Welcome to Blanchetown Primary School

This year we have many new students around the school. They have made new friends and settled into class routines. We would like to welcome the following new students and their families.
From left: Scarlett Porter, Ivan Ness, Tyler Hayford, Shaniah-Lea Garvey, Malachi Tuckey and Aiden Lambe.

We also welcome two dedicated teachers. They have already begun working hard setting up their classrooms and preparing programs that provide the best possible learning opportunities for our students.
From left: Ms Kiah Payne and Ms Claire Gregory

2016 Staff
David Ness: Principal/Reception teacher
Claire Gregory: 1/2 teacher
Kiah Payne: 3/7 teacher
Ina Reynolds: Play Centre leader
Ros Hahn: Front Office/Finance
Michelle Payne: Classroom Support SSO
Erin Schneider: Pastoral Care Worker
Elaine Molzer: Groundskeeper/Cleaner

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Welcome to the new 2016 school year. I hope everyone had a great time with your child/ren over the Christmas break. I would firstly like to acknowledge how proud I am of our 22 wonderful students, as they have all come back to school eager to learn. There are many events happening this term, including Splash Carnival and Mid Murray Sports Day. Please use the attached calendar to plan ahead for what promises to be a busy and exciting term.

**Governing Council AGM and 1st Meeting**
The Blanchetown Primary School Governing Council AGM & Meeting will be held on Monday the 15th February (week 3) at 7:00 in the library.

As a Governing Council member, you play a vital part in形成 the kind of school that you would like your child to be a part of, so I urge all parents to consider joining the Governing Council, we meet twice a term.

The Governing Council in joint responsibility with the Principal performs the following functions:
- Involving the school community in the governance of the school
- Setting the broad direction and vision of the school
- Strategic planning
- Determining policies, including policies for the safety and welfare of students
- Determining the application of the total finances available and the regular review of the budget

**Acquaintance Night**
Thank you to all the families and friends who attended The Blanchetown Primary School Acquaintance Night. It was a great success with over 60 people attending the event.

**Forms**
Some families have not yet returned their form pack from the start of the year. Can you please return all filled out forms to Ros in the front office.

**School Uniform**
Most families have returned their school uniform order form. The order will be sent on Wednesday and the uniforms should arrive within 2-3 weeks.

**Play Group**
The Blanchetown Play Centre for 0-5 year olds is open every Wednesday (9:00-12:00) and Thursday (9:30-10:30). All welcome!

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**Swimming Lessons**
All students participated exceptionally well in swimming lessons last week, they demonstrated resilience and persistence, as the pool was quite cool on some days. Our instructor Jason Lukacs ensured all students improved their swimming and aquatic skills.

David Ness, Principal

**From the PCW...**
Hi Everyone,
My name is Erin Schneider and I am the Pastoral Support Worker here at Blanchetown Primary School.
I am 24 years old and have been involved in youth work for approximately 7 years. I have studied Cert. 4 in Youth Work as well as Cert. 4 in Christian Ministry and Theology and I am a member of the St Petri Lutheran Church in Nuriootpa.
My interests include crocheting, studying, spending time with friends and family and most recently I have been busy planning my wedding to my fiancé Samuel in September.
My passion is to help children, staff and parents of Blanchetown Primary School to continue fulfilling their goals as a unique community; one that is truly caring, creative and offering young people a rich education.

My role within the school is to:
- Provide pastoral care in a ‘first response’ capacity to critical incidents, research and refer you to specialist support and to provide ongoing support where needed
- Work closely with the school leadership team and staff to provide pastoral care and practical support to students, families and staff as requested
- Work across the whole school to ‘build a sense’ of community and harmony

I am equipped to provide the school with a unique dimension of social, emotional and spiritual support in line with the DECD wellbeing framework.

I am very much looking forward to meeting all of the new faces we have in our school this year and continuing to work with you as well as the school staff to make this the best environment we can for the students.

Have a great week, Erin

**Football/Netball**
If any school age girls are interested in playing netball at the BSR home games, please let Ros know at the front office. Also there are plans for a 10-14 year old BSR team, please let the school know if your child is interested.