



Government
of South Australia

Hon Susan Close MP

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Susan Close'.

Susan Close
Minster for Education and Child Development

27/01/2016



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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/>

