Dear Parents and Caregivers

**Invitation for Competitive Chess 2016**

St Andrew’s School fields teams in the SA Junior Chess Interschool Competition. Chess is a very enjoyable and intriguing game and offers unlimited hours of enjoyment to young players. It also develops lateral thinking skills and concentration span. Research has shown that students who play chess achieve improved results in all school subjects.

Students who nominate to play chess in our School’s chess team need to understand that chess involves a **high level of commitment**. Players must be available to play on match dates in Terms 2 and 3 unless they are ill.

As we have teams playing at a number of different venues, parents assume the full responsibility of transportation to and from venues and also for the supervision and care of their children at all matches.

**Who can play?** Students in Y3-7 who know the basic rules of chess.

**When are matches played?** Generally, four matches in Term 2 and three in Term 3 at approximately fortnightly intervals. There are 7 minor round games. The Finals take place at the end of Term 3.

**Where are matches played?** Various venues, depending on the team, such as, Prince Alfred College, St Ignatius Junior School or The Chess Centre in the city and our own school Cybrary.

**What time are the matches?** Matches are played straight after school around 4pm.

**What days do the teams play?** Matches at St Andrew’s School will take place on Thursdays after school. Matches off site are generally played on Fridays but some are played on other days of the week. Once the teams are nominated they will play at the same time and same venue for the 7 minor round matches.

**Who is the coach?** Chess Master, Mr Mato Jelic.

**How often is coaching?** Twice a week commencing in Week 1 of Term 2, with one session at lunchtime on Tuesdays for intermediate players and another on Friday lunchtime for experienced players. **It is expected that all competitive players will attend each week** the coaching session appropriate to their level of experience. I will discuss with individuals which coaching session will suit them best.

If you wish your child to be involved in competitive chess during 2016 would you please complete the form below and return it to the School Office by Friday 18 March. Teams will be selected and nominated in the weeks following and parents will be advised about venues and times by the end of Term 1.

**Martin Seacome**
Chess Coordinator

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**Competitive Chess – 2016**

I hereby give permission for my child __________________________ Class _______ to compete in the South Australian Junior Chess League matches during 2016. I understand that I will be fully responsible for my child while she/he is involved in these matches.

Signature: ______________________

Name: _________________________

Date: _________________________

*Please return to the School Office by Friday 18 March 2016.*