

# Scott Creek Primary School



Est. 1893

## Information Booklet



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## **Contents**

## **Page**

Absences	8
After School Learning Club	8
Allergy Awareness Policy	8
Assemblies	8
Assessment	8
Buses	8/9
Bushfire Action Plans	9
Camps	9
Classes	9
Cooking Fresh & Local and Kitchen Garden	9/10
Dental Clinic	10
Excursions	10
Fabulous Friday	10
First Lego League	10
Footwear	10
Governing council	10/11
Grievance	11
Harassment and bullying	11
Head lice	11
High School	11
Hot weather policy	11
Intervention programs	12
Library	12

## **Contents**

## **Page**

Lost Property	12
Lunches	12
Motor vehicles and road safety	12
Music tuition	12/13
Nature Play	13
Newsletter	13
Parent Involvement	13
Police Checks	13
Reporting on student achievements	13/14
School beginners	14
School Card	14
School Fees	14
School Hours	14
School Sport -SAPSASA	15/16
Special Activities/Events	15
Student Behaviour Support	15
Student Council	15
Sun Smart Policy	15/16
Uniform	16
Where are we?	17

## **SCOTT CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Positive Caring Inspired*

Our school is situated in a picturesque valley close to Scott Creek Conservation Park and surrounded by native bushland.

We offer a nurturing, nature based environment where children engage in extensive outdoor and environmental investigations.

The grounds consist of a hard play area for all types of ball games, beautiful gardens, play structures, sandpit, frog pond, artificial creek, oval and wooded area. The wooded area provides the students with a stimulating and relaxing play space.

Our Environment Walk in the school grounds is a hands-on experiential walk under constant development by a partnership of parents, students and staff.

Our natural bush environment provides the opportunity for wondering, curiosity and creativity.



## **Welcome**

*Welcome to Scott Creek Primary School. We trust that your family's association with our school community will be fulfilling and rewarding.*



## **Mission Statement**

*Scott Creek Primary is a small, dynamic community school. Our school's purpose is to provide our students with a high quality education that is both diverse and balanced and which prepares them to be responsible community members, environmental caretakers and global citizens. We aim to deliver this education in a caring, supportive learning environment where children become empowered, confident, independent learners valuing unity and integrity.*

***School Staff***

***Principal***

Anthony McIver

***Classroom Teachers***

**Junior Primary:** Carly Rosser and Kate Coates

**Middle Primary:** Natalie Squire

**Upper Primary:** Danielle Bougourd

**PE/Health:** Anthony McIver

**Music:** Thea Martin

**Science & Cultural Studies:** Courtney Elliott

***School Services Officers***

Sarah Auld

Carolyn Bennett

Kim Lau

Rani Quinton

Jill Wiseman

## **Scott Creek Primary is a small, dynamic community school.**

### **Our small size:**

- promotes an inclusive learning environment with a spread of ages and year levels in each class
- gives scope for individual and group work, both inside and in our outdoor learning spaces
- creates an environment which is challenging, safe, secure and collaborative
- encourages and promotes student voice, instilling a sense of ownership and responsibility
- promotes inquiry based learning through the Walker Learning approach
- allows maximum access to current and emerging information and communication technologies
- supports children to grow and achieve with limitless potential

### **Our educational objectives:**

- maintain an appropriate balance of all eight areas of study
- provide academic learning that maintains the wonder, innocence and creativity of childhood, while preparing children to be future thinking, socially aware and community minded citizens.
- teach the school values; positive, caring, inspired, as well as co-operation, responsibility, honesty, openness and excellence

### **Our community focus:**

- maintains the **family atmosphere** that makes our school unique
- helps us view education as a **partnership**; involving staff, parents, students and extended community in meaningful dialogue and shared decision making processes.

# SCHOOL ORGANISATION

## **ABSENCES**

- Parents are required to notify the school by email, telephone, in writing or in person of any student absence.
- Schools are required to keep accurate records of student absences including late arrivals and early departures, so your co-operation is requested.
- If arriving after the start of school (8:50am), students are required to collect a late slip from the office to give to their teacher. If leaving school early, a parent or caregiver must sign the student out at the front office.
- If a family intends going on holiday for 3 days or more an ED175 exemption form will need to be fill in. This can be collected from the front office.

## **AFTER SCHOOL—LEARNING CLUBS**

Our school offers after school learning clubs daily (until 5:00pm). Please ensure you contact the Front Office to book your child into the Learning Club.

## **ALLERGY AWARENESS POLICY**

We provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Scott Creek Primary School community and raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding severe allergies. Please check with your child's teacher regarding allergy awareness requirements for your child's class.

