Dear Parents and caregivers,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write to introduce myself to you as the newly appointed Principal of Spalding Primary School for the rest of the school year. The last two weeks have been a wonderful experience. I possess over fifteen years educational experience spanning grades R-12 with a large majority of that spent working in remote indigenous education. My most recent leadership experience has been shaped by sixteen months of success as Principal of Emabella Anangu School in the APY Lands and four years as an Assistant Principal working across 28 remote schools in Central Australia. I am also an active member of the CFS and have transferred to the Clare Brigade. I look forward to volunteering my time to support the community. I have been an active member of different fire brigades for the last five years. I am thrilled to bring my skills as an educational leader and volunteer to your son/daughter’s school and to work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child’s success.

Along with staff, I will work hard to continue the success that has already been established at Spalding by building strong relationships with parents, students, staff, and community partners. We will focus on opportunities that support 21st Century skills, fostering a nurturing safe environment that is driven by our school values, use of data to inform planning and decision making processes, and providing exciting and challenging opportunities for all students.

I anticipate a successful year as our team of teachers and support staff work to increase the academic, social, and emotional growth of your child at Spalding Primary School.

During the course of the year, it is my hope that we will work together to provide the students of Spalding the best possible opportunities in preparing them to be active citizens for the challenges that they will face in life with a solid foundation created here at our school. As Principal, my door is always open and I welcome your input.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students, parents and staff for their warm and supportive welcome, this has allowed us to settle in to a new life in a very different environment much easier.

The school has been very busy again this term. We have had a number of visitors coming into the school to support students and seen some new faces in classroom this term. Next week the school is involved with the annual Walk Safely to School Day which is in its 17th year. We would like parents and students to meet at Spalding Park next Friday (20 May) by 8:30 am to walk to school. Once at school we will have a pancake breakfast for everyone that participated (parents included). After the yummy pancakes we will start the day off with Spalding Speaks Up the first for the term.
Teachers will be involved in a whole of partnership training and development session which focuses on resilience. Last term the students from Upper Primary participated in a survey and this data has been present to the school and now that data will be combined with all other schools in the partnership and presented to teachers by Andrew Fuller on the 6 June. This will see the school close for the day.

That evening (20 June) parents have the opportunity to hear a community presentation of that same data. Parents will need to book for the event which will be held at the Clare Golf Course. You can book through the link on the school Facebook page.

Governing Council meeting will be held in week four and has a jam packed agenda. Governing council has also been invited to attend governance training in week 8 of this term that will be held at Clare High School.

Students from Upper Primary will be involved in the YELP again this term and continuing with the project they start last term. They will also be presenting their project to the governing council. The first YELP meeting for students involved is on Tuesday week 4.

Another exciting activity is the Playgroup will be visiting the Junior Primary class as a part of a transition program for Playgroup kids coming up to the Junior Primary class in 2017.

There will be a number times throughout the year that I will be out of the school to take part in training and development and partnership activities. Please feel free to stop in or call to make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to help make this the best year yet!

Dave
CHANGE TO SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

Many of our parents and guardians volunteer at our school to support their child’s learning.

To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures.

As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening.

This will mean many of our volunteers can help out sooner.

A screening is still necessary for parents and guardians who are volunteering at school camps and sleep overs, as well as those hosting billets and homestay students.

As has always been the case, a screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school. These include concerts, fundraisers, swimming week or sports day.

Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children plays a part in child protection, including watching out for inappropriate behaviour.

Find out more about relevant history screening and keeping children safe at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

If you have any questions about screening or these changes, please speak with school staff.
Roast Chicken Lunch followed by an afternoon of

“Singles or Teams”

Sunday 29th May
12 noon

$12 per head

Single or Group Booking
Limited Numbers

Phone Geoff at Barbed Wire Pub
08 88452006