



# Challa Gardens Pre-School-Year 7

## School Newsletter

Honesty

Respect

Responsibility

Excellence

Term 1 Week 3

13th February 2018

### Contact Details

**Humphries Terrace**  
**Kilkenny, SA, 5009**

Phone: 8445 1194

Fax: 8445 1968

#### Principal

Pina Fitzharris

#### Deputy Principal

Anna Bakker

#### School Counsellor

Gay Dawson

#### Governing Council

##### Chairperson

James Fraser

#### Email

dl.0714.info@schools.sa.edu.au

#### School Website

www.challaps.sa.edu.au

#### DECD Website

www.decd.sa.gov.au

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### Term Dates—Term 1 2018

29/1/2018-13/4/2018

#### WEEK 3: 12/2-16/2

Tues: Open Night

Wed: Bunnings Visit Rms20&amp;21

#### WEEK 4: 19/2-23/2

Wed: Police Band

### LEADERS COMMENT

Welcome to Challa Gardens and welcome to Pina Fitzharris who is our newly appointed Principal.

Our leadership team consists of Pina Fitzharris, Anna Bakker the Deputy Principal, Gay Dawson our Well Being and Engagement Coordinator and Melissa Andrews our STEM Coordinator. We are very excited to be at Challa Gardens and look forward to meeting all the families. If you haven't already introduced yourselves please come and say hello. We are looking forward to an exciting busy 2018.

### WELL BEING/ ENGAGEMENT CO ORDINATOR

Welcome to the new school year! Starting school for the very first time or just starting a new school year can be exciting as well as stressful!

Kidsmatter is a great website with lots of ideas to support families at [www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/starting-school/understanding-behaviours](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/starting-school/understanding-behaviours).

Enjoy the new challenges this year and share your own struggles, failures, challenges and successes with your child too!

Cheers, Gay Dawson

### ROOM 14

This term in Room 14 we will be focussing on getting to know each other through building relationships and a successful learning environment based on trust and respect. We are learning about Connie Confidence, valuing ourselves and feeling good about what we can do and the safe choices we can make. We have been learning about class routines and strategies to help us solve problems in the yard.

We are building the skills and stamina we need to become powerful learners in literacy and numeracy as these are the foundations.

At Challa Gardens Primary School we all have the right to be safe.

Katrina Georgiou

### ROOM 13

My name is Kat Dutch. In Room 13 we will continue to work on school routines and expectations. Children have been trying to get used to coming to school five days a week. There is a lot to learn about this big new place



and we are working towards building a positive classroom community and we are learning to read. In Maths we are developing basic number sense.

### ROOM 11

My name is Jenny Loxton and I am very pleased to be teaching Year 2 students in Room 11. A major focus for this term will be empowering students to develop the classroom norms and procedures required to create safe learning conditions. I aim to build a community of learners by helping students believe they can achieve, understand that success requires effort and that persistence, resilience, confidence and organisation are necessary keys for success. I have high expectations for the students and am very excited about watching them grow and develop as learners!

### CHOIR/ HEALTH

This year I will be teaching Health to Reception and Year 1 students from Rooms 13,14,15,16 and 17. We will begin the year with "getting to know you" activities. Later in the term the focus will be on the topic of Safety.



Further topics will promote Health and Well Being.

Liz Ey

### UPPER PRIMARY GREEK

This term the students will start the school year highlighting greetings, introducing themselves and colours and numbers in Greek.

We will discuss and explore aspects of Greek Independence Day and Greek Easter and present a school display at the Glendi Festival on 23rd-25th March.

John Ligias

### ROOM 6

We have had a wonderful start to 2018 and the children have settled into our classroom and routines quickly. This term, our Unit of Inquiry topic will be 'The Secrets of Unknown Lands', which will incorporate English, Maths, History, Geography, and Technologies learning areas. 'The Right to be Safe' focus area of the Child Protection Curriculum will be delivered this term, exploring safety, reviewing warning signs and discussing unsafe situations. We look forward to getting to know your child and family better as the term progress.

