

Penong Primary School

Newsletter

Term 3, Week 6, 28th August 2026



SPECIAL POINTS

- Welcome Back
- Variety Club Support
- SA Leaders Days
- Headlice
- Farewell Ms D
- Year 4-6 Camp to Port Lincoln
- Governing Council Training
- Book Week
- Preschool Update
- Playground Update
- SAPSASA Athletics, Sabella & Ellieyre
- Kindy News

We are a NUT AWARE School. We encourage that you do not send nuts to school.

Our school is on Wirangu land and we acknowledge the traditional owners of this country, the nations first people. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and the community. We pay respect to them and their culture and to elders both past and present.

As we begin the second half of the term and reflect on our work with children and around the school, I am very happy to report that there have been some wonderful things happening in the classrooms and in the yard.

It has been pleasing to observe the children's development of resilience and persistence and their willingness to have a go. These dispositions are vital for children's success into the future.

Variety Club Support

Recently Ms D, Nicole Warmington and myself attended Streaky Bay to receive our \$150,000 donation for our playground from the Variety Club.

It was a pleasure to be so warmly welcomed by everyone. Without this donation we would be raising money for years to enable the construction of our exciting new area. We cannot thank the Variety Club enough for supporting us.

South Australian Leaders Days

At the beginning of Week 5, I attended, along with hundreds of other principals and leaders from across the State and Departments, Annual Leaders Day, held in Adelaide. The two days saw us listening, learning and discussing issues including:

- Coherence and Impact
- Leading for change
- Curriculum and assessment
- Artificial Intelligence

These events enable leaders to engage with the latest research, thinking and directions of our South Australian Education Department under the leadership of Professor Martin Westwell (Chief Executive) and the Hon. Lucy Hood M.P. Minister of Education.

SCHOOL VALUES

Respect - Community - Achievement

*Please be vigilant for
Head Lice in your
children, and treat
for lice accordingly.*

*We sincerely thank
Ms D for her
expertise and support
she provided the
school over her time
here.*

Head Lice

A reminder that it is very important that parents/carers check their children for head lice. It is an ongoing issue and everyone's diligence is needed to ensure we can alleviate children and families from having to deal with this.

It is very clear in the departments policy that children are excluded from school until the day after appropriate treatment has taken place. It is the parents/carers responsibility to keep check of their own children. Head lice can be treated either by chemical treatments available from a chemist, or by wet combing which involves saturating the hair and scalp with conditioner to stun the lice and combing out. If you require support or more information in the management of Head Lice please contact the school. We thank you for your ongoing support in this area.

Farewell from Ms D

I just wanted to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Penong Primary School Governing Council and families for your support, guidenace and commitment during my time at Penong.

It has been a privilage to lead this wonderful school and to work alongside such a dedicated group of people. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together, particularly the work we have undertaken to strengthen teaching and learning, student wellbeing and opportunites for every child. Your willingness to contribute, ask questions and advocate for our school has been greatly valued.

Penong is a very special communiy, and I am grateful for the relationships I have built with our students, families, staff and community members. Thank you for trusting me to lead the school and for welcoming me so warmly into the community. The experiences, connections and memories I have made here will remain with me throughout the next stage of my leadership journey.

Although it is difficult to say farewell, I leave with enormous respect for the people who make Penong Primary School such a unique and caring place.

Thank you again for your support and for the important role you play in our school. I wish the Governing Council families, our staff, students and the entire Penong community every success and happiness for the future.

Kind regards,
Alyssa Di Girolamo



*Well done to all our
year 4-6 Students for
a fantastic Camp to
Port Lincoln*

*Thank you to
Ms Ettridge
Mr Clarke
Mrs Murray
Jo Ormsby*

*for giving up your
time to give our
children this
wonderful
opportunity.*

*Well done to all the
students who engaged
in Book Week this
week.
It was a fabulous fun
day*

Year 4-6 Port Lincoln Adventure

During week 6 our year 4-6 students had the wonderful opportunity to experience a four day camp in Port Lincoln. This experience included: The Stenros Museum, Glen Forest Park with the animals, putt putt golf and the giant maze (in which Ms Ettridge got lost).

