



# KANGAROO INN AREA SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 WEEK 6 - 05/06/2026

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### Do it for Dolly Day

Last week our SRC organised "Do it for Dolly Day". The SRC decorated the office and common areas with blue, and the school community wore blue to show support. Students donated gold coins, with all funds going to the Do it for Dolly Foundation to support important work in helping people experiencing bullying.

A highlight was a school-wide scavenger hunt, where students searched for kind words and positive quotes. The day focused on activities that brought people together, celebrated kindness, and encouraged everyone to look out for each other.

Thank you to staff members Sam Beckham and Keelin Winterfield for supporting our SRC.

#### Wattle Range Youth Advisory Council (YAC) 2026

We are pleased to congratulate Year 11 student Zoe, who has been selected as Chairperson of the Wattle Range Youth Advisory Council for 2026. The YAC brings together young leaders to shape youth programs, organise events, and represent youth at council meetings. As Chairperson, Zoe will lead the group, contribute ideas, and support community engagement. This is a fantastic achievement and recognition of Zoe's commitment and leadership. We look forward to seeing the positive impact she will make throughout the year.

#### Stage 1 Outdoor Ed Canoeing Camp

In Week 3, our Year 11 Outdoor Education class completed a 3-day canoeing camp along the Glenelg River. Students paddled up to 50 km, camped in tents, and transported their own food and gear. They were assessed on paddling skills, planning, and teamwork, and enjoyed spotting wildlife such as koalas, possums, and pelicans. The camp was a great experience, building patience, resilience, and appreciation for the outdoors.

#### Gala Day

The primary students enjoyed participating in a wet, windy and occasionally sunny Gala Day on Sunday, joining with students from many other local schools. Our thanks go to Sam Holland for coordinating our students and Lisa Scott - Mount Burr PS principal for team organisation. Thanks also to families for braving the weather and supporting the students!

Kind regards,  
Annie Matthews & Amy Oswald

### CONTACTS

#### Principal:

Annie Matthews & Amy Oswald

#### Governing Council Chairperson:

Natalie Sims

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### COMMUNICATION

#### Community Portal



Find us on



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### WEEK 7

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> June - Public Holiday

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> June - Yr 11 O.E Bushwalking Excursion

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June - Primary Basketball Clinic

#### Week 8

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> June - Yr 7-9 Olympics Unleashed

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> June - R/1 Chinese Teacher Visit

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> June - Governing Council 6:30pm

#### Week 9

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> June - Lunch Orders

#### Week 10

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July - Assembly, Family Run & BBQ

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July - **LAST DAY OF TERM 2.30PM FINISH**

**STRIVE FOR LIFE**

# YELP Camp

Our Year 6 students recently attended YELP Camp with Landscapes SA! 🌿

Throughout the camp, students participated in nature walks, scavenger hunts exploring how our world has changed over thousands of years, calming “sit spot” activities where they observed the environment in silence, and a fun trivia night.

It was a fantastic opportunity to get outdoors and deepen their understanding of how local environments are interconnected. Students demonstrated excellent collaboration while working with peers from other schools, showed resilience in trying new activities, and developed strong self-management skills in a new environment. They were also thoughtful learners, making meaningful connections about how the natural world relies on interconnected systems for success.

A truly engaging and memorable learning experience for all!



# Year 5/6 Learning Expedition

Our Year 5/6 students have continued their engaging learning expedition, guided by the question: “How do we help people connect with local wetlands and migratory birds?” Through this inquiry, students have been building their knowledge of local ecosystems while developing creative ways to share their learning with the wider community.

On Monday, 1st June, students proudly launched their bird trading cards at the Millicent Visitor Information Centre. This exciting event marked the culmination of weeks of dedication, as students researched local bird species found across the Limestone Coast and worked collaboratively to design, refine, and produce their own trading cards and accompanying websites.

Students took ownership of every stage of the process—from researching and writing to graphic design, packaging, and presentation. The final products beautifully showcase the diversity of birdlife in our region and reflect the students’ creativity, effort, and growing understanding of environmental stewardship.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents, families, and community members who attended the launch and supported the students. It was truly an amazing evening and a celebration of authentic, real-world learning.

We are excited to take the next step in this project by working with local Visitor Information Centres to make the trading cards available to the broader community, helping more people connect with and appreciate our unique wetlands and migratory birds.



# Gala Day

Last Sunday, 31 May, our students attended the annual Millicent Gala Day. We had one senior netball team competing, along with a junior netball team who joined forces with Mary McKillop Primary School and Rendelsham Primary School. Our football team also combined with Robe Primary School for the day.

It was a fantastic day for all involved. Both of our netball teams performed exceptionally well, finishing in the top four and only narrowly missing out on a place in the grand final by a couple of goals. Our footballers showed great competitiveness and courage throughout the day.

A big thank you goes to our coaches Jess, Chelsea (Mary McKillop), and Gerard for their support and guidance. We also appreciate the efforts of our umpires, Emma McGrath, Sam and Duffy.