Melissa Andrews

## ROOM 9

Anna Scherstobit—I have taught within DECD schools for over 30 years and it feels like I've been almost everywhere. I've been to ...Craigmore, Virginia, Whyalla, Elizabeth, Salisbury, Pooraka, Hectorville, Prospect, West Lakes, Lockleys, East Adelaide and Challa Gardens. I have taught in a variety of roles including R-7, Art, LOTE, Special Education & Literacy Support. My passion lies in facilitating the learning of Yr 2-3 students and assisting them in making the transition from the Early Years to Middle Primary.

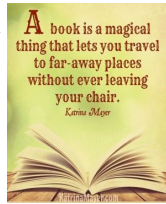
## ROOM 16

My name is Liz Martin and I am pleased to say that I will be teaching Year 1 in Room 16 this year. This term our learning will focus on Fairy Tales and fractured Fairy Tales where we will be changing the characters, plot and setting of traditional Fairy Tales, rhyming words, working together to set goals and set classroom expectations, learning through hands on experiences and exploration, learning more about numbers, number lines and counting, and exploring mathematical vocabulary and learning strategies to solve mathematical problems.

## LIBRARY

We begin 2018 in the library with a lot of great new books ready for everyone to borrow. A reminder that Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 students can borrow one book for a week, and students in Years 3-7 can borrow 4 books for two weeks.

We hope you will encourage your child to use our school library as regular reading of a wide range of books helps to improve learning across other areas of their schooling.



We are also beginning our Inquiry and Research lessons in the library for Term 1, looking at topics of History, Geography and Civics and Citizenship across different classes.

Janet Sweeney and Sharon Akeroyd

## ROOM 12

Room 12 has rocketed forth in its first week with little friendly faces on board ready for a busy and productive year. We are zooming towards our first Biological Science Unit : Watch it Grow! The unit will coincide with our Writing Genre: Information Reports. We will set up our first 'pop up shop' in our class so if you are able to help with empty packaging (any food boxes/tubs/containers/cartons/bottles), please drop them off. We look forward to a challenging, rewarding and fun couple of weeks as we get to know one another as learners, friends and classmates.

Jo Cutajar

## ROOM 21 & 22

In 2018 , Room 21 and 22 will be joining forces to deliver the Year 6/7 curriculum. Brooke Roy and Jarryd Trenowden will be teaching together in order to provide a learning environment that will meet the diverse needs of students. In Term 1, the classes will be provided with opportunities to develop student's responsibility and decision making around their learning. Students will learn how to make appropriate and mature decisions through programs such as student voice, classroom economics, flexible learning environment, and flexi-Fridays. Currently, the classes are breaking down the concept of respect, defining the aspects of respect, and how to recognise it within their own behaviour.

## PRESCHOOL

This term at preschool, our programme will focus on 'Me'. The children will be involved in different activities about themselves and their families. Children will be involved in creating collaged bodies of themselves as well as drawing their faces using a mirror and making their faces using various junk materials. These faces

will then be displayed in our preschool art gallery.

Children will also take home a 'Me' bag, collecting things about themselves, and then sharing these things with us in preschool.

So that children have an opportunity to work together, we are focussing on following the preschool rules, listening and following instructions. We will also share activities with our school buddy class Mr Megaw.



Tracy Torok, Anna Hatzi and Mariam Moughnie

## SSO'S

Hello everyone we are Sharman, Sharon, Robyn, Carol and Chris and we are the SSO's at school. Some of us have been involved with the school for over 20 years, starting when some of our very own children started here at Challa. We have worked across the School from Preschool to Year 7 and we have also worked in the front office, library in IT and even occasionally helping out in the canteen. We are very happy to be part of such a great team here at Challa.

