

NOVEMBER 2022

# WELCOME NEWSLETTER

WOODEND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
EDWARD BECK DRIVE  
SHEIDOW PARK 5158  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



## Welcome!

### *Welcome Newsletter #2*

We trust that our first welcome and information letter was helpful to you.

#### **ENROLMENT & ORIENTATION**

Thank you for completing your enrolment forms and attending a school tour if required..  
Formal orientation visits will occur on:

**THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2022**  
**THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022**

There will be four separate sessions on each day; one for each 2023 Reception class. You will be informed of your exact session time for these visits by invitation. This invitation is attached. The visits are for approximately 90 minutes and your child will spend time in their classroom with a Woodend teacher whilst we meet and talk to you about:

- our priorities and passions at Woodend
- curriculum, learning and wellbeing information
- preparing for school life
- early literacy and numeracy expectations
- community involvement

At the first visit, you will have time to hear from a teacher in our Early Years' team and ask questions.

#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: VOLUNTEERING AT WOODEND**

At Woodend we work to build strong adult partnerships, not only because we want you to feel valued, and welcomed, able to contribute, and also able to learn within our Woodend community.

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Ultimately this is also about developing you and our school community's capacity to more effectively support successful learning. To this end we hope you, our 2023 Reception parents/caregivers, are able to build strong supportive proactive networks. We believe that getting to know each other and getting to know what happens in the classroom and school are two strong strategies that are supported by our communications in digital spaces and by volunteering. Child safety is paramount in our considerations of who may volunteer their services at school. If you are wanting to volunteer to help in our school such as help in the classroom, canteen and/or sport, you are required to fulfil the requirements below.

#### **VOLUNTEERING AT WOODEND:**

We would appreciate your support by volunteering at Woodend. Changes in policy on screening and suitability of volunteers in schools, was announced by the Minister for Education and Child Development. To become a volunteer, you will need to complete the application and induction forms that were mentioned in Welcome Newsletter # 1 that you received back in October this year.

#### **COMMUNICATION IN DIGITAL SPACES**

We recommend you subscribe to our Woodend Newsblog

<http://woodendprimaryschool.edublogs.org>

and click on the subscribe button, which is where all our school news originates. You can then receive notifications when news and school information is posted. We encourage you to access our school website which contains all the information for new families commencing at Woodend. Your child's teacher will be regularly communicating with you in digital spaces such as the class Facebook page or on our school Newsblog.

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:** Monday 30th January 2023

#### **TRANSITION FIRST STEPS:**

Our most important priority is to provide continuity for your child over time. We want to build on what your child already knows and has learned at home and preschool and to also meet you, and build a partnership with you. To do this more effectively, we conduct 'Building Connections' conversations in the first week of Term 1, 2023. This involves your child's Reception teacher/s meeting with you to learn more about your child - their experiences, learning dispositions, strengths, personal and social capabilities and their home and community context. We believe this conversation provides us with rich and valuable information to better understand your child and helps us support their transition to school. This process occurs with parents/carers on the afternoons from Monday 30th January to Friday 3rd February 2023, inclusive. They commence at 1.00pm and are approximately 20-30 minutes each. You will receive a booking slip at the Orientation visits to record your preferred time. We would prefer that this conversation is with adults only but understand if you have to bring your child if childcare cannot occur. We will provide further information at the first orientation visit on Thursday 24/11/22.

Looking forward to meeting with you soon.

Mr Steve Freeman  
Principal

Cathie Luke  
Senior Leader, Early Years

11/11/22