



# THORNDON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Learning today for the future"

- ◆ *Respect*
- ◆ *Creativity*
- ◆ *Excellence*
- ◆ *Resilience*

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**Principal**  
Dora Iuliano

**Governing Council  
Chairperson**  
Natalie Johnson

[www.facebook.com/ThorndonParkPrimarySchool](http://www.facebook.com/ThorndonParkPrimarySchool) [www.thornpkps.sa.edu.au](http://www.thornpkps.sa.edu.au)

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## From the Leadership Team - Dora, Anita and Lindy

A warm welcome to our new and existing students, parents, families and staff. This term our focus is to role-model and promote the school value of Respect. We will continue to build our collaborative community of powerful learners and maintaining positive partnerships with parents and carers.

We are so fortunate to have an attractive school nestled against a beautiful natural landscape of hills and trees. Our children enjoy playing in outdoor spaces, namely the oval, forest and court areas. Our staff has worked tirelessly to provide attractive and engaging classrooms. You are invited to take a tour of the school, especially the Early Years' classrooms and to explore the newly renovated Library, Science and Nutrition studios, Multimedia room, learning hubs and galleries in the next few weeks.

To help us to get to know your students and how they learn, we encourage parents and carers to communicate regularly with teachers so that we can personalise and target teaching. What goals and expectations do you have for your child/ren this year? How can we work together so that each child achieves their personal best and year level benchmarks in English and Mathematics? To help create safe, supportive learning environments and a sense of belonging, we have provided opportunities for cross-age tutoring. We aim for individuals to form effective relationships and friendship groups through working with

### **Buddy Classes.**

*Reception and Yr 3 /4*

*Rec/1 and Yr 4/5*

*Yr 3 and Yr 1*

*Yr 2 and Yr 6/7*

*Yr 1/ 2 and Yr 5/6*

We are excited to announce the completion of our site's STEM Works and we commend the hard work of our staff to relocate resources and set up new learning spaces for our children. We will commence work on our Nature Play to provide outdoor creative learning areas in Term 1.

Diary Dates		
Wed	7/2	Acquaintance Night Whole school presentation 5.30 –5.55 pm in Gym Primary Years 6.00–6.25 pm Early years 6.30-6.55 pm AGM 7.00-7.30 pm BBQ, Coffee van, drinks available
Fri	9/2	9.00am Assembly Yr3 Pas and Yr1 Joanna and Sarah

Governing Council Sub-committee meetings		
Tues	20/2	7.00pm Governing Council Meeting

Term Dates for 2018		
Term 1 29 January—13 April		
Term 2 30 April—6 July		
Term 3 23 July—28 September		
Term 4 15 October—14 December		

## Canteen Roster

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29/01	30/01	31/1 Anna Daniella	01/2 Beck R Nicole Stella	02/2 Stacey Jenni L Andrea
05/2 Jason R Anna Tania C	06/2 Anna Daniela	07/2 Andi F. Stella Jason H	08/2 Nicole Beck R Stella	09/2 Anna Narelle Dea T

### HOURS FOR JS XPRESS UNIFORM SHOP

Monday 8am—12pm

Wednesday 1pm—6pm

Thursday 1pm—6pm

Saturday 9am—12pm

Now can order online. Follow the link below

[https://www.jsxpressonline.com.au/collections/  
thorndon-park-primary-school](https://www.jsxpressonline.com.au/collections/thorndon-park-primary-school)



**Government of South Australia**

Department for Education and  
Child Development

## Our new staff members

### **Carlo Costanzo**

Hi, my name is Carlo Costanzo and I am very excited to be working with Year 1/2s at Thorndon Park Primary School this year. I have come from East Marden Primary School, working with Receptions, so I am excited for the new adventures and experiences ahead. I enjoy playing sport, especially football (AFL), reading, and I'm always looking to learn about new things. I am fortunate to have come to this school at an exciting time with the new STEM facilities ready to go. I'm hoping to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities to broaden the skills and knowledge of our students in these areas. It's an exciting year ahead and I'm looking forward to working with such a motivated and enthusiastic teaching team, and getting to know all the students and families in the school community.



