Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

It has been a very busy but especially rewarding first term. As you would know there have been many changes at Spalding Primary. Martique, April Matters and myself are all new additions to the Spalding Primary School team. I speak on behalf of the other new people in saying there couldn’t be a more welcoming school to have come to.

The end of Term 1 provides an ideal opportunity to stop and reflect on yet another wonderful term of learning. Our core business is learning and I believe we can be very proud of the standards achieved in all areas of the curriculum. Rather than read about my thoughts on the terms learning, I thought you might like to read what the students thought about their learning. On the back “Student Corner” page are just a few of our students’ comments:

The major school wood chopping fundraiser was held on Sunday the 25th of March. There are many people to thank for giving up their time and using personal equipment to raise an amazing amount of money to put toward the school. We were blessed with beautiful weather and many hard-workers. It was a brilliant day with students and families working together. A big thank you to Tyler and Pauline Stephenson for allowing us onto their property. Support like this is greatly appreciated and make a HUGE difference in helping the school to provide the absolute best possible learning outcomes for all children.

There have also been some changes within the Playcentre. Id like to take the opportunity to formally thank Sonya Wohlfel who has been working in the Playcentre. There is no doubt the program has been better for having her a part of it. Thankyou Sonya. Luckily for us she will be continuing her role as Finance Officer. In saying that we would sincerely like to welcome Claire Longbottom to the role. She has had experience at working in Childcare and also has a Certificate III in children services. We are sure she will be a valuable asset to the playcentre.

Welcome Claire.

Next week all of our Upper Primary class will be attending the SAPSASA District athletics day in Riverton. As they have done in the past, I’m sure our students will not only represent themselves with pride, but collectively the school. I think it’s fantastic to have our students being active, competing and representing our school.

I’d also like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holidays. I will personally be spending some time with my fiancé Cathy before she jets off early next term to experience life in London for 6 months. If time permits I’ll also be trying to put a slight dent in the snapper and whiting stocks in the S.A gulf waters.

I look forward to seeing you all in a couple weeks for what promises to be another exciting and rewarding term.

Faithfully,
Ilia Tsoutouras
Principal.
At Spalding Primary School we value:
*RESPECT  *EXCELLENCE  *SAFETY

**Home Reading**
As you would all know reading is a crucial part of a child’s education. It is fantastic to see our students reading at home. Congratulations to the following students for reading for 25 and 50 nights:

**25 nights**
- Jessica Gerntsen

**50 nights**
- Zack Sommerville
- Thomas Wohlfel
- Bailey Wohlfel
- Angus Shapley
- Zack Longbottom
- Jessica Longbottom

**Camp**
As scary as it sounds camp is only 2 school weeks away. Term 2, Week 2. We understand for many of our younger children straying away from home and family isn’t all that new an experience. Teachers have begun to speak to students about going on camp and the programs/activities that will be running to put their minds more at ease. Consent letters were sent out with the last newsletter. As mentioned previously, you are able to pay in one lump sum or in instalments. Please get in contact with me if need be.

A camp schedule and consent form for sleeping on bunks will be attached to this newsletter.

**Car Wash**
As a fundraiser for the year seven Canberra Camp, Karta Czapl will be giving up some of her recess and lunch time to wash cars. Please see the front office for a booking sheet if you are in need of washing your car!

THANKYOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!
A huge thank you to Robert Hancock for the donation and delivery of cow and chook manure for the vegetable garden. The children have now planted their winter veggies which included some old favourites like peas, silver beet and beetroot and a new unfamiliar vegetable kale.

**Mathletics**
Our classes are currently trialling Mathletics. Mathletics is a web-based learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers Reception - Year 12 Australian & State Maths Curriculum and is currently used in 5,000 Australian schools, (10,000 schools globally) with more than 1 million students accessing their site every day.

We will be trialling its use with our Year 2-7’s. The program is fully Australian National Curriculum aligned and teachers are able to set tasks for students or allow students to ‘vs’ other students from around the world in number fact games.

If parents were to subscribe their children individually it would be at a cost of $99. If the school is to register students will be able to use their school account at home free of charge. There will be an accompanying letter and technical requirements sheet attached to this newsletter. Students have been given log in details and their details are also written on the attached letter. We will be asking for and keen to hear of any feedback.

We do realise some students don’t have internet access at home. Students will be able to trial and use Mathletics as a part of their everyday maths learning.

**NAB AFL AUSKICK**
NAB AFL Auskick is an introductory program to the game of Australian Rules Football for primary school boys & girls. The program aims at teaching participants the basic skills of Australian Football with an emphasis on fun activities conducted in a safe and friendly environment.

All boys & girls are welcome. Parents are most welcome to attend and join in and have some fun with the kids.

To find out more details about your closest centre and to register log onto www.aflauskick.com.au

Registration forms are also available from school reception.

“Set Your Sights High”
Parent Concerns and Complaints

Parent guide to raising a concern or complaint

We all expect quality and expert care and teaching for your child in order that they achieve their potential. Working together will give us the best chance of solving a problem that may arise during your child’s years in preschool and school.