Finally, thank you to the parents who kindly volunteered their time on a Sunday to help with scoring and to support the students. It was wonderful to see so many happy - if slightly tired - smiles at the end of the day.



# Women in Service Gallery Walk

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> May our Year 9/10 class hosted a Gallery Walk for invited guests as a culmination of our Learning Expedition "Limestone Coast Women in Service". Students presented their interpretations of the stories of women interviewed and unveiled a quilt they had designed and created acknowledging the achievements of these women.

We were delighted to welcome many people to this event, including families, some of the Veterans, members of the Millicent Habit Patch Sewing group, Val Westwell (DfE Director for Teaching and Learning) and Fleur Roachock (Education Director - South East Coast and Vines Partnership). It was wonderful to be able to conclude and celebrate our learning with our community!



# Art Room News

The secondary Visual Arts students have had a busy and productive semester.



The Year 7 class worked together on a collaborative poster then embarked on ceramic fish and wheel throwing.



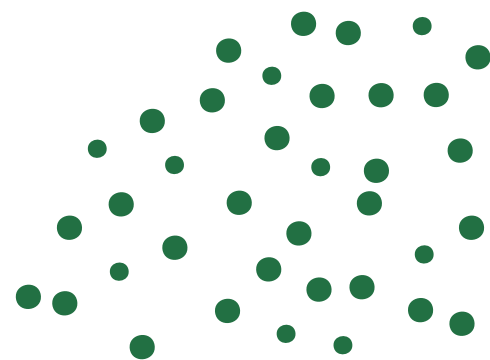
The Year 8 class learnt about Pop Art and are painting a Pop image in acrylic paint.

# Art Room News

Stage 1 students have been oil painting and engaging with Jane McCumstie by visiting her fascinating studio in Millicent and exhibition at the Beachport Art Gallery.



Stage 2 students have been working on their individual projects. Shama Ballantyne designed, created and modelled her entry at the Millicent Met Gala. Eve Mitchell has been working on alternative art techniques including impermanent art and painting with a mop!



# THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

## What is GEM+EL?

GEM+EL is the foundation of **The Resilience Project** and stands for Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness, and Emotional Literacy. These evidence-based practices help improve wellbeing, build resilience, and support positive mental health in our students.

## GRATITUDE

Gratitude is noticing and appreciating the good things in our lives, big and small. Practising gratitude helps us focus on what we have, instead of what we don't. Gratitude practice can increase feelings of happiness and optimism!

## EMPATHY

Empathy is understanding and sharing the feelings of others. It involves listening, showing kindness, and considering another person's perspective. Developing empathy helps build positive relationships and creates caring, inclusive communities!

## MINDFULNESS

Mindfulness is paying attention to the present moment. It helps us become more aware of our thoughts, feelings, and surroundings, which can improve focus, emotional regulation, and overall wellbeing.

## EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy is the ability to recognise, understand, express, and manage emotions in ourselves and others. It involves developing a deep emotional vocabulary, understanding why we feel the way we do, and responding to emotions in healthy ways.

## FAMILY ACTIVITY:

At the end of the day at the dinner table or before bed, have a conversation about these GEM+EL based questions:

1. One thing you're grateful for.
2. One act of kindness you showed or received.
3. One moment you were mindful.
4. Which emotion did you recognise the most in yourself today?

# JOIN THE TEAM IN GREEN



Did you know that towns in regional South Australia rely on volunteer ambulance teams made up of locals who generously step up to support their community?

Have you ever considered volunteering? SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) is calling on Limestone Coast residents to 'Join the Team in Green'. By becoming an ambulance volunteer, you'll be part of a dedicated team and make a meaningful, life-changing difference in your community.

Ben Murray, pictured below, is a volunteer based in Keith and says being a volunteer is a truly valuable experience for everyone.

"Give it a go. You don't need any prior medical knowledge, and we have volunteers from all different backgrounds. I find it extremely rewarding being there for people when they need us. I'm a farmer, so I find it very interesting as it's nothing like my day job," Ben said.

With flexible training options and the ability to fit shifts around family, work or social commitments, volunteering with SAAS offers the chance to gain nationally recognised clinical skills while giving back in a meaningful way.

Volunteers receive comprehensive training at no cost, ongoing peer and leadership support, free Ambulance Cover for themselves and immediate family members, and the chance to be part of a close-knit, community-focused team.

"SAAS will teach you all the skills needed. As long as you have a full driver's licence, a desire to learn something new and a want to make a difference to people in your community," Ben said.

If you're ready to join the team in green and become a SAAS volunteer, visit [www.saasvolunteer.sa.gov.au](http://www.saasvolunteer.sa.gov.au) or call 1300 175 584.

SAAS is recruiting volunteers for the following Limestone Coast stations:

- Keith
- Penola
- Robe

**JOIN THE TEAM IN GREEN**

Volunteer with SAAS today.  
1300 175 584  
[saasvolunteer@sa.gov.au](mailto:saasvolunteer@sa.gov.au)

