

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2018 school year.

Below is a photo of the **School Leadership Team for 2018 !**



Carol Lapanowski - Disability Unit Director, Judy Pearce-Student Review Team Leader, Stewart McGaffin – Deputy Principal, Brenton Conradi- Principal, Tara Sheehy- Leader of Well Being and Engagement, Peri Simpson – Assistant Principal- Director of Curriculum, Kerri Bray Student Review Team Leader, Mel Claridge-Maths Co-ordinator, Joy Wenske- Business Manager and Dawn Pietersen- PA

We thought it would be timely to start the year with a brief update about exciting school developments which have continued over the holiday period.

- All of the student toilets have been upgraded and painted. Our 2 new Murray Unit classrooms have been built. A \$20,000 outdoor yard upgrade for the Murray Unit will occur during Term 1. The new computer room is established in Torren's Block. New carpets and painting will be completed across the school hopefully in the April holidays. New community parking will be constructed during Term 1 and a new \$80,000 Nature Play to be built in Term 1.
- Congratulations to the following new **staff** who have been appointed to our school. Julie Fuller, Sara Dennis, Serena Beacham, Tegan Guerin, Jack Rose, Olivia Villiano, Natassja Mynhardt, Melissa Gilbert, Tamara Carter. We also welcome back Krichelle Parke, Chantelle Mazaferro and Nellie Lapanowski.

- **Specialist Subjects**-In 2018 our specialist lessons will accommodate the changing skill sets needed to develop for children going into the future. We will be offering STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths), PE, The Arts (Music & Drama) and AUSLAN.

This year we start the year with 27 classes, three more than last year. We have approximately 620 students enrolled.

There will be much for students to get involved in and I thank my staff and volunteers for putting the extra time in for our students to participate in the following programmes

- Wakakirri
- Year 7 Student Leaders
- Choir
- Pedal Prix
- School Magazine
- School Band
- SAPSASA sports teams
- Student Commission
- Cows programme

Blakeview Primary is a caring place of highly professional teachers and support staff who provide personalised service to families and students. If you are a new family, your child will be welcomed to the Blakeview Primary School community in the New Buddies Program. This is an initiative for all new students throughout the school to help settle into their new environment.

To continue this care to all families, we provide the following information to assist with a smooth start to the 2018 year,

1. **School hours of operation** in 2018 are the same as last year. Every day except Thursday, will have lessons from 8.50am to 3.10pm. On Thursday, the school day will be from 8.50am to 2.20pm. Yard supervision will be provided from 8.30am to 3.25pm every day except Thursday when supervision will be until 2.40pm. The Thursday finishing time aligns with Craigmore High School to enable all primary school and high school students to be dismissed together. Governing Council has also approved OSHC to not increase the charges for the shortened Thursday. This will mean there is no extra cost to OSHC families on a Thursday.
2. The **school values of respect, responsibility and honesty** through the promotion of high achievement and lifelong learning. The Blakeview Behaviour Code and Anti-bullying brochure is available on our website. We encourage you to read and discuss these documents with your child to support their appropriate school behaviour and the seeking of school support when needed.
3. **Extra-Curricular Activities** at Blakeview is part of an important commitment to empower learners for positive participation in our school, our community and our world. Students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities such as drama productions, music, student leadership and sporting events. Please encourage your child to join the Wakakirri, School Choir, SAPSASA sporting events, Student Council, Canteen Helpers, Lunch Clubs, Pedal Prix, Safety Ambassadors and Cows programme.
4. **Participation of Parents and Carers** in all aspects of school life is high and always encouraged and valued. The Volunteers Policy is available on our website for your review. We ask for anyone who will volunteer on more than one occasion throughout the year to complete a Department of Communities and Social Inclusion Criminal History Clearance (DCSI). This is available from the Front Office. We will process this form on your behalf and pay the fee for you. If interested in volunteering please let your class teacher know, front office staff or myself.