### **Samantha Ly**

Hello, my name is Samantha Ly and I am very excited to be joining Thorndon Park P.S. as the Year 4/5 Classroom Teacher. I have worked in a variety of metropolitan schools during the past five years and I have experience teaching Early, Primary and Middle Years students. I am passionate about utilising Student Voice to provide engaging and relevant learning programs. I enjoy teaching all curriculum areas, especially English, History and Science. I am looking forward to working with the Primary Years Team, as well as, getting to know my students and setting learning goals for the year ahead



### **Chris Bailey**



I'm Chris Bailey and have been teaching for quite some time. I have many qualifications around STEM, the teaching of English as a second language, the development of oral language and more specifically, the development of dialogue across all areas of the curriculum. Students will

develop the ability to discuss and build upon others' comments to increase engagement with their learning and to deepen the understanding of concepts and subject-specific content.

I play the saxophone with both Payneham Concert Band and Unley Concert Band. I travelled overseas with Unley Concert Band, in 2009, at the request of the Department of Foreign Affairs to participate in ANZAC day ceremonies in France and Belgium. Since 2008 I have travelled rather extensively as I enjoy the challenges of travelling, meeting new people and learning about different countries.

The photo shows me participating in a Belgium-led arts project at Menin, which will culminate in a special viewing and ceremony in the coming months to commemorate the end of the centenary of WW1.

## Thorndon Park Primary School Staff

**2018 Leadership team**—Dora Iuliano, Anita Becker, Lindy Kelvin

### **Classroom teachers**

#### **Early Years team**

Reception - Cassandra Giannone  
Reception/Yr 1 - Kelsea Simpson  
Yr 1 - Joanna Caon and Sarah McLoughlin  
Yr 1 /2 - Carlo Costanzo  
Yr 2 - Ev Williams  
Yr 2 - Chris Bailey

#### **Primary Years team**

Yr 3 - Pas Piantadosi  
Yr 3/4 - Genna Russo  
Yr 4/5 - Samantha Ly  
Yr 5/6 - Anella Signoriello  
Yr 6/7 - Kirsty Collins

#### **Specialist Teachers'—team**

Languages—Italian—Julia Panagakos/Daniela Cambareri  
Performing Arts—Marg Jackson and Daniela Cambareri  
PE— Julian Leak  
Health—Marg Jackson and Sandra Scalzi  
Technologies—Lindy Kelvin

#### **Reading and Intervention Support**

Jacqui Edwards and Sandra Scalzi

#### **School Service Officers**

Julie Powell  
Vera Pozniak  
Denise Fitzpatrick  
Carrie Fischetti  
Sogna Delfino  
Freddie Ashby-Weiss  
Lidia Merullo

#### **Groundsperson/Maintenance**

Graeme Winders

#### **IT technicians**

Richard Burford  
Nick Webb

#### **Pastoral Care Worker**

Tim Wells

#### **Graeme Winders - Groundsperson/Maintenance**

I moved to Adelaide 6 years ago from Kadina. I have two sons, Chase 19 and Riley 13 and I have a pet Galah named Mandy.

I enjoy working with my hands especially woodwork and mechanical. I look forward to supporting the school with maintaining the school grounds and facilities.



## Acquaintance Night Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Parents and carers are invited to attend this year's Acquaintance Night.

5.30pm—the school community meets in the Gym for an overall school presentation by leadership and are



introduced to Specialist teachers and Support Staff.

BBQ and Canteen available for the purchase of sausages (\$2) and drinks. Teacher supervision available in the yard.

Parents/carers to go to classrooms to discuss classroom routines and expectations. Teachers will distribute Term Overviews and ask parents to provide information to help them get to know their students and how they learn. Students do not need to come.

