Dear Families,

The last two weeks have been very busy weeks for everyone at Augusta Park. Teachers and students have worked together to set the foundations for a successful year at school by jointly creating classroom expectations and looking closely at the “You Can Do It” programs key to success which are getting along, organisation, confidence, persistence and resilience. Classes have also been involved in swimming lessons which finish at the end of this week.

**Whooping Cough**

Last week a note was sent home to all families advising them that we have had a student in the school diagnosed with whooping cough. If your child is experiencing cold like symptoms – runny nose, sore watery red eyes, low-grade fever and general unwellness please contact the school, keep your child at home and see a doctor immediately.

**Student Free Day – Postponed**

We wish to advise families that due to unforeseen circumstances the whole town Student Free Day on Monday 29th February has been postponed to a later date. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. This day will now be a normal school day with all students expected to be at school.

**Keeping Safe**

Over the last two weeks we have had a number of break-ins and smashed windows at the school. These incidents are all now being followed up by the police. We are asking for your support by:

- Being vigilant if you are on school grounds or going past the school during out of school hours and reporting any suspicious behaviour to the police immediately
- Talking to your children about staying off school grounds to ensure their safety.

I am hoping that if we all remain vigilant and work together then these incidents won’t continue to occur.
What a fabulous start to the 2016 school year! Week 1 saw us with an overall school percentage of 90.3%. Special acknowledgement must go to Miss Dodman’s class with an incredible 97.7%, closely followed by Miss Sghirripa’s class on 97.3%. Mrs Godfrey’s class came in third with 94.0%, with Mrs Bhangu’s class on 92.3% while Mr Fawcett’s and Mrs Densley’s classes were even on 92.2% and Mrs McKenzie’s class with 90.6%. That makes 7 classes achieving attendance of 90% or more for the first week of school, a great effort to all those classes. It is unfortunate to note, however, that in week 2 Augusta Park’s average attendance dropped to a disappointing 83.7% with only one class reaching 90.0%. Let’s hope this improves in the weeks to come.

You Can Do It

I have been working these past 3 weeks team teaching with class teachers on the introductory component of our social and emotional learning program entitled, ‘Ready, Set You Can Do It.’ The program is comprised of four parts specifically designed to address the ages and year levels of our students. The first part of the program is for our youngest students aged 4-6 years of age, the second is for students 7-10 years old and the upper primary component is for our 11-13 year olds. Our youngest students have been learning the lyrics to songs about being able to do things if they try, entitled, ‘I Can Do It’ and secondly how to be confident. These classes are working on actions to the lyrics, and hopefully we’ll be able to perform some of these songs at assemblies throughout this term. The middle aged students have been working on the meaning of success, and what it means to them; what it feels and looks like. Our senior students have begun to identify the significance of the 5 foundations of success so clearly illustrated by learning and researching the amazing feat of Jessica Watson. They have been learning about this incredible young teenager and how she epitomises the 5 Keys to Success.

Student Council

This year we have adopted a new approach to the Student Council in that we have provided students from Years 3-7 with an application, where they have the opportunity to express their interest in this position. We have asked students to describe what leadership skills they feel they can provide, how they can improve upon our amazing school and why they wish to be a member of the Student Council. Mr Welfare has kindly agreed to go through all applications with me and if needed we may even go to interviews. Students will be notified by Thursday afternoon and presentations made to the successful candidates at this week’s assembly.

With kind regards,

Lindy Allen

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### Attendance

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<th>Term 1 Week 2</th>
<th>2016 Term 1</th>
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Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule?
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.
Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.
Please call now for an appointment.
Pt Augusta Dental Clinic
Phone: 8668 7888
Our Learning so far.....

Science: (Earth and space science)

In science we have been researching about earthquakes and tsunamis. Our research questions were:

*How earthquakes are formed and how we measure them?

*What are the affects of earthquakes and how could we feel one?

We made charts based on our research and did mini presentations in class.

Overall it was fun learning about new facts.

HASS (Humanity and Social Sciences)

History:

We are doing an independent research about Federation and making a timeline of important people and events starting from ancient times.

We have been exploring different ways to solve a problem...
Dear Parent/Caregiver

Welcome to the 2016 school year. I hope this year will be a successful one for you and your family.

This year teachers at your school will be working with your son or daughter to help your child learn and make as much progress as possible. Your school will be keen to work with you to ensure that your son or daughter is successful academically, socially and developmentally.

Every day at school matters for this development so it’s really important that your child is attending school to get the most out of their education.

While we all know it's important, it isn't always easy to support children with their schoolwork. On the back of this letter are some ideas and resources I have found helpful to date with my kids, or have been recommended to me by other parents. I hope they are useful for you.

Schools welcome your involvement in your child’s education, and if you have any questions, please ask them. As you know, kids learn best when parents/caregivers and schools work together.

If you are able, I encourage you to get involved in your child’s school - whether it is through the governing council or volunteering at school events. To make it easier for you to volunteer, the government has recently made some changes to the screening clearance process if you volunteer to support your child at school. Please contact your school if you would like further information in relation to these changes, or visit the website at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

I am proud of the high quality education that we provide in our schools. A strength of our public schools is our community involvement, and working together we can continue to make your school even better.

Yours sincerely  
Minister for Education and Child Development
Susan Close 27/01/2016

Simple things you can do to support your child:

• Ask your child what they have been learning in class and link it to activities you do around the home
• Put up times tables posters around the house and talk positively about science and mathematics with your child
• Try to read with your child every day or read the same novel as your child so you can discuss the story together
• Encourage your child to share their drawings and projects with you
• Provide a comfortable space at home for your child to do homework and support them to complete it on time

Some helpful resources:

• The curriculum your child will be following this year:  http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/
• Ideas for helping your child with numeracy and literacy:  https://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/parents
• An app to help you unlock your child’s learning potential:  https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/primary-school
• Parent easy guides, including dealing with peer pressure:  http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/
• A wide range of parenting information, including healthy eating and creative play ideas:  http://raisingchildren.net.au/school_age/school_age.html

• Ideas for outdoor play in SA:  https://natureplaysa.org.au/