



MUNNO PARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER WEEK 9, TERM 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear MPPS Community,

As another school year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on all the things that make MPPS such a wonderful place to learn and work. Thank you to every staff member, student, and family for the energy, care, and enthusiasm you have brought to our school in 2025. It is your efforts and your belief in each other that create the warm, safe, and vibrant learning environment our students thrive in. Together, we have met challenges head on and celebrated so many happy moments and achievements along the way. It has truly been a community effort.

Governing Council

My sincere thanks go to our dedicated Governing Council, whose ongoing support and commitment continue to steer us toward a bright future. Your leadership and passion have a real and lasting impact. We deeply value your time and the care you show for our school's future. I look forward to working with you all in 2026 and to seeing how much more we can accomplish together.

A reminder that our next Governing Council AGM will be held on Monday, 16th February 2026 at 3:30pm in the Resource Centre. Everyone is welcome.

Fundraising Committee

A heartfelt thank you to Mr Hunter and our enthusiastic Fundraising Committee for another outstanding year. From Sports Day to Colour Run, from Mother's and Father's Day stalls to our joyful Christmas Trail, you have brought our whole school together and helped create lasting memories for everyone.

IMPORTANT DATES

Last Day of School
Friday 12/12 2pm Dismissal

First Day of School for 2026
Tuesday 27/1

ASSEMBLY

Week 3, 6 and 9
2:10pm in the Gym

BELL TIMES

8:45am Teacher on duty in the yard
8:50am School day begins
10:50am Lunch play
11:20am End lunch play
1:00pm Recess play
1:20pm End recess play
3:00pm Home time

GATE TIMES

Front Gate:
Open 8:43am Close 9:15am
Open 2:55pm Close 3:15pm
Other Gates:
Open 8:43am Close 9:10am
Open 2:55pm Close 3:10pm



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Thank you for all your behind-the-scenes work, for running the canteen and concert raffle, and for so much more. Your dedication means the world to us.

Student Farewells and Welcomes

To our Year 6 students, congratulations on reaching this exciting new chapter! We wish you all the best as you head to Gawler, MOC, PIC, Craigmore, Riverbanks, and beyond. We look forward to hearing about your new adventures and hope you come back to visit. And to our new students and families joining us from kindies and preschools – a big, warm welcome! We can't wait to get to know you and share in your learning journey.

Staff Farewells

I would also like to take a moment to farewell several staff members who will be moving into new roles or going on leave next year. Ms Glaetzer, Mrs Giersch, Ms Jane, Ms Wyse and Nia, we are deeply grateful for your dedication and contributions to Munno Para. You have made a lasting impact on our students and staff and will be greatly missed.

We also wish to acknowledge Ms O'Hara as she begins her maternity leave. We thank her for the care and commitment she has shown our students and send her our warmest wishes for this special time ahead.

Site learning plan 2026

Next year, our Site Learning Plan will be centred around developing effective learners and nurturing curiosity, alongside a continued emphasis on wellbeing, particularly in the areas of belonging and safety. These priorities are essential because students learn best when they feel secure, connected, and encouraged to explore new ideas with confidence. By strengthening both learning and wellbeing, we are creating the conditions for every child to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

We are genuinely looking forward to this work, as it builds on the strengths of our community and supports the kind of school environment where all students can grow, succeed and feel part of something bigger than themselves. We will share this ambitious plan with the community in term 1.

Graduation

Our Year 6 Graduation was a wonderful celebration on Tuesday night. It was full of proud moments, happy tears, and lots of laughter. Thank you to all staff made the event so special, especially the Graduation Team. Congratulations again to our award winners, you have made us all incredibly proud.

YMCA OSHC

YMCA OSHC will again be open for vacation care during the summer. It will be closed from Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January inclusive. They will re-open on Monday 5 January 2026. More details, including booking information, are available on their website.

Looking Ahead to 2026

School begins again on Tuesday 22 January. The week before, our staff will be busy preparing classrooms, engaging in professional development and planning for another fantastic year ahead.