## **ASSEMBLIES**

Student run assemblies are held 3 times a term. See school newsletters and term calendars for more details of times.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Formative assessment occurs throughout lessons so that students can respond to feedback. Summative assessments are carried out at the completion of work units.

## **BUSES**

### **School bus**

The School bus is managed by Heathfield High School. A bus pass is needed to catch the bus. These are issued through Heathfield High and handed on to the school. Eligibility criteria apply.

Information about this can be found on the Heathfield High School website [www.hhs.sa.edu.au/buses](http://www.hhs.sa.edu.au/buses)

### **Morning**

The bus arrives at school at approximately 8.15am.

### **Afternoon**

Children will meet in the rotunda after bell is rung at approximately 3.40pm and will then be supervised by a teacher.



***At the end of each term the bus runs one hour earlier - school dismisses at 2.30 pm.***

***Tuesday afternoon school finishes at 2.50pm.***

### **BUSHFIRE ACTION PLANS**

The school has written procedures for emergencies. These are in every room. Staff and students are made aware of procedures such as bushfires and internal fires. These procedures are reviewed regularly with CFS consultation. If a bush fire breaks out during school time, students will be evacuated to the main building which is deemed our **Bushfire Refuge Building**.

Scott Creek Primary will be closed on days of **Catastrophic** Fire Danger.

Paper work for the Bushfire Action Plan is sent home at the beginning of every school year.

A full copy of our Bushfire Emergency Procedures is available from the front office or via our email.

We encourage parents to have their own family Bushfire Action Plan and follow it on severe or extreme fire days. Families are responsible for activating their own Bushfire Action Plans when necessary.

### **CAMPS**

Each year we may hold school camps. The purposes and structures vary to suit the needs of students, parents and staff. However, the following principles tend to guide our actions:

- we encourage total participation of students
- activities are cost effective
- it supports the curriculum programme

### **CLASSES**

In 2024, the school offers 3 x classes: R-2, 3/4 and 5/6.

### **COOKING FRESH AND LOCAL AND THE KITCHEN GARDEN**

We grow a variety of produce, including fruits, vegetables and herbs and the children participate in all aspects of the garden from propagation to harvest.

The kitchen garden provides a dynamic opportunity for children to learn about soils, composting, organic gardening, seasonal produce and environmental science.

Our chickens and quails produce eggs which we use for cooking or are sold to parents and community members.

The aim of the cooking program is to assist the children in taking ownership of their kitchen garden experiences. This involves growing, cooking and preparing a simple meal. They connect with other cultures, work as a team, challenge themselves around personal food issues in a safe supportive environment, discover the creative part of themselves through cooking and scrap booking and learn important life skills.

### **DENTAL CLINIC**

Children from this school are eligible to receive treatment at the Mt Barker Dental Service, Dumas Street, Mt Barker. Telephone: 8391 0858 for information and appointments.

### **EXCURSIONS**

During the year, students are involved in excursions around and beyond the local area. An excursion may initiate, extend or culminate a unit of work.

Excursion notes and invoices will be sent home with students. We encourage payment prior to the excursion. If this is not possible please speak with Jill Wiseman or the principal.

### **FABULOUS FRIDAY**

Our 'Terrific Tuesday' transition program is available to children in the term before they start school. We conduct the sessions on Tuesday mornings - 9:00am and 11:00am. During this time pre-schoolers will be involved in activities where they can interact with other children and adults.

### **FIRST LEGO LEAGUE**

Students have the opportunity to join SCULL (Scott Creek Ultimate Lego League) and participate in First Lego League. Students can compete as a team against other student teams in the field of robotics and learn valuable life skills and team player values. The team build a robot from Lego, program the robot to perform missions, research and provide "solutions" to a real life problem and present the team's solution to other people.

### **FOOTWEAR**

Thongs, crocs and slip-ons are not to be worn to school as they are not safe. Because we do daily physical education we ask you to supply footwear that is suitable and safe for vigorous activities. Work boots and rubber boots may be appropriate for outdoor learning days.

### **GOVERNING COUNCIL**

The Governing Council is a decision making body of the school community which works to provide direction, policy and support to assist the principal to make the school a better place for learning. It is responsible for the activity of governance and not management of the school. Setting performance

expectations and monitoring achievements of the school are clearly the responsibility of the principal and teachers.

In practice the Governing Council has the following functions:

- *Provides a focus and forum for the involvement of parents and the school community.*
- *Sets the broad direction and vision of the school.*
- *Helps develop, monitor and review strategic goals and directions.*
- *Determines school policy.*
- *Determines the application of financial resources within the school.*

The Annual General Meeting of parents is usually held in February of each year.

At the AGM, vacancies caused by retiring/outgoing members of the governing council are filled by election. The council normally meets twice a term.

