

Elizabeth Park Schools Newsletter

Term 3, Week 4. 16th August 2024



News from the Principal

Welcome to term 3! it's hard to believe that the year is half over, and our students are halfway through their learning and growth for this year. There have been a few changes to the way term 3 has started this year; the first being not starting the term with swimming week and the other change has been welcoming receptions to the school in a mid-year intake. Historically swimming week has been held in the first week of term 3 for all reception and to year 5 students. Feedback from families was that this is a particularly cold part of the year, and it would be preferable for a different week later in the term. We sought a change of time with the Aquadome, however, were unable to change due to the schedule being fully booked. Instead, we approached the new Salisbury Swim Centre, as they have only just opened, we were able to book with them. We are really excited to try a brand-new facility and a new structure. Swimming week will be over 2 weeks, weeks 6 & 7, to accommodate our numbers. Year 6s will access the Aquatics program in term 4 at West Lakes. This term we have also returned to a mid-year intake of reception students. These new students have settled beautifully into school life in room 13 with Ms Hannah and Ms Mac. They wear fluro vests in the yard so we can keep a close eye on them while they learn school routines and boundaries. These students will have 6 terms of Reception, so wont attend swimming this year, rather attend as receptions next year when they have had longer to settle in. Welcome to our new students and families. Its lovely to have you at our school! The panel for the principal position has commenced and it is hoped that we will be able to let you know who the new principal will be by the end of the term. The new principal will start in 2025 but I'm sure they will come to visit and get to know staff, students and families this year. I look forward to sharing this exciting news with you soon.

Important Dates

<u>Swimming JP</u> Monday 26th August –

Thursday 30th August

Swimming MP/UP
Monday 2nd September—
Thursday 8th September

PAT Testing y3 – y6 9th September – 27th September

Aboriginal STEM Congress
Thursday 29th August &
Friday 30th August

<u>Indigenous Literacy Day</u> Wednesday 4th September

<u>Year 6 Footy Carnival</u> Wednesday 4th September

Reading Superstar
Assembly
Tuesday 10th September



Take care, Kath x

Aboriginal Education

Niina Marni!

Cultural Awareness Staff Training!

As part of the Pupil Free Day on Monday, all staff attended Cultural Awareness training that was run by Jack Buckskin. Jack's knowledge and insights offered us a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding of the history, language and traditions of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Yarn Group

Each Thursday, we hold the Yarn Group in the Community Hub from 9am-10am. We would love you to pop in and have a yarn and cuppa with us. Everybody is welcome! We hope to see you there!

Ngaityalya (Thank you in Kaurna)

EALDNews

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to our brave students, Fatima and Maryam from Room 8, for delivering an outstanding presentation on Eid al-Adha at the end of last term. Our Afghani community attended the event and listened to the students' insights, also contributing by sharing delicious food prepared by our dedicated BSSOs, Afghani mothers, and Community Hub staff. This was a truly beautiful celebration of culture, and we are deeply grateful to be part of such a wonderful, diverse community.







Room 9 Dinosaur Studies

In Room 9 the students have been learning about Dinosaurs, particularly their height, what they ate and why they became extinct. The students than got to make their dinosaurs with magic clay. Here are Vyolette, Vankiesha and Nicole's models.



Gawler Baseball Club

2024 Come and Try days Friday September 6th 5.00-6.30 Sunday September 8th 10.00-12.00.

Karbeethan Reserve Angle vale road Evanston Gardens



Harper was one of 10 girls selected to represent the Playford district in district SAPSASA for netball. She was placed in the division 2 team and played a total of 9 games over 3 days at Netball SA stadium. It was a great opportunity and she learnt lots of new skills as well as lots of new friends. Well done harper!



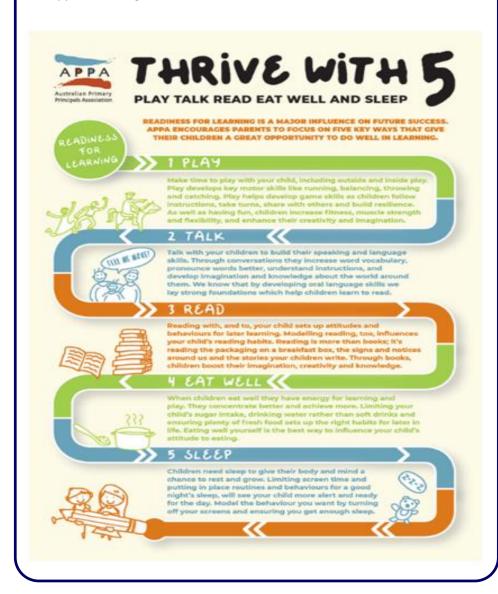
Thrive with 5

Unlocking a Bright Future: The Power of the First 1000 Days

The Australian Primary Principals, Association (APPA) is committed to supporting families in ensuring every child has the best start in life. They have partnered with early childhood professionals to produce the Thrive with Five paper.

In the first 1000 days of a child's life, their brain grows really fast. Every time they see, hear, or touch something, it helps their brain make new connections. Eating healthy food and getting good sleep are very important because they help the child grow strong. When parents show love and care, it helps the child feel safe and learn to trust others. Playing and exploring help children learn to talk and become curious, which makes learning easier as they get older.

Families benefit from a supportive community, ensuring both they and the child thrive. Our school is part of a supportive community, and we want to partner with families to shape a lifetime of benefits for every child. Each schooll newsletter, we will share information about the important five: play, talk, read, eat well and sleep. Share these ideas with friends and family. Be a ripple for a bright future!

