Dear parents and carers,

**Governing Council AGM**
We are thrilled to announce our Council for 2015:
- Tamara Ploenges – Chairperson
- Belinda Riggs – Vice Chairperson
- Teresa Stewart – Secretary
- Felicity Goodwin – Treasurer
- Kerri McNair – committee members
- Missy Blanck
- Luci Wilkinson
- Ron Gartside – Community Rep.
- Karyn Prelc – Principal
- Staff Rep – Karen Wright (1st meeting)

Meeting dates for 2015 will be:
- 20/5 3-4pm, Staff Room
- 17/6 5-7:30pm, Tarpeena Dinner
- 12/8 3-4pm, Staff Room
- 9/9 3-4pm, Staff Room
- 28/10 3-4pm, Staff Room
- 2/12 5-7:30pm, Tarpeena Dinner

Any agenda items from the parent community can be passed to the front office or to a Council Representative to be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

**Pupil free Days**
Governing Council have approved the following dates for a Pupil Free Day (School and Preschool) and School Closure for a local day of significance, the Mount Gambier Show.
Tuesday 5/5/15 – Staff Technology Day training at Mount Burr
Friday 23/10/15 – School Closure Day, Mount Gambier Show.
Could families please note these dates provided in advance in order to make duty of care arrangements for your children on these days? Thanks.

**Staffing next week**
Preschool continues as normal.
Next Monday 30th March, Kym, Jarrad and Karyn will attend the first of three Anne Baker Maths training days, funded by our SECAV Partnership. Regular relievers Andi Zerk and Jenny Lowe will be in classes to ensure programmes follow along as normal.
Karyn is on leave days Tuesday 31/3 and 1/4 so Melissa and Andi will be on site as Duty Managers should teachers or parents/carers require support. Appointments for assistance can be made if necessary as per usual by phoning 87397241 to arrange a convenient time if necessary. Teachers remain your first contact forelp.

**Ride To School Day**
Thanks to Kay Elven and staff for organising such a fun event. There were lots of colourful bikes, scooters and big smiles today. Well done Holly, Noah and Simone for recognition of you decorating efforts. Everyone is a winner if they are physically active with a good fitting helmet!
Upper Primary

The Upper Primary Class of 2015 has had an extremely busy start to the year and we can’t believe we are already well into week 9.

In week 5 8 of our year 6 and 7 students visited Adelaide to attend the National Young Leaders Conference. This was a fantastic opportunity for the school’s student leaders to hear from young Australians about what they have achieved and how they got there. One of the speakers was singer Rachael Leahcar who we were lucky enough to meet. The 3 day trip included a visit to Bounce which is an indoor trampoline gymnasium.

Some in class work has included reading How to Train Your Dragon which has included interesting activities such as building our own viking ships and viking helmets as a part of Art and Design and Tech.

The class has just begun an online maths program called Maths Pathway of which the class is trialling for this term and term 2. It really looks good and so far the students have been extremely engaged in their maths. It is a program that the students can direct their learning and it can be directed to each students needs in numeracy. It is really exciting and I look forward to seeing the students improve in this area.

Sports day and Pines Sports days were both great successes and well done to the sports day captains in Joel, Nathan, Chloe, Addison, Aaron and Caydan. They trained their teams hard and led from the front on the days. It was real pleasing to see their leadership skills being put to great use.
Pre School
We have started a wonderful program called Eat A Rainbow. This program has been used successfully in many preschools across Australia, and the main reason for this is that it is fun and good for you! It encourages children to taste lots of different coloured fruit and vegetables. A key message in this program is that sometimes you have to taste a food up to 10 times before you develop a liking or tolerance of its taste/colour/texture. Eating a Rainbow of different coloured fruit and vegetables promotes good health. Habits learnt in childhood can last a lifetime.
It's important to help young children develop a positive attitude to healthy foods, and for adults to role model healthy eating habits. No matter how busy our lives are, we should always make time for enjoying good food together. In our first cooking class we made mini zucchini frittatas. There were requests for seconds! Look up on-line if you want more great recipes. Next week we will be taste testing and cooking with orange food.

Junior Primary
The year 1’s have been busy writing descriptions. They are learning how to put their thinking into sentences that make sense by describing animals and things. This will give them the basis for other writing formats in the future. The receptions are learning about the correct way to form letters when writing, so if you notice any letters that are wrong, please correct these straight away to encourage the correct formation. We have also been working on how we like being treated and how we should treat others. We have looked at manners, school rules, bullying and how we can do our best. This will give students the basis to strive to achieve their full potential with respect and confidence that will be with them throughout their entire lives. Well done JP.

Middle Primary
The Middle Primary Class has been working on living things this term. For this, they have had to choose a living thing, and describe why it is a living thing. They then had to find out the lifecycle for their living thing. After this, the students had to research where their living thing lives. They are busy creating representations of these habitats. The final part of this topic will be to create a poster or powerpoint for their living thing. These will include a description, information on diet and habitat, as well as some questions that the students have come up with that they wanted to find out about their living thing. These will be presented at the assembly in Week 10.
Congratulations to the following winners!!

Preschool Award goes to: Ryan Tasker for communicating well with others.

Junior Primary Award goes to: Mystique Reece for completing set tasks.

Middle Primary Award goes to: Adele Wilkinson for excellent attitude and manners.

Upper Primary Award goes to: Jaxon Tasker for fantastic work in all subjects.

Principal Awards go to: Azarah Corman for amazing learning success in Reading and Writing.
Emily Thomson for excellent work in maths.
Ashley Dyson for excellent work with Trina in Physical education.
Helen Wood for excellent leadership and responsibility in the Preschool.

Quick smart Awards go to: Ty Dinnison, Addison Green, Blake Perry, Jaxon Tasker and Bailey Lindner in gaining Gold Membership in the 100’s Club. Jaxon Tasker, Blake Perry, Addison Green and Zarlee Corman for moving operations in Flash Cards or OZCASS.

School Banking with Bendigo Bank

Forms for school banking with Bendigo Bank in Penola are available from the front office. If you are interested in starting a passport account for your child please call in and pick up a form. All you need to apply is to provide the school with a copy of your child’s birth certificate and Karyn will fill out the principals section for identification. Parents you will eventually have to go to the Penola branch with your child’s passbook and a form of identification for your self. If you wish to withdraw money for your child. Banking is fortnightly on a Thursday and reminders are posted on the school Facebook page. This is a free service offered to us by Bendigo bank Penola.

Playgroup in Schools  PINS!!
Monday mornings- 9 to 11am
Preschool-Nangwarry
Playgroup Leader: Leah Gibbs ph 872397241