at Morphett Vale Primary School. A workshop will be conducted prior to the dental check-ups, providing information to the students about oral health, hygiene and ongoing care of their teeth and gums. All students and staff in the school will be able to access this service, promoting our holistic care for our community. Prior to this starting, information will be sent to families including a consent form. I would like to thank Julia Mustac, our Governing Council Chairperson, for linking us to this service.



Welcome to the Receptions of 2021

We have experienced a smooth and positive start to our school journey in Reception over these last 3 weeks. Our returning Year 1 learners have also shown enthusiasm to starting school. It is going to be an incredible year of growth and learning for us all. We are learning the phonics sounds and can already recognise some letters and the sounds they make. We have even made some words already. This will help them as they begin reading and decoding unfamiliar words. In numeracy, we have been subitising and ordering numbers up to 5. We have some learners who have already proven to us that counting beyond 20 is quite simple and we look forward to extending these learners in the classroom. ‘

We asked some of our new Receptions what their highlights of school are so far and this is what they had to say:

“ My favourite part is playing on the playground.” – Taha (Schnetler)

“ Playing with the toys in the classroom is fun.” – Jackson (Schnetler)

“ I like learning about numbers in maths.” – Abigail (Schnetler)

“ I get to be with my friends.” – Cheyenne (Schnetler)

“ Mum gets me food from the canteen.” – Ollie (Schentler)

“I like counting” – Cruz (Chapman)

“I like learning the sounds” – Sienna (Chapman)

“I like drawing” – Helena (Chapman)

“I like gluing” – Harry (Chapman)



Ms Schneller's Class



Mrs Chapman's Class

Materials & Services Charges

Tax invoices for Materials and Services charges of \$246 (legally recoverable amount) and special events fees of \$44 were sent home with your child this week. Payment by cash/EFTPOS/Qkr or Centrepay is due by the end of term 1. If you need to make arrangements for a payment plan please contact Jan Kalnins in the front office.

School Card

School card eligibility levels for 2021 are below. Applications for school card can be completed online at

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

A new School Card application MUST be submitted each year

Please complete as soon as possible. Paper applications are available in the front office if unable to process online.

Number of Dependent Children	2019/2020 Annual School Card Income Limit	2019/2020 Weekly School Card Income Limit
1	\$60867	\$1171
2	\$61954	\$1192
3	\$63041	\$1213
4	\$64128	\$1234
5	\$65215	\$1255
Each Additional Dependent Child	\$1087	\$21

Scholastic Book Orders Issue 1

Book orders to be returned to the front office with full payment by Friday 19th February 2021

Book Club



Diary Dates

Week 4	17/2/21 Acquaintance night. AGM/Governing Co meeting.
Week 6	1/3/21 Parent reading workshop R-2 2/3/21 Parent reading workshop 3-7 3/3/21 School Assembly
Week 10	2/4/21 Good Friday Parent Teacher interviews
Week 11	5/4/21 Easter Monday 9/4/21 Last Day of Term 1 Dismissal 3pm

So true are the words sung in the song lyrics of "People are strange", sung by The Doors. Here are a few lines:

"People are strange when you're a stranger
Faces look ugly when you're alone
When you're strange
No-one remember your name
When you're strange"

Courage comes in many shapes and forms. For some it's climbing a mountain, others facing a fear.

There is courage to stay and courage to go
Courage to speak up or maybe just
courage to start a new day

We would love you here at Morphett Vale to find your courage whenever you need it.

At our village we encourage you to not be a stranger, to come have a chat. We would love to connect with you and find the friendships and networks that possibly can embrace you and your family.

Come and have a cuppa on Thursday mornings. We can catch up with you by appointment also at our village community room.

Kristy Sammut Community Liaison Officer
Kiowa Woodland Pastoral Care Worker