## ROOM 7

The students have settled well into the class routine and the learning programs are well underway. The first weeks we have been establishing class routines, procedures and work and group expectations.

My classroom programme will incorporate students' learning styles, cater for individual differences and be relevant to their needs whilst challenging them to work to their full potential in a happy, positive and safe classroom atmosphere.

Throughout the year I will be sending home information to keep you informed about your child's learning.

Gary Megaw

## ROOM 10

My name is Helen Politis and I am teaching Year 2 in Room 10. I have been a teacher for 19 years. During that time I have worked in various roles as a Technology specialist teacher, upper primary, middle primary and now junior primary class teacher.

The first few weeks in Room 10 have been about establishing and understanding routines and expectations. Students have been participating in social skill programs such as Play Is The Way, Growth Mindset and looking at school values. This will be ongoing throughout this year. In term one, students will look at the importance of having a positive mindset and the way this can influence our success as learners.

## ROOM 17

Hi, my name is Tony Giannini and I will be teaching in Room 17. This term we will be working collaboratively to develop your child's Literacy, Numeracy and Science skills through explicit teaching and play. Students will take risks, express opinions, think creatively, work collaboratively, make connections with real life experiences, and set goals.

## JP/MP GREEK

In Greek lessons this term there will be a focus on play, games, songs, rhymes and dance. Students will introduce and share information about themselves using simple exchanges. Students will learn to count, say the colours, greetings, alphabet and vocab related to the face and body. They will experience Greek cooking and Easter related activities. Middle primary students will research information for the Glendi display.

Georgia Stasinopolous

## SPECIAL ED

For the past 33 years I have worked with primary aged children in a range of different roles. These have included Special Education, Special Class, Physical Education and upper primary classroom teaching. My teaching appointments have all been in Category 1 and 2 schools mainly in the Western suburbs. My longest appointment had been at Mansfield Park Primary for 21 years and for the past 8 years it has been my pleasure to support our children at Challa Gardens school in Literacy, Maths and Special Education. Chris Sykaras

## DRAMA

Hello my name is Stephanie Marcsik. I've been teaching now for 25 years. In that time I've worked in a lot of different schools around Australia and have taught in various subject areas. This year I'm looking forward to teaching drama, dance and music from Reception to Year 7 at Challa Gardens.



## ROOM 15

Reception children in Room 15 are enjoying their very first days at school. They are having a lovely time finding out about each other and our school community. Our topic this term is "All About Me" and "My School". We are going to spend quite a bit of time establishing friendships, routines and habits. We will be developing awareness of values such as, honesty, respect, responsibility and excellence. We will be reading lots of stories and playing team building and friendship games to aid development of these new relationships and values.

Mirjana Despinic

## EALD

Approximately 80% of our school community come from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds other than English.

In 2018 Challa Gardens Primary School is fortunate to have 3 EALD (ESL) teachers-; Sue Godfrey who has transferred from Grange Primary this year and is working Monday to Thursday.

Dawn Kiroff who has been an EALD teacher at Challa Gardens for 20+ years and is working Tuesday and Thursday this term.

Olga Marr who has been a class teacher at Challa Gardens and is working Monday and Friday.

As EALD teachers we provide English language support to students from different language backgrounds.



## ROOM 19

Room 19's main focus for Term 1 is to establish a positive and safe learning environment. Students will feel valued, be willing to take risks, be persistent, work hard, be confident, share and learn from one another to experience success at school. To help us get there, we will be developing an understanding about 'growth mindsets' and having discussions about ways to work through challenging work. Students will also be engaged in individual/group activities and reflect on ways to improve their learning. A visual reminder of strategies will be developed by each child to use when experiencing difficulties.