We also recognise that at times things may go wrong. If you have a concern or a complaint, we want you to let us know. It’s important to learn from mistakes or misunderstandings so that we can improve your child’s experience and learning, and also improve processes where possible.

The first step in working through a complaint is to talk to your child’s teacher, and then the director or principal if you still are not happy.

Ask at the front office for a copy of the school/preschool’s Parent Guide to Raising a Concern or Complaint brochure. Steps guiding how complaints should be made are explained in the brochure.

Use this guide to help you think through what you are concerned about and how to resolve the matter respectfully and effectively.

About complaints or concerns

This information may be helpful in explaining what a complaint is:

A complaint may be made by a parent if they think that the school has, for example:
• Done something wrong
• Failed to do something it should have done
• Acted unfairly or impolitely.

Your concern or complaint may be about:
• The type, level or quality of services
• The behaviour and decisions of staff
• A policy, procedure or practice.

Sometimes a complaint is about something we have to do because of State or federal law. In such cases we are able to talk to you about the matter and help you understand the requirements and why they exist.

If you’d like more information give me a call (Ilia Tsoutouras – Principal) or visit the department’s website at www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentcomplaint or email DEC[parentcomplaint@sa.gov.au. There is also a Freecall number 1800 677 435.

Anti-Bullying Policy

All schools are required by DECD to review their anti-bullying policies and procedures annually. As a staff we have gone through the process of reviewing ours. It was taken to Governing Council last week and was passed. We take bullying really seriously here at Spalding primary and have a zero tolerance toward bullying. If you would like a copy of our schools Anti-Bullying Policy please contact the office. There will also be a copy of this and other policies uploaded to our website shortly.

“Set Your Sights High”
**Bowls**

On Friday the 16th of March, the junior and upper primary classes walked to the Spalding Bowling Club. We were greeted by several wonderful volunteers who were ready and waiting to assist us in bettering our skills and development in the art of bowling! The students were divided up into four groups of four and each group was lead by a volunteer or two. The students practiced skills such as choosing the right sized bowl, how to hold the bowl, waiting patiently for their turn, encouraging and giving praise to team members and of course the rules and technique involved in the game of bowls.

Angus Shapley and Martique D’Vouw demonstrated great skills as did Nick Longmire, Thomas Wohlfell and Zack Sommerville. Sarah Andrews and Amy Shapley thoroughly enjoyed the day and were exhausted by the end.

At the conclusion of the session the students helped pack up, carefully return their bowls and Nick Longmire (On behalf of the school) thanked the volunteers for generously giving up their time to teach us some new skills. The junior primary class also wrote thank you letters to the volunteers who helped out on the day and these are displayed down at the Bowling Club.

Thankyou  
(April Matters on behalf of SPS students)

**S.R.C**

The SRC held a meeting on Friday the 23rd of March after lunch. We discussed Occupational Health and Safety issues from around the yard and chatted about the road rules for Ride 2 School day. We talked about having a Funky Hair day next term and all were in favour. We also discussed perhaps having a day to do bike tricks but decided that it might be too dangerous. We talked about having an ice cream day but that will need to be discussed by the teachers in staff meeting. Zack Longbottom also moved that the SRC sing happy birthday to Mrs Ramsdall to finish the meeting off.

**“Set Your Sights High”**
Student Corner

Ride2School Day

My biggest achievement on Ride 2 School Day was riding 10km from my house to school. When I got to school the course was already set up and ready to go. I thought I was a bit late but luckily I wasn’t. My favourite parts of the day were the free hot potato lunch and acting as the traffic controller on the roundabout. I shared my bike around so everyone had a go and no one was left out.

Jessica Longbottom

On national Ride 2 school day we enjoyed a free lunch of hot potatoes. It was a great day and I had lots of fun riding my scooter everywhere.

Tony Czapla

Last Friday we had a ride your bike to school day. What most people liked were the hot potatoes. I also liked being a policeman but the problem was everybody wanted to be a policeman as well. Everybody brought some wheels except a couple of people. We rode our wheels around the school and there was a roundabout near the library.

Nick Longmire

On Friday 23rd March we had ride to school day and I brought my bike. I hurt my ankle by scraping it on the pedals. I was one of the safety police. For lunch I had two hot potatoes. I thought it was a good day because there were no big crashes.

Angus Shapley

On Friday we had National Ride your bike to school day. My favourite moment was riding my scooter around the school. I also liked the hot potatoes. On my hot potato I had cheese and carrot.

Zack Longbottom

On the 23rd of March we had National ride to school day. It was really fun but the sad thing was that I was speeding. For lunch we had hot potatoes.

Jo Czapla

On the 23rd of March we had National Ride 2 School day; some people forgot to bring a bike. Some other students let the people that didn’t have a bike ride theirs. We had a hot potato for lunch and it was really nice.

Kartia Czapla

“Set Your Sights High”