



Mark Oliphant College B-12

"The future is now..."

MOC

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, WEEK 2

12 FEBRUARY 2016

"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family."
- Kofi Annan



KEY DATES TERM 1 2016:

Adelaide Cup Holiday - Monday 14 March

Good Friday - Friday 25th March

Easter Monday - Monday 28th March

End Term 1 - Friday 15th April

Start Term 2 - Monday 2nd May

Pupil Free Day - TBA

BANNER IMAGES (above):

(Top Left) Congratulations to **Sarsha** for her outstanding achievements in the **Science and Engineering Awards**.

Sarsha achieved:

- 1st Prize in Computer Programming & Robotics in the Oliphant Science Awards.
 - The Hewlett Packard prize for best entry for Years 7-12 in Oliphant Science Awards.
 - A finalists nomination (10 in her category) for the BHP Billiton Science & Engineering Awards and attended the 4 day competition in Melbourne last week
- Sarsha built a robotic arm and was fortunate to meet the *Got to meet* CEO of CSIRO and the person who inspired her to build her robotic arm.

(Top Right) **Natalie Elliott - Dux of 2015**

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents/Careproviders,

Welcome to the start of 2016 at Mark Oliphant College. A special welcome to new students and their families to our college.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children and together with our wonderful staff to help make a difference with their learning, care and development.

It has been great already meeting so many children, students and adults, and feeling very welcomed by all. I have been impressed by the positive attitude of our students, teachers and the community, and feel very proud to be the Principal of the College.

2016 is an important year as we look to consolidate and build the excellent work of the College in supporting students, staff and parent/careproviders.

Welcome to all new staff who are attending Mark Oliphant College for the first time in 2016. A special welcome to Ms Angie Michael (Executive Leader Year 7-12) Angie's previous position was Principal, Parafield Gardens High School. Congratulations to Ms Kathleen Hoare who has been appointed as Deputy Principal.

Please come up and say hello in the yard or when you see me around the school.

All the best for 2016!

Frank Mittiga - Principal

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all our outstanding students who completed their SACE in 2015.

A special congratulations to **Natalie Elliott the 2015 Dux of the College**. Natalie has been an outstanding student throughout her schooling and we wish her every success in her Design studies at University of South Australia.

AN INTRODUCTION: Executive Leader 7-12

I would like to thank the Mark Oliphant College community for the wonderfully, warm welcome I have received by all. I have enjoyed meeting students, parents, community members and staff and am particularly looking forward to working in a B-12 setting, which is a new endeavour for me.

The College boasts impressive facilities, passionate, committed educators and students who have demonstrated essential qualities required for 21st Century learning.

I come to the college with a depth of experience spanning almost 30 years of teaching in northern suburb secondary schools. I am a teacher of Design and taught Art and Design for many years. In recent years however, I have taught students identified needing support in their literacy, developing a course for Year 8 students improving individual literacy levels. For the past eleven years I was appointed at Parafield Gardens High School, initially as Assistant Principal for three years, Deputy Principal for seven years and last year as Principal.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome new students and families to the college and trust that your welcome to our college has been as warm as mine has been.

Angie Michael - Executive Leader 7-12

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development



Government
of South Australia

Hon Susan Close MP

THE UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS

Monday 2.30 - 4.30pm
Wednesday 8.30 - 10am
Thursday 8.30 - 10am

REMINDER

Students are required to wear full school uniform.

A full range of items is currently available for purchase in the uniform shop – see times above.

If you have difficulty with purchasing uniform please contact a member of the Leadership Team.

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

Susan Close
Minister 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
- Talk to them about current affairs and ask them how it links to their learning at school

Some helpful resources:

- The curriculum for Years Foundation - 10: <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>
- The curriculum for Years 11-12: <https://www.sace.sa.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/>
- 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/>