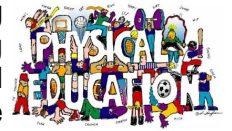
Ana Skouroumounis

## HEALTH AND PE

A big welcome back to all parents and students for 2018, I am very excited to be in my new role as Health and PE Co-ordinator. In Term 1, Junior Primary Students will explore and experiment with new and healthy foods and learn about how they benefit their growing bodies. In PE, they will participate in circuits and games that help develop key skills such as balance, co-ordination and

spatial awareness. Middle primary students will be learning about the benefits of physical activity and how to seek out any new activities they are willing to have a go at! Upper Primary students will be discussing how to use positive mindsets and learning about the importance of mental health well being. With SAPSASA approaching at the end of the term, students in Years 4 and up will be learning and practising the techniques for track and field events. Expect to see discus, shot put, long and high jump, and hear how the children are challenging themselves to try and achieve their best times for all running events.

Jordan Lehman



## AB ED



Welcome back to the 2018 school year. Most of you know me, my name is Pete Backhouse. This year I'm taking on the new role of Aboriginal Education Teacher. I will be working from the Inbarendi Room with Lyn Gray, so feel free to pop in for a chat and say hello.

## ROOM 20

My name is Chris Warne and I am teaching Year 5/6 in 2018. This is my first year at Challa Gardens Primary School. I am very happy to be here and excited about the year ahead. Throughout Term 1 we will be exploring Character Strengths in Room 20. In particular our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

## ADMIN/FINANCE

When you come into the Front Office, you will often be greeted by Sonya Ritchie who is the Administration Officer. Sonya has been with Challa Gardens for approx. 10 years and is very friendly and knowledgeable.

Students and absentees, forms/notes and Peta has been since September



Sonya can help parents with payments, first aid, general enquiries. Peta has been with Challa Gardens since September 2017 and is the Business Manager. Peta can be found at the Finance Office window to take your payments for school fees, uniforms or excursions. Peta can also assist you with school card applications and is there if you need assistance with paying fees/excursions. Sonya and Peta are more than happy to help and assist when we can, if we can not answer your question we will do the best we can to find the answer for you.

## A REMINDER TO FAMILIES

Just a reminder to all families that when and if an incident occurs on school grounds during school hours that involve any of our students including your own, please DO NOT deal with the issue yourself. We ask that any issue that affects students is reported to a member of the leadership team to follow up and deal with. Thank you.

School fees have now been issued. If you are eligible for school card please fill in the form and return to office ASAP.

If your child/ren will be absent for 5 or more days please remember that you need to come to the office to fill out an exemption form.

If your child/ren are absent please phone the school and let them know.

## CHALLA GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM 1 – 2018

<b>Week</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat/Sun</b>
<b>1</b>	29/1	30/1	31/1	1/2	2/2	3/2 4/2
<b>2</b> Information chats	5/2 SCOUTS ENGAGE PROGRAM	6/2	7/2	8/2	9/2	10/2 11/2
<b>3</b>	12/2	13/2 Acquaintance Night	14/2	15/2	16/2	17/2 18/2
<b>4</b>	19/2	20/2 AGM	21/2 Police band performance	22/2	23/2	24/2 25/2
<b>5</b> Performance Meetings	26/2	27/2	28/2	1/3 CHOIR cluster mtg.	2/3	3/3 4/3
<b>6</b>	5/3	6/3	7/3	8/3	9/3	10/3 11/3
<b>7</b>	12/3 ADELAIDE CUP	13/3	14/3	15/3	16/3 National Day against bullying and violence	17/3 18/3
<b>8</b>	19/3	20/3 Governing council	21/3 HARMONY DAY ASSEMBLY	22/3	23/3	24/3 25/3
<b>9</b>	26/3	27/3 SAPSASA athletics	28/3	29/3	30/3 GOOD FRIDAY	31/3 1/4 DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS
<b>10</b>	2/4 EASTER MONDAY	3/4	4/4 Camp Quality puppet show	5/4	6/4	7/4 8/4
<b>11</b>	9/4	10/4	11/4	12/4	13/4 LAST DAY TERM 1	14/4 15/4