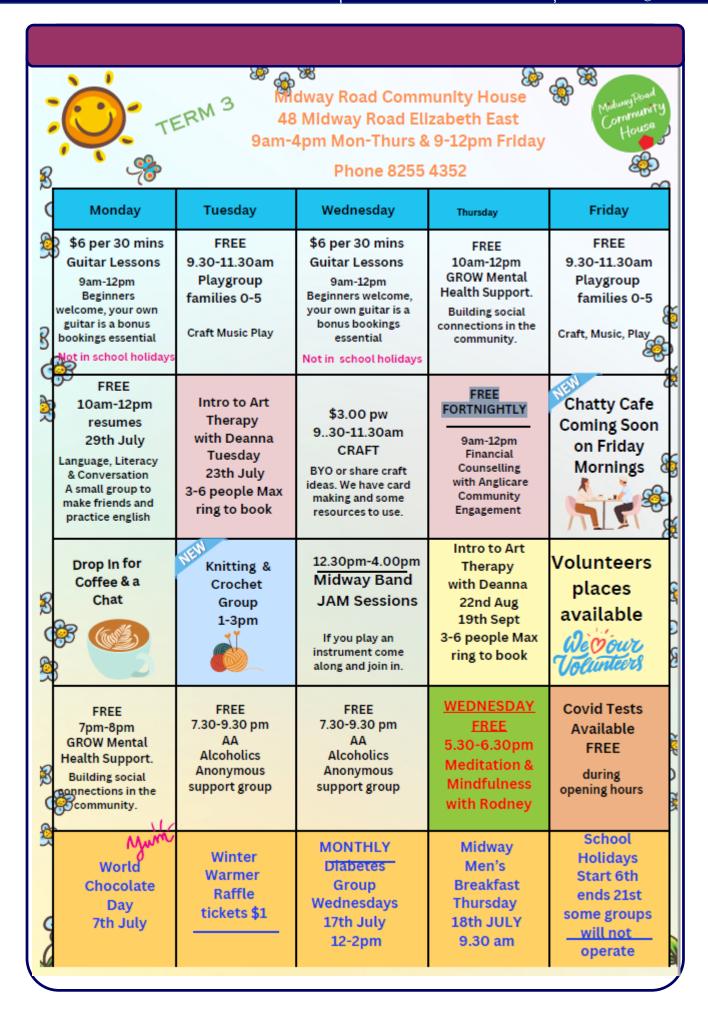












Reconciliation Action Plan

We have been busy working towards achieving more of our RAP goals. Listed below are another four questions that most people answered no to or were unsure of, as well as what we have been doing/are doing as a school this year.

- Have staff undertaken cultural awareness/competence training?
 Yes, all staff are encouraged to participate in cultural awareness training. This term, we have organised cultural awareness training on our Pupil Free Day for all staff that Jack Buckskin from Kuma Kaaru will run.
- How often in the last year did your school or early learning service invite Elders or Traditional Owners to deliver a Welcome to Country at significant events?
 We have invited Kaurna Elders to perform a Welcome to Country at events, such as our beginning of the year assembly and our Cultural Showcase. When it didn't happen, it was due to the Elders we enquired with not being available. We want to increase our connections with Kaurna Elders and members of the Aboriginal community. If you would like to share your knowledge with our students, please get in contact with us, we would love to have you.
- How often in the last year were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, businesses
 or organisations invited to be involved in activities at your school or early learning service?
 As frequently as we can. We have scheduled events throughout the year where we can book
 businesses to come in and work with our students. We have also set aside funds within the budget to
 support this to happen. We have set up a Yarn Time in the Community Hub each Thursday morning
 and would love it if people were interested in coming along.
- Even though it usually falls outside of term dates, how often in the last 5 years did your school or
 early learning service celebrate and promote NAIDOC Week?
 Every year. It is part of the Aboriginal Education Teacher role to support classroom teachers with
 information and resources to teach students about NAIDOC Week. We have an amazing range of
 experience and individual class teacher practices who include this as a focus within each classroom in
 different ways. Depending on what other special events we have happening we sometimes also do
 special assemblies for events such as National Sorry Day if it falls within a school week.
- How often in the last term (approximately 10 weeks) did staff, students or children visit local
 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sites and/or attend events in the community as part of school or
 early learning service activities?
 Very frequently. Within the last few weeks, students and staff celebrated Reconciliation Week by
 - Very frequently. Within the last few weeks, students and staff celebrated Reconciliation Week by participating in the fundraiser for Wear it Yellow Day to raise money for the Aboriginal Charity called Children's Ground, the participated in the Traditional Aboriginal Games and Enquiry learning sessions, along with celebrating their learning with families at the Cultural Showcase.

In the next newsletter, we will continue to share our progress as we work through our RAP.

Science

Science term 2 and 3 - Biology

This term and last term, students doing science have been learning about living things. Receptions and year 1 have studied the features of living things, year 2s and 3 have studied habitats and the needs of living things, and the upper primary years have studied adaptations and extreme environments.



Cece from Kaurna and Creative taught us about how she uses weaving practices to create animal artworks as a Kaura/Nurangga woman.



Ginger and Belle visited the science room for two weeks, so we could learn about the needs of pet animals.



Adrianna from room 23 created this scientific diagram of a plant.



Elliot from room 7 drew this beetroot by observing the different colours and textures.



Riley from room 16 meets our visiting stick insect. Stick insects teach us about camouflage and adaptation.