**6.00pm—Primary Years classes**

**6.30pm—Early Years classes**

**7.00pm— AGM—in Gym**

You are encouraged to:

- Ask questions to support your understanding of current teaching and learning practices
- Negotiate effective communication with your child's teacher/s and network with parents
- Discover how best to support your child's learning throughout the year at home and at school
- Build a positive relationship with staff and consider volunteering at school in order to support

## Governing Council Annual General Meeting at 7.00pm

Governing Council is a great way to get to know other parents and staff, and to have a say in the future direction of our children's schooling. We will:

- *Share with our community our 2017 Annual Report, learning achievements and school progress of site learning priorities over the year.*
- *Acknowledge the collaborative work of the Governing Council and school personnel.*
- *Elect a new Governing Council.*

We have some vacancies at this stage and are open to receiving nominations from parents who are interested in representing the parent community. Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings in Weeks 4 and 8 of each term.

Please make contact with Natalie Johnson and/or Dora to discuss any questions you may have and put forward your nomination.

We are keen to recruit parents for the following committees and these are some of the possible times for meetings:

- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Tuesdays Weeks 2 and 6 at 6.15pm
- Canteen—Mondays Weeks 2 and 6 at 9.00am
- Asset & Landscaping—Wednesdays Weeks 3 and 7 at 3.30pm
- Finance – Thursdays Weeks 3 and 7 at 3.30pm
- After/School Sports—Thursdays Weeks 3 and 7 at 8.00am
- Parents and Friends—TBA

These committees negotiate suitable times to meet at least once a term or correspond via emails. We look forward to your receiving your nomination form.

## Introducing QKR by Mastercard - School Payments Application

Thorndon Park Primary School is moving with the times. We are excited to announce that we are introducing the QkR (pronounced – Quicker) app to make your life easier.

The QkR app enables mobile payment for school-based accounts. QkR is now being used in most of the schools in South Australia with feedback from both parents and administration staff being overwhelmingly positive. The app offers mobile payment technology and aims to save parents time.

The QkR app lets parents use their smartphones to make OSHC, any school and excursion payments without having to give their children cash to carry to school. In time, we will be expanding the items available on QkR for the convenience of parents.

Although the app is a MasterCard initiative, it enables payment from most financial institutions and major credit cards with Safe and Secure MasterCard Technology. QkR is a FREE app. After registering your email address, you will need to select our school and follow the prompts.

The QkR app is now live. The Office will receive a generated report detailing your payments. Should you have any questions regarding the use of the QkR app please contact the office staff.

Looking for Parent  
Volunteers!

## Parent Volunteers—DCSI and RAN training

Your help and support is valued in classroom programs, excursions, coaching sports, working with students and staff in kitchen and garden activities and a range of school initiatives. Our children really appreciate your input and enjoy having you participate in school activities. Please see front office staff to obtain or renew DCSI clearance.

**RAN training** for new parent volunteers in on Tuesday 13 February from 6.30 –8.30pm at Thorndon Park PS.

## Notices and communication

We provide opportunities for effective communication between school and home in various ways. Students have diaries/communication folders and an envelope of notices. Please ensure all notices are read and replies completed and returned to the school office as soon as possible. (New students will not be able to use the library or access information technology until these forms have been returned). If the office has your email address, you will receive all school notices and newsletters by email. Please inform the office staff if you wish to receive hard copies.

Visit our school's Facebook page for more information or contact leadership and staff with any queries or feedback. We appreciate your efforts to support the school's cyber-safety program by following DECD guidelines regarding social media, photos and modelling responsible online strategies. Please report to leadership inappropriate or harmful activities to ensure the safety and well being of all of our community members.



## Powerful learners and Mindfulness

We aim to build the learning power of students by increasing their ability to use high-level thinking skills and problem-solve with others. Powerful learners have the curiosity, creativity and confidence to:

- Ask questions to actively participate in their learning
- Communicate effectively in a variety of forms
- Collaborate with others
- Make decisions based on sound evidence

**Powerful learners** also have a 'growth mindset': the belief that they are capable of learning and achieving with ongoing effort.