A highlight for the children was the Stanford Hill Hike, where every individual challenged themselves and we were so proud of them. The Toy Story movie was a hit in the big cinema that the children had all to themselves.

The host at the Fresh Fish Place was very impressed with the children's knowledge of the local and farmed species and their general marine understandings.

The Port Lincoln Gymnastics Club visit saw the children engaged in learning skills for flips, ropes, balance beams, rolls and jumps. Then great fun for all during free time exploration. At Tumby Bay we visited the town murals and experienced a greater understanding of artists and contexts.

Time at the Leisure Centre enjoying the pool and slide was an exciting experience for everyone.

I would especially like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Ms Ettridge, Mr Clarke and Jo Ormsby for their time in planning and executing this whole camp. They gave up their own time and energy to ensure the children had those wonderful opportunities. Please enjoy our photo gallery.

Governing Council Training

Online Governing Council training was held last week and I thank those councillors and staff who made the time to be involved. The training included information on:

- Processes for Governing Council
- School Finance
- Standing Orders of a Governing Council
- Governing Council requirements
- Governing Council representatives and terms

SAPSASA Track & Field Athletics

Next Wednesday 2nd September Sabella and Ellieyre are competing at the SA Athletics Stadium in Adelaide. We are very proud of your achievements and wish you both the very best for your events. Enjoy the very special opportunity.

*We Sincerely Thank
the Variety Club for
their donations of
puzzles, games and
toys.*

Variety Club Bash Visit

Last Friday our children had a wonderful surprise with a visit from some of the Variety Club Bash Cars. They stopped into the school and were very generous with gifts and souvenirs for the children. We were also gifted 2 boxes of puzzles, games & toys from the Bash for the school to enjoy. The Variety Club do amazing work with fund raising and sharing of their profits with local committees across the nation. The help we have received from Variety has made our new playground a reality we will be forever grateful for.



Preschool Happenings

As always, we are committed to the highest quality safe environment for all our children. Following a KidSafe audit and compliance check recently we have made some changes to the Preschool Outdoor Environment. The large section of our playground frame has been removed due to some unsafe aspects: height, trajectory of the slide and some entrapment issues. Our old mud kitchen and stage were deemed not fit for purpose. The cubby house has been gutted and cleaned, and we are researching new furniture. As we move forward, we are excited about the opportunity to use the spaces flexibly. We look forward to developing this area for the children to enjoy.

Playground Update

After all the very hard work of our Governing Council it is very exciting to report that our new playground is well and truly on it's way.

Adventure+ have been chosen as the contractors, and they have been very helpful in supporting us with designs, location and production.

We are hoping the playground will be started at the end of November.

Once the team is on site they will work until the playground is completed. Our thanks go to everyone who has assisted in getting us to this position.

There will be some fabulous things to watch developing over the

*Our new Playground
is in its final
planning stages. We
are very excited to
see works start for
this in the near
future.*

2026 Parent survey – Have your say

The annual Parent Survey is now underway and will close at midnight on Sunday 6 September.

The survey provides parents and carers with an opportunity to share their views and help improve education at our school. It focuses on:

What we're doing well

Where we can improve

What is important to you as a parent or carer

Your responses are confidential. Neither you nor your child can be identified, and only collated feedback is provided to our school.

You should have already received a link to the survey via email or SMS. Reminder messages are also being sent unless you have already completed the survey or chosen to unsubscribe. We strongly encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the survey. Your feedback is valuable and helps guide our school improvement efforts.