Wishing you all a relaxing festive season, filled with laughter, love and time with family and friends. Thank you again for everything you bring to our school community. Enjoy the holidays, and I look forward to seeing all in 2026

Best Regards,
Andrew Castenetto
Principal



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

PE

Well done to all the students for their participation in PE and Health this year! Your enthusiasm and effort have made 2025 a fantastic year full of memorable moments.

Some of the highlights include Sports Day, where teamwork and sportsmanship were on full display; Auskick, which helped build great skills around AFL football and friendships; the SAPSASA events, showcasing outstanding talent. These are just a few examples of the wonderful activities we enjoyed together.

A huge congratulations to all the students who received PE and Health awards this year. Your dedication to demonstrating Respect, Responsibility, and Success has been truly inspiring.

I look forward to teaching PE and Health again next year with the amazing students of Munno Para. Wishing everyone a safe, active, and joyful holiday season. See you in the new year!

Jamie Barnett
Health and PE Teacher



PBL FOCUS FOR WEEKS 7, 8 & 9

**We accept and
learn from
feedback**



**We are
encouraging and
celebrate
achievement**

Success



**Review
Lesson**



Respect 

Responsibility 

Success 

VARIETY SA CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Wednesday, 26th of November, students from A2 and A3 had the fantastic opportunity to attend the Variety SA Christmas Party! The day was filled with festive activities such as face painting, balloon art, and a range of entertainment and special treats. The excitement was clear on the students' faces as they moved from one activity to another, making the most of every moment. Staff joined in the fun as well, supporting the students and sharing in their joy.

This memorable event helped create a strong sense of community, with students, staff, and families coming together to celebrate the festive season. For many, it was a highlight of the year—bringing smiles, laughter, and a sense of wonder. It was wonderful to see everyone connecting and enjoying the magic of the day.

A huge thank you to Variety SA for their generosity and for organising such a special event for our students, families, and staff. These opportunities make a lasting difference and show the positive impact that community support can have on our school.



2025 YEAR IN REVIEW: LAUNCHING THE LIZARD LOUNGE AND CELEBRATING STUDENT VOICE

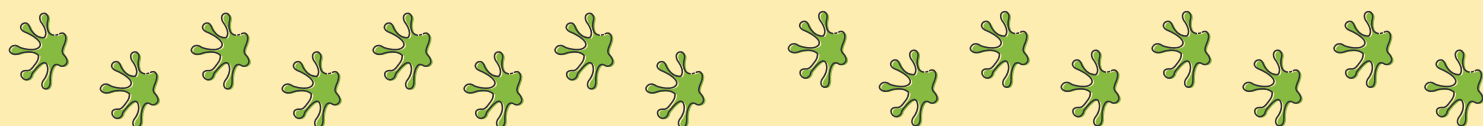
The end of the year has arrived and Lizard Lounge has been given the opportunity for students to actually share their voices and be heard. We called this The Lizard Lounge. This is our SRC (Student Representative Council). It is the first time since we've been in reception that we have had this kind of group in our school.

Students from the Lizard Lounge have liked meeting new people and helping to change our school to make it better than it already is.

Next year when Lizard Lounge stays alive, we would like to work on improving class meetings to actively involve students speaking and listening skills. We have many ideas to make our class meetings work better and look forward to sharing these ideas with students just like we did with the mascots and sports day names

Kind regards,

Lizard Lounge subcommittee- Layla, Rina and Jaeden



As we reflect on 2025 at Munno Para Primary School, we are proud to highlight the successful launch of the Lizard Lounge—an initiative designed to strengthen student voice, agency, and engagement.

This year, students from each primary class were selected to join the Lizard Lounge, attending fortnightly meetings where they shared ideas and collaborated with staff. Within the Lizard Lounge, subcommittees were created to keep our community informed by sharing updates through assembly presentations, newsletter articles, and Class Dojo posts.

Thanks to the Lizard Lounge, students actively participated in projects such as renaming house teams, creation of new team mascots and providing feedback to improve our school, building confidence, leadership skills, and a strong sense of belonging.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Daff, for coordinating and running the Lizard Lounge meetings. We appreciate her guidance and passion in supporting student voice.

Thank you to everyone in our school community for contributing to the Lizard Lounge's success in 2025. We look forward to seeing this positive work continue in 2026!

