Dear Parents,

Where has the first half of the year gone? It only seems like a few weeks ago when the whole community was on bushfire alert and fighting fires. Now, it’s hard to keep your toes warm during the day. Lyn Moore returns to take the Reception class – welcome back Lyn. During the holidays we had a few tree branches break and these were cleaned up, thanks to the help of Mark Stephens, Paul Slattery, Geoff Lange and Barry Harvie.

Computer Network

During the holidays the computer network was upgraded. The upgrade has resulted in a vast improvement to the speed of access to the network. Just prior to the holidays the internet access was upgraded and this increased the speed significantly. We now have wireless network throughout the school. It is through the support of the Governing Council that these changes have been possible. This is your Governing Council at work.

Pupil Free Day – Monday 4th August

On Monday week, the staff will be travelling to Adelaide to visit a school that is well known for its integration of Information and Communication Technologies into learning. Holy Family School at Parafield Gardens has around 900 students and has been involved in state, national and international projects in relation to its learning and technology program. The objectives of the day are to see innovative practice in ICT integration, to ‘take away’ ideas that can be applied to our school and to develop ideas about the direction of ICT at Laura PS.

Country Music Festival

The Country Music Festival is on in Laura this weekend and the students’ art work can be viewed in the Civic Centre. I’m sure a number of the music buffs will be out in full force this weekend to support the great work of the organising committee. The Governing Council is running a BBQ breakfast on Sunday morning at the caravan park. Any parent that has a bit of spare time please let me know and we can put you on the roster.

School Fees

School Fees are now overdue. Most of these have been paid and there are a few accounts outstanding. Camp fees will also be on the accounts for the 4-7 class. Accounts will be sent out this week. Please come and see Emma Grossman (Tues – Thurs) should you have any difficulties with payment or have a query about your account.

Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premiers Reading Challenge ends on the 5th of September. Please encourage all students to complete the Challenge to achieve their awards. The Challenge is for each student to read 12 books, 4 of their own choice, and 8 from already selected year level books.

Samuel Shepherdson received this award for excellent organisational skills and an improved attitude towards all areas of learning. Well done Samuel!

Connor Hoskin received this award for a consistent effort and a fabulous finish to the term. Well done Connor!

Please find attached an updated Koffi’n’Kandi Menu effective from 25th July, 2014. Please disregard all other menus.
Independent Review of Governance in Schools and Preschools
All Preschool Directors, School Principals, Education Directors

Dear colleagues

Please note and forward the attached letter from Bronwyn Pike to your Governing Council chairperson as matter of priority as well as including the note below in your next school or preschool Newsletter. Note the close off date for submissions as 1 August 2014.

FOR INCLUSION IN PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS
Week 1. Term 3
Have your say on how to strengthen and support governance in schools and preschools

Effective and inclusive local governance is an essential for any successful school.

An independent review is currently being undertaken on the governance arrangements in our public schools and preschools and we are seeking your input, as community members and as parents.

Education is a shared experience and there is considerable evidence that the active engagement of parents and community members enhances the quality of teaching and learning of children and young people.

This is a great way to get involved in how our school’s governance is shaped for the future. To have your say, visit www.saplan.org.au/yoursay/shaping-our-schools-and-preschools. Consultation closes 1 August 2014.

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Recognition Awards

Week 9
Jessy Faggotter – for his great inventive mind.
Riley Hoskin – for his knowledge of numbers.
Makayla Fennell – for being respectful and responsible in the classroom.
Georgia Winter – for applying a mature attitude towards English.
Ali Cowin – for outstanding leadership.
Jez Hartmann – for a fabulous couple of days at SASVI
Kohen Ross – for being on task and ignoring distractions.

Week 10
Tess Cleggett & Kathryn Zanker – for perfect attendance in Semester 1.
Jackson Fudge – for great reading.
Isabelle Jackson – for great spelling knowledge.
Kyesha Perry – for an excellent attitude in spelling.
Shanayla Bransden – for an excellent improvement in English
Asia Brand – for excellent use of the internet for research.
Joshua Moreton – for working well on IXL maths.

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BEE ATTITUDE AWARD

Is an award recognizing students who use our school values of respect, responsibility, honesty, care and compassion.

This encouragement award was awarded to:

Georgia Winter

For being responsible and using her own time with her café responsibilities in a kind and inclusive way at Laura Primary School.

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Laura & Districts Branch of Meals on Wheels

Awards Ceremony Invitation
Annual General Meeting
Gladstone Senior Citizens Hall
High Street
Gladstone South Australia 5473
Wednesday
20th August 2014 at 1:30pm
Guest Speakers/Presenters
Mayor Denis Clark

Meals on Wheels Representative
Service Recognition
5 years – 5 Awardees
10 years – 8 Awardees
15 years – 2 Awardees
20 years – 4 Awardees
25 years – 1 Awardee
30 years – 2 Awardees
35 years – 6 Awardees

Premier’s Certificate of Recognition
for Outstanding Volunteer Service
6 Awardees
RSVP Wednesday 6th August 2014

It is time to get your entries in to the Crystal Brook Show pet section. If you think your pet is something special (and aren’t they all?) there are plenty of great prizes to be won in a number of categories in this year’s show on August 9 from Best Cat, Best Dog, Best Bird, Best Reptile and lots more.

This year the section will be judged by YP Vets veterinarian Dr Natalie Olding and Dr John Olding who will face the difficult challenge of crowning the Champion Pet and selecting all other category winners.

Pets will be supervised in the pet section all day.

For More Information Contact:
Ann Redden
PO Box 159, Crystal Brook SA 5523
Ph/Fax: 08 8636 2194
Mobile: 0427288020
Email: annmredden@bigpond.com

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED IN JANUARY 2015
EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS
IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

In January 2015 we will be receiving exchange students from Europe (Germany, Italy, Denmark, Finland and France), South America (Argentina) and Japan. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2 or 10 months. As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, backgrounds and ages. To this end, we would again be grateful if you would place a notice in your newsletter/bulletin or mention it on your website. You can download the newsletter notice here in Word format or as a PDF.

All students have at least basic levels of English, would attend a school in your local area and live the life of a local. Our group of students cover a wide variety of interests and hobbies. If you would like to provide your students, parents or language teachers with further information on our inbound students you can also view some student profiles on our website. Our staff members will be happy to discuss which student might be best suited to a family.

Roll up your Sleeves and Give BLOOD
The Blood Service Donormobile will be visiting Laura Civic Centre, Thursday 31st July 8.00am-1.30pm. Call 139596 or visit donateblood.com.au
Open your hearts for Heartkids SA!
Join the Sunday Mail City-Bay for Heartkids SA!
Register now for the Heartkids SA team in the Sunday Mail City-Bay on Sunday, 21st September 2014.
As part of the Heartkids SA team, you will receive the official t-shirt and a huge welcome at the finish line along with our famous big breakfast, fantastic entertainment and a sense of satisfaction, knowing you have helped children with Childhood Heart Disease.
Visit [www.heartkidssa.org.au](http://www.heartkidssa.org.au)
and follow the Sunday Mail City-Bay registration link.