Staff are engaging in **Mindfulness** activities to help individuals to stay calm and focussed on the present. When you're mindful, you observe your thoughts and feelings and are living in the moment. We practise breathing and utilise our sensory skills to calm the mind and activate our brain.

Students will have opportunities to practise mindful activities in class and parents can find out more from these websites to explore mindful strategies at home:

Smiley minds: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>

and Mindfulness for Kids: [www.kidsmatter.edu.au/health-and-community/enewsletter/mindfulness-made-easy](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/health-and-community/enewsletter/mindfulness-made-easy)

We will offer some parent workshops to practise mindful activities to support student well-being.

## STEM workshop -

Last Thursday, our teachers joined Paradise PS and Felixstow Community School in a workshop where we were examined different areas of STEM teaching and learning. Teachers used a drone, BeeBots, Edisons, Spheros and a number of other robots and technology. They practised coding and worked with other teachers to design lessons in readiness for Term 1. It was an exciting way to begin our learning for the year and to inspire teachers in readiness for our new STEM facility.

## STEM EQUIPMENT UPDATE

There are many exciting changes taking place at Thorndon Park Primary School this year. Our STEM works renovation of the Thiele building into new learning spaces including a Library and multimedia room present great opportunities for both our students and teachers. We are also pleased to announce that our two new 3D Printers have been delivered and Class VR (Virtual Reality) sets will soon be up and running. We look forward to a wonderful year of exploration and discovery in our new teaching and learning spaces.

## Personal information updates or changes

If your personal information has changed please notify the front office staff as soon as possible. In times of emergency it is imperative that we have accurate and current contact details.

## Medication

As DECD policy states, we will administer prescribed medication only. All analgesics and other medications which can be purchased over the counter without a prescription **need to be prescribed** if staff members are to be asked to supervise their use.

## School Card Application

The School Card scheme offers financial assistance with school fees (materials and services charges) for students attending government schools.

Check your eligibility at:

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

## School Uniform and Hot/Wet Weather Policies

School hats are to be worn in terms 1, 3 and 4. The policy applies between 8:30am until the end of each day where any outdoor activity occurs. The wearing of a hat is seen to be an important part of the school dress code and to ensure sun safety. The school gold legionnaire -style are the only hats that are to be worn. Any hat that has been written on or is damaged in anyway, will need to be replaced. Students not wearing these hats will be required to sit outside in the shade during the recess or lunch break. Hats must also be worn for outdoor sporting events excursions and practises. Hats can be purchased from the front office. Only school colour jumpers and jackets are to be worn.

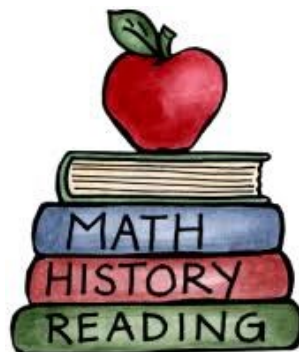


Further information is available on our Uniform Policy. Hot and wet Weather conditions are monitored by leadership. Indoor play will be supervised when it is 36 degrees and over or when it is wet weather.

## Parents' guide to helping children with reading and writing at home

You make a difference to your children's learning journey. Reading regularly with someone who cares sets the foundation for their reading success.

At Thorndon Park Primary School we encourage the love of reading through students' active participation in the Premier's Reading Challenge, borrowing fiction readers, non-fiction texts and reading levelled appropriate readers and guided reading experiences in our Literacy Blocks.



All students are encouraged to read daily, both out loud or silently and to respond to questions about the story or text to demonstrate their understanding. Reception students will take home a reader in Week 3 and Yr 1-7 students will take levelled readers or appropriate novels in week 1. Hook your child into reading through their passions and interests.

As parents and carers, you create the home context for reading and to build a child's:

- Self-esteem and confidence to read to an audience
- Ability to share stories with friends and family
- Vocabulary, comprehension and descriptive writing
- Skills to decode story problems in numeracy and literacy