Sarah Mellors
Deputy Principal



CURRICULUM 2025 WRAP UP

This year our staff and students have taken actions and been involved in learning that builds positive learner dispositions. We have worked collaboratively to create our whole school disposition language for each of the three Mathematics dispositions from the SA Curriculum. Students have engaged in a range of rich tasks as part of their learning to support them to notice these dispositions and build a range of strategies they can use when working in Maths. Within specialist learning areas students have also been building learner dispositions relevant to working in these subject areas.

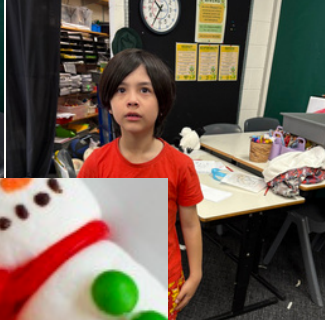
We have had students across K and D block involved in Bond Blocks intervention this year. It has been wonderful to see the growth students have made and the range of addition and subtraction skills they have been able to develop fluency with. Next year the Bond Blocks program will expand to include M blocks students as well.

Across both literacy and numeracy, we have seen great student engagement, growth and achievement and all students should be so proud of all they have achieved this year. We look forward to all that is to come for our students in 2026.

Olivia Giersch
Coordinator-Curriculum & Pedagogy



CHRISTMAS TRAIL 2025



First Nations @ MPPS 2025

What an amazing year we had in 2025.
Our First Nations students were given the opportunity
to participate in so many wonderful activities.



It has been a pleasure to support our First Nations students to
continue to build their cultural knowledge, and we can't wait
to see what 2026 brings!

Mrs Shields & Aunty Glenice

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YEAR 6 GRADUATES!

We are proud to celebrate our Year 6 students as they graduate from Munno Para Primary School and take the exciting next step into high school in 2026.

On Tuesday, 9th December, we marked this special milestone with a presentation and celebration dinner. It was a wonderful evening to recognise our students' achievements, reflect on their journey, and wish them all the best for the future.

Congratulations to all our Year 6s—we know you will continue to shine in high school!



WELLBEING WRAP

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

This year, our PBL team concluded their final training sessions, positioning us to further embed PBL practices across the school. Key initiatives included:

- Clearly documented and explicitly taught Non-Classroom Procedures (NCPs) such as safe use of taps, waiting in the office, and appropriate playground behaviour.
- A focus on teaching students expected behaviours and reinforcing these with positive praise and tokens ("gems") when expectations are met

Major Achievements in 2025:

- Developed and implemented a new encouragement system aligned with the new 'Gem' sports teams.
- Increased visibility of Ecko Gecko at numerous school events, reinforcing positive behaviour.
- Over 25 students actively engaged with our Ecko Checko system.
- Successfully implemented daily circle time following recess.
- Achieved a 58% reduction in after-recess behavioural incidents during Term 4.
- Delivered whole-school lessons on the values of Respect, Responsibility, and Success.
- Consistently utilised our teaching matrix to deliver weekly lessons to all students.

Looking Ahead to 2026:

- Further analyse behaviour data to drive school-wide improvements.
- Continue explicit teaching of school values.
- Increase Ecko's involvement at school events.
- Enhance signage of NCPs throughout the school.
- Strengthen supports for Tier 2 and Tier 3 behaviours, ensuring all students receive appropriate interventions.

Regulation

In 2025, we launched a significant new initiative from the ground up: The Zone.

- Over the 2024-2025 holidays, staff constructed The Zone—a dedicated space where students can work on self-regulation for 10-minute intervals, providing targeted and supported regulation breaks.
- Throughout the year, The Zone supported over 68% of our students, contributing to a marked reduction in behavioural incidents and take-homes/suspensions.
- All classes participated in the 10-module Zones of Regulation program, adopting its language school-wide.
- The Zone staff collaborated with classroom teachers to create 'toolboxes' of regulation strategies for classroom and everyday use.

Plans for 2026:

- Maintain and further develop The Zone.
- Adopt an even more targeted approach to supporting students with regulation needs, ensuring responsive support for every learner.

Ryan Hunter
Student Wellbeing Leader