### **GRIEVANCE**

If you have a grievance please speak with the staff member you believe to be closest to that grievance. Ring to make an appointment outside of class time.

If the grievance is not resolved, make contact once again with that person and also speak to the Principal. If there is still no resolution, you may contact the Adelaide Hills Education Director.

### **HARASSMENT AND BULLYING**

We aim to provide a safe and caring environment where the children develop a responsibility for themselves and each other. We take harassment and bullying very seriously. Our small size enables us to act on any issues quickly.

A copy of our Harassment Policy can be found on our website. Regular student harassment surveys guide our teaching of anti-bullying strategies.

### **HEADLICE**

Like most schools we have times during the year when head lice are prominent. To break their cycle we send home a notification that lice have been detected at school and ask you to check your child's hair.

If nits (eggs) are present then action must be taken to kill them before the child is allowed to return to school.

Please have all members of your household checked as well! If you are unsure of what to look for please contact the school.

### **HIGH SCHOOL**

Year 6 students are allocated placement to a public high school based on where they live. However, parents are welcome to nominate another High School of their choice, although you do not have the right to demand a particular school. Information regarding high school transition will be sent home during the year as

it becomes available from the Department for Education. Orientation information will be advised by your nominated high school.

### **HOT WEATHER POLICY**

Our school does not dismiss early on hot days.

We feel the children are as comfortable at our school as they would be at home as all classrooms are air-conditioned. Parents have the right to collect their children from school at any time after notifying the class teacher and signing students out at the front office.

### **INTERVENTION PROGRAMS**

Scott Creek Primary School provides intervention programs for students with special needs in literacy and numeracy. These sessions may operate 1-1, in pairs or in small groups.

### **LIBRARY**

There are class libraries in all classrooms as well as the main library. Borrowing may be done at any time. If books are lost, every effort will be made to locate them, however, if they are not found and invoice will be sent home at the end of the term.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

We have a container in which lost property is stored. You are welcome to look through at any time. Lost property is displayed at the front of the school at the end of each term. Unmarked clothing not claimed is sold for a gold coin donation or given to a charity.

### **LUNCHES**

We do not have a canteen. Fridges are available for students to keep their lunches fresh if needed. On Mondays during terms 2 and 3, children may bring wrapped and named food items which will be heated in the oven. Children can order lunch for Friday, orders must be in by Wednesday.

### **MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD SAFETY**

For the children's safety, we ask you to observe the following:

- Keep the area on east side of the hall free for bus turning
- Collect your child from the school side and cross the road only at the crossing
- Observe the road signs/appropriate speed limit in the vicinity of school.

### **MUSIC TUITION**

We offer music tuition on a user pays basis. Private teachers visit the school, use our facilities and withdraw the children during lesson time or lunch times, whichever is most suitable.

Piano, guitar, drums and voice lessons are currently being offered. Classes

participate in weekly music lessons that are funded by the school.

### **NATURE PLAY**

At Scott Creek Primary School, the students are immersed in the Natural World. Our forest location is perfect for cubby building, fairy gardens and bush care. We have 'Kids' Creek', a stone creek where the children can play with water, paddle and make mud pies in the mud kitchen. Students play in student made tents and create pebble patterns and woven art. Students can always find a place in our school to connect with nature.

### **NEWSLETTER**

A newsletter is produced four times each term. Newsletters are sent home via email Friday and are also available on our website. Paper copies of the newsletter may be requested. Please take note of events on the Calendar as this is our major communication between parents and school.

### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

This is a major part of what makes our school special. You can become involved as much as you wish; from being on Governing Council to attending working bees, social events, classroom activities, and excursions, arranging fundraising or working in the veggie garden. Because of our location we often rely on parents to help with transport. Your child's class teacher may invite you to become directly involved in classroom activities.

### **POLICE CHECKS**

Please note that under the Department for Education guidelines, volunteers wishing to be involved in excursions, camps, transport etc. must have a police clearance and undergone Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect—Education and Care (RRHAN-EC) training.

### **REPORTING ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Reporting to parents and students takes place each term and takes the form of a combination of interviews, written reports and examples of students' work related to the intended outcomes of the curriculum covered, and a 'showcase' of student activities in addition to our normal reports. Assemblies are an opportunity for classes/individuals to showcase their learning. Parents and friends are made welcome.

**Term 1** Parent Information Evening  
3-Way Conversations  
Learning Showcase

**Term 2** Written Report

**Term 3** Learning Showcase

**Term 4** Written Report

It is important to note that parents and teachers may request an interview at any time throughout the year whenever there is a need. This is encouraged.

### **SCHOOL BEGINNERS**

Scott Creek Primary School has a transition program for new reception students. We conduct our transition periods on Terrific Tuesdays between 9:00am and 11:00am. Transition from Preschool to Reception occurs in term 4 of the year prior to starting school. This allows students to be involved with activity sessions during which they can interact and work informally with staff, other adults and students in the school.