If you cannot locate your original survey link, please use the link below:

<https://survey.education.sa.gov.au/sc/CyuhyJXXb0lTvIE2A6JmJw2>

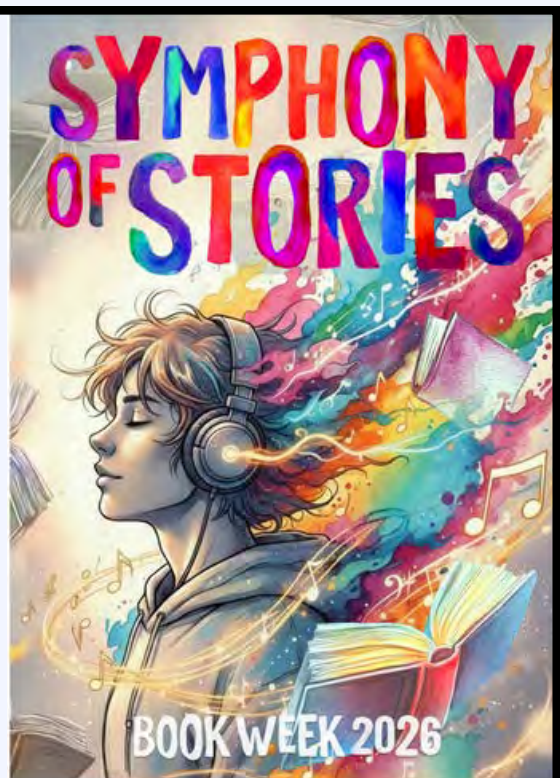
For more information about the Parent Survey, visit the [Department for Education website](#). Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback and support our school's ongoing improvement.

Book Week

The children enjoyed a fabulous day on Tuesday celebrating this years Book Week.

The theme "Symphony of Stories" was reflected in the many varied costumes and Book Week ideas that children had come up with.

A special thank you to Ms Ettridge for organising the program for the morning.



September

Judd
Leila
Kristella

October

Koby
Lakey
Leo
Mrs Murray
Mrs Nielsen

THANK YOU





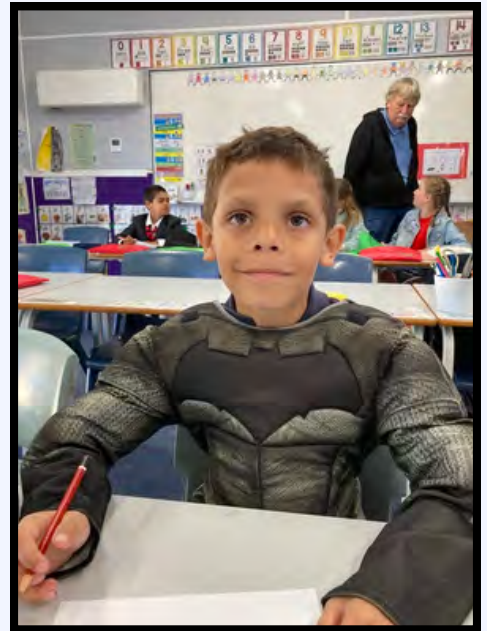
SYMPHONY OF STORIES

BOOK WEEK 2026



SYMPHONY OF STORIES

BOOK WEEK 2026



4-6 Class **PORT LINCOLN CAMP**



4-6 Class **PORT LINCOLN CAMP**



4-6 Class **PORT LINCOLN CAMP**



4-6 Class **PORT LINCOLN CAMP**





4-6 Class **PORT LINCOLN CAMP**





Preschool News

What's Been Happening? Week 3-6

Week 6 already! What a busy Term Pre-school have had! Science week saw the children get curious & have great conversations about planting and growing seeds, looking at the life cycle of a plant. We also had lots of science fun with volcanos, Orbeez and messy play activities – investigating and exploring different reactions together! Mixing with droppers and colours was the favourite.

Book week was full of dress-ups, parades, telling stories and sharing in the new Preschool Little Library. Children decorated colourful library bags to borrow new books everyday and share their love of reading at home!

Mrs Murray helped the children show off their amazing dressups at the Book Week Parade, even using the microphone in assembly to speak!

