



Friday, August 30th 2013

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) 2012 changes have been made which define the conditions under which school teachers are employed in South Australia. At Colonel Light Gardens Primary, as in several other schools, our teachers are teaching in excess of the defined teaching time as stipulated in the EBA, so changes to our school day in some form are unavoidable. We need to accommodate the conditions of the new EBA by the beginning of the 2014 school year.

Staff have recommended to Governing Council, after giving consideration to all ideas and options, that we make the following changes to the school day to meet the EBA requirements:

- 1) Remove the 8.45 'enter school bell' and continue to start instruction time at 8.50 each day, and;
- 2) End school at 2.30pm on Wednesdays.

Staff believe that these changes are the least disruptive to both parents and importantly, to the instructional time for children. No changes to our specialist timetables will be needed.

Staff have recommended to end school early on Wednesdays because the early finish to this day mirrors that of many of our major public and private secondary feeder schools. Wednesday afternoons would be used for the staff meetings currently held on Tuesdays, allowing for more effective staff training and leading to benefits for students in the programs offered. Staff have avoided the option of finishing early (3:10) on all school days as we believe that this is more disruptive to class times, specialist timetables, parents and local kindergartens.

Parents are welcome to make comment on the option recommended to meet the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement requirements. Please put your comments in writing and direct them to the Governing Council through the school office by Wednesday September 11th 2013, so they may be considered at the next Governing Council meeting, when a final decision will be made.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Woollard
Principal
On behalf of the Governing Council