Children turning 5 years old before May 1st begin school in that year in late January. Students turning 5 from May 1st begin school the following year.

### **SCHOOL CARD**

The School Card scheme offers financial assistance with school fees (materials and services charges) for students attending government schools. Assistance through this scheme is subject to a means test. Information is available at [www.sa.gov.au](http://www.sa.gov.au), search for School Card. Applications can be made online. Further enquiries should be made to the school. Parents who obtain this assistance are still required to pay the fees for camps and most excursions.

### **SCHOOL FEES**

Governing Council reviews the school's Materials and Services charges for the beginning of each year.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

#### **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**

8:15am School bus arrives

8:50am Bell rings, school commences

3:30pm Dismissal

3:40pm School bus departs

**\* *Early dismissal on Tuesday afternoons—2:50pm* \***

### **SCHOOL SPORT - SAPSASA**

The school has a high level of participation in SAPSASA (South Australia Primary School Amateur Sports Association) activities. Our school is part of the Hills District SAPSASA zone. Students are eligible to participate in SAPSASA activities from the year of their 10th birthday. All SAPSASA activities take place during school time (selection trials for district & state teams occur outside of school hours).

School teams nominated were:

*Swimming / Athletics / Rugby / Cross Country Running / Cycling/ Volleyball / Beach Volleyball / Netball & Soccer.*

Students may trial for district representation in the following sports; *Cricket (boys only), Softball (girls only), Tennis (boys & girls), Hockey (boys & girls), Netball (girls only), Soccer (boys & girls) & Football (boys only).*

State selection is possible from these teams.

## **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

### **Term 1**

Swimming lessons (Reception to Year 5)  
Small Schools Combined Sports Day

### **Term 2**

Whole school Music Concert  
CreARTive Celebration and Open Morning

### **Term 3**

Lego League  
Learning Showcase

### **Term 4**

Year 6 Aquatics  
End of Year Concert and Year 6 Graduation  
Lego League

### **Throughout Year**

Music lessons, excursions and camps, Premier's Reading Challenge, Student Council and student initiated fundraising.

## **STUDENT BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT**

Our practices are based on the expectation that students will act responsibly and take responsibility for their own behaviour and the peaceful resolution of their conflicts.

To support this we have strong student participation processes, encourage close links with parents and engage in Restorative Practices. We have a series of steps which may be taken when necessary. A copy of our Behaviour Support Policy is available on request.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council meets fortnightly. This forum is a way in which student voice is heard, valued and empowered.

## **SUN SMART POLICY**

The Governing Council has resolved that the school requires students to wear sunscreen and suitable hats whilst outdoors from September 1st through to April 30th. Other times are at the discretion of the teachers. In support of this and the growing concern over skin damage due to exposure to the sun, families are asked to ensure their children have hats which protect their ears and necks whilst at school.

In keeping with the school's 'Sun Smart Policy', all clothing must be sun safe, with no bare shoulders or midriff. Hats must be worn for outside activities and play time from September to April. Hats can be a suitable broad-brimmed hat or a legionnaire type hat. If your child does not have a suitable hat she/he will be required to play under cover during lesson times and play breaks. Baseball type hats are not suitable. School hats can be purchased through the front office.

## **UNIFORM**

Official Scott Creek Primary School uniforms can be purchased from The Uniform Shop in the Mount Barker Homemaker Centre, Dutton Road, Mount Barker.

We require all students to wear school colours, without logos or designs. The school colours are red, white and black. At public events such as excursions, performances, sporting events and any functions where the students participate in a representative capacity, school colours or school uniform must be worn. Parents wishing to gain exemption from the wearing of school colours for their child may apply in writing to the Principal. Exemption may be granted on medical, financial, religious or cultural grounds or for students new to the school (short term only).

*We recommend the following articles to be worn by students:*

- Red, black or white short or long sleeved polo shirt
- Black, red or grey shorts or skirt (minimum length of mid thigh)
- Black, red or grey pants
- Red, black or white windcheater / rugby top / cardigan / jumper
- Red and white summer dress
- Student designed Uppers top (new design each year)

Plain coloured polo shirts and shorts are available from all discount department stores. We have a collection of second hand clothing at the school for a minimal cost. Jewellery should be discreet and limited to ear rings (sleepers or studs), watch or medic alert bracelet.

Hats can be purchased from the school front office.



## WHERE WE ARE?

10 minutes from Stirling—follow Longwood Road from Stirling, turn right at Red Hill Road, This leads to Scott Creek School.

15 minutes from Coromandel Valley—follow Ackland Hills Road, Morgan Road to Scott Creek School.