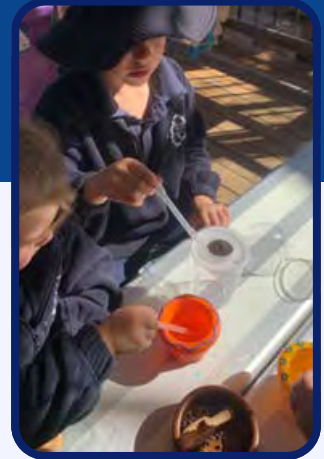
Eat a Rainbow – children in Preschool have been talking about different foods we like, trying new things & eating all the different colours. So far! Red was our favourite, with watermelon & strawberries the yummiest! We also made fresh orange juice and had some to try.

Sustainability -We continued using recycled things and loose parts with great work building and creating – we need strong clear plastic bottles for our next project.

Upcoming Excursion Reminder

Don't forget our upcoming excursion in Week 8! We will be joining the Ngura Yadurirn Childrens Centre for a Kids on Country Day. More details will follow soon.

Regards Nicola





From Mrs Murray



3-6 Class

*Well done to Caleb for persisting
during Maths Lessons*

-Achievement Value-

R-3 Class

*Well done to Leila for working so
well independently and giving
everything a go.*

-Achievement Value-



Preschool

Well done to Isla

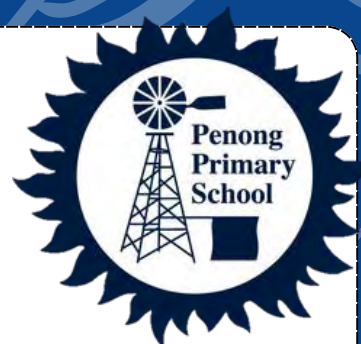
*For being an excellent leader and
helping others.*

-Respect Value-



PENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 3



WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 July	20	21	22	23	24 National Tree Day
2	27	28	29	30	31
3 Aug	3	4	5	6	7 Newsletter
4	10	11	12	13 Governing Council 3:10pm	14
5 Science Week	17 4-6 Camp to Port Lincoln	18 Outback SA, Science Session 4-6 Camp to Port Lincoln	19 4-6 Camp to Port Lincoln	20 4-6 Camp to Port Lincoln	21
6	24	25 Book Week Dress Up & Activity Day	26	27	28 Newsletter
7 Sep	31	1	2 SAPSASA Track & Field	3	4
8	7 SAPSASA Girls Football trials	8	9	10	11 Jump Rope for Heart
9	14 SAPSASA Tennis Trials	15	16	17	18 Newsletter
10	21	22	23 SAPSASA Tennis trials	24	25 Last Day of Term 2pm dismissal



Community News

Point Sinclair Cleaning Roster

September - Sue M / Karen M

October- Sam & Alli / Ben & Andrea
Aldo & Petrina

Uniting Church Cleaning Roster

September - Bron Workman

October - Rebecca Freeman



PRELIMINARY FINAL

SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST
AT PENONG

GRAND FINAL
SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
AT THEVENARD

*Come along
and support
our local club*





Community News



SARDI Minnipa Ag Centre Annual Field Day

SAVE THE DATE

Join us at the SARDI Minnipa Agricultural Centre (MAC) Annual Field Day for the latest research, trial updates and practical insights for Eyre Peninsula (EP) farming systems.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr Mick Rose, Associate Professor Southern Cross University, Soil Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) project leader: *Managing herbicide residues and reducing risks to crop performance in EP soils, and new knowledge and tools to interpret soil microbial indicators.*

Session topics include:

- Spray technology – insights and options
- De-risking the seeding program trial update - seeding systems, herbicide interactions and timing of rolling in lentils
- 2026 disease management - Net blotch
- GRDC National Variety Trials (NVT) updates – wheat, barley and break crops
- GRDC time of sowing and variety research
- Water quality and livestock research updates
- SA Discovery Farms - barley biomass trial
- Crop safety and weed management in lentils
- Lentil nutrition
- GRDC and SA Discovery Farms stripper stubble systems trial update.



WEDNESDAY
9th Sept
2026



8:30am -
5:30pm



Minnipa Agricultural Centre
226 McKenzie Road, Minnipa
SA 5654 Australia



**Morning tea and
lunch provided.**
[REGISTER HERE](#)