5. The **School Dress Code**. Official school colours for Blakeview Primary School are navy and light blue. Our Governing Council strongly encourage all students to be in uniform. You may purchase all uniform items from the Front Office. You may also purchase uniform items at local stores, in the same colours.
6. Blakeview PS is a **Sun Smart School**. Students are expected to wear a school hat in Term 1 and Term 4 when outside. Hats are available from our Front Office. Our Sun Smart Policy is available on our school website.
7. **Parent Guide to Raising a Concern or Complaint Information** brochure is available on our website to inform you of the process to use if you have a concern or complaint. This process is used at all times throughout the year. As you will read, I encourage all parents and carers to liaise with the class teacher as first point of contact. They are the staff member who knows your child the best and will most likely be able to help you and your child.
8. **School Canteen** will operate 5 days a week in 2018. The 2018 Canteen Price List is available on Skoolbag. The canteen has reviewed their menu to make all choices healthier and available every day. Lunch bags are available free of charge. The canteen price list is also available from the canteen.
9. **Skoolbag** is again the school to parent digital communication strategy in 2018. The School Mobile App provides schools with an easy way to communicate school news, newsletters, events calendar, cancellations, school notices, school information, school timetables, school documents and much more. No more lost paper in school bags! Go to www.blakevwps.sa.edu.au to download Skoolbag for iPhones and android device. Please text our school Roll marker system if your child will be absent from school on 0427 016 460. Any unexplained absences will prompt the system to send you a text. You are able to reply to these text. Blakeview Primary also has a Facebook page that you can join.
10. **Blakeview OSHC Service** provides a valuable care service to all Blakeview PS students. If you wish to make use of this service read the OSHC Information Brochure, available from OSHC or the front office. Additional information is available from the OSHC rooms or contact the OSHC Director, Ryan Rocca, 82841190
11. **2018 Material and Services Invoice** for your family will be sent home with your child out in first few weeks of term. We encourage you to make full payment by EFTPOS, cash, Visa or Mastercard as soon as possible. The other option is to arrange an Instalment Plan. This can be arranged with our Business Manager, Joy Wenske. If you were eligible or applied for School Card in 2017, the 2018 application is now available online or a paper copy can be obtained from the Front Office. This must be applied for every year.
12. **Emergency Contact Form** must be completed for every child enrolled at the school. It is very important to have a number of contact details and permissions to enable us to keep your child safe and secure. Please return this with your child to the front office as soon as possible.
13. **Newsletters** are produced every fortnight, on a Thursday, even weeks!
14. **Term Planners** are produced Week 1 of each term and a printed copy is provided to every family. These are invaluable and outline school events, meetings and assemblies. Term 1 planner has been handed out with this letter. A digital copy is also on our website.
15. In 2018 Blakeview Primary School will continue to provide the highest quality education. To achieve this, I encourage you to have regular conversations with your child's classroom teacher to share each other's perspectives on your child's progress and make plans to promote further wellbeing and learning. An **Acquaintance Event** is planned for Term 1 as a formal opportunity for families to meet teachers. The date will be Thursday 15th February 2:20 – 5:30pm. There will also be a class flyer sent from class teachers to families in the first week to introduce the teacher and inform you of the teaching and learning program along with routines for Term 1 as they relate specifically to your child/children. A **questionnaire about your child's learning needs** will also be sent home and we encourage you to fill it in and return it to the class teacher as soon as possible.
16. **Community Reading**-All rooms are open the first 15 minutes of the school day to come in and listen to students read. Leaders and staff will be in rooms. Come along and join us if you can. Grandparents and extended relatives welcome! Please ensure each week your child is heard read 4 times per week for 15 minutes. This will make a huge difference to your children's skills and set them up for future success in life.



17. **Homework** is set Monday-Thursday. Please support your children to complete these tasks. All students have diaries and communication books which they will record homework expectations in.

Our Leadership team has responsibility for students and staff. If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact them for an appointment or phone conversation.

Team Leaders for:

- **Torrens Block** - Reception to Year 1 is Director of Curriculum, Peri Simpson .
- **Gawler Block** - Year 2-3 is Principal Brenton Conradi
- **Onkaparinga Block** - Year 4-7 is Deputy Principal, Stewart McGaffin
- **Murray Block** - Disability Unit is Leader of the Unit, Carol Lapanowski
- **Para Block** - Specialist's is Leader of Engagement and Wellbeing, Tara Sheehy.
- **Administration Block**-Joy Wenske

I hope this information is of assistance.

More information can be found at www.blakevwps.sa.edu.au

I look forward to an exciting year of learning!

Kind Regards,



Brenton Conradi

Principal

Blakeview Primary School



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development