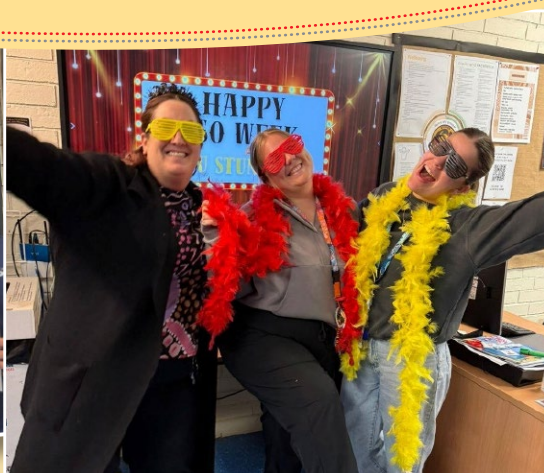




Kurna Plains School R-12

Strength Through Learning • Taingiwilta Tirkanthi-arra

NEWSLETTER #6 Term 3, Week 8 2025



Reminder

Friday 26 September

Last day of Term 3
early dismissal at 2pm

Diary Dates

TERM 3:

Week 10:

Thursday 25 September

Community Breakfast &
Assembly 8:30am

Friday 26 September

Last day of Term 3
Early dismissal 2pm

TERM 4:

Week 1:

Monday 13 October

First day of Term 4

Week 2:

Friday 24 October

Sports Day

Week 4:

Swimming Week:
Reception - Year 6



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Kurna Plains School

Niina Marni

Term 3 has been another jam-packed busy term! Book Week was fantastic, and in Week 5 we celebrated the amazing work that our SSO, ACEO, ASETO, Admin, IT and Youth worker do daily for our students. At Kurna Plains we are so fortunate and grateful for having such an outstanding dedicated and highly skilled team. This term we also welcome two new staff members – Tehleah who will be working across junior primary and Alesandro who will work across the secondary.

Just a reminder, we have a few nasty bugs still lurking including COVID. This has really impacted the health of staff, leading to a high volume of relief teachers and at times we have had to split classes. Therefore, if your child is sick please keep them home. This is the same message I give my staff as this is the only way with hygienic practices that we slow the spread.

As spring is here, we will also see the rise of headlice. If your child has headlice please see the ladies in the front office as we have treatment available for you to treat your child at home. This week, we also completed ear checks for families and we are working on having eye testing across the site again. Our ACEO staff will keep you informed.

New builds – as you will see, the secondary building is going gusto and should be completed in the holidays ready for students and staff to move in day 1 next term. Another new build which will be underway next term is the extension to the front office. We do not yet have a start date for this. The beginning of this upgrade will impact the carpark space and how we enter the school via the front carpark. We will be working with the builders for the best solutions and I will regularly update families and community about what is happening in that space.

This week, our SAASTA students competed in the SAASTA Shield alongside Playford International College. They had a great time and did really well, finishing 8th out of 30 schools !!! In footy flag they came second and in dodgeball they reached the finals! Congratulations! *(continued over)*

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Cooperation Organisation Respect Kindness Acceptance



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Principal's Welcome (continued)

Last week and this week you might have seen the amazing work happening in the wetlands. This is our Introduction to Construction course where other Aboriginal students in the north have enrolled, providing career pathway opportunities for their future and SACE accreditation. The students have built seating and rebuilt the bridges – such incredible work in just two weeks!

Last reminders for this term – Community Breakfast and the final assembly for the term is on the 25th of September starting at 8:30am. The last day of term is Friday the 26th of September with the early finish time of 2:00pm.

Exciting Term 4 celebrations will include Sports Day on Friday of Week 2, Swimming in Week 4 for students from Reception to Year 6, Year 7 transition, Year 12 and Year 7 graduations and then the Christmas Concert.



Ngaityalya

Ange Walkuski

Principal Kurna Plains R-12 School

Deputy Principal Update

Modular Build

This week we were so excited to have a BIG crane which moved all the pieces of our modular building on site! We have a fantastic team working hard to add all the extra parts and decking to make the building complete. We will also be working with students to design and create a new outdoor space to create a secondary area. We hope that our secondary students appreciate the new build and show respect in this brand new space.



(continued over)



Kurna Plains School R-12

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Uniform Policy

Rationale

At Kurna Plains School R - 12 we believe that the wearing of school uniform and school colours:

- promotes our whole school identity, unity and pride in personal appearance
- enhances our public image
- reduces peer pressure
- promotes opportunity for equal participation
- encourages appropriate clothing for school activities
- is economically viable
- encourages responsible behaviour
- wearing school uniforms/ colours put students in the mindset to start the school day

SCHOOL COLOURS: Red, yellow and black only	
Tops	School top preferred. OR Red, yellow or black tee shirt, polo shirt, windcheater, jumper, skivvies, jacket or cardigan (with or without school logo). Aboriginal art/designs in school colours and/or Department for Education approved programs are accepted. No branding/logos or musicians.
Bottoms	Black bottoms. No rips or bike shorts. All bottoms must be no shorter than mid-thigh length.
Dress	Summer dress in Terms 1 and 4.
Yr 6 and Yr 12 Students	Commemorative tops to be discussed for Year 6 and Year 12 students each year.
Footwear	Suitable sturdy footwear. Sneakers, preferably lace up shoes that support, cover and protect the foot. Sneakers must be worn on PE and excursion days. Crocs/Slippers/slides are not school safe.*
Hats	School hats are compulsory in Term 1 and Term 4 for Primary students. School Beanies can be worn outside during winter.

- Students will be celebrated for wearing their uniform. Non-compliance will be discussed with parents.
- School will support any challenges when accessing uniform.
- Full school uniform MUST be worn of any excursions / off-site activities.

Casual Days

On casual dress days students are able to wear non-uniform clothing. Clothing and shoes worn on these days must be appropriate for school, learning and play. Clothes that do not cover shoulders and very short skirts or shorts must not be worn. Clothing with offensive slogans or images is not appropriate for school wear. *Crocs, slippers and slides can be worn.

Ratified by Governing Council 20/08/2025 – To be reviewed, Week 8, Term 4, 2025

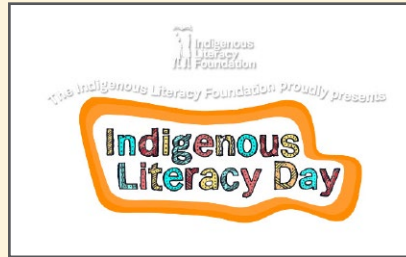


Uncle Tom

Aunty Leayshia

Celebrating Stories, Language and Community

The last few weeks at Kurna Plains have been full of exciting events that brought our students, staff, families and community together through stories, language and literacy.



Indigenous Literacy Day

Our students were immersed in language and culture as part of Indigenous Literacy Day. This special day is about celebrating the strength and richness of First Nations stories, languages and cultures, and making sure all children have access to books and literacy. A huge thank you to Aunty Cherylynne for bringing along Aunty Ella, Aunty Margy and Uncle Robbie. They had the children laughing, learning and connecting through stories and games in language. It was wonderful to see our students so proud and engaged as they explored culture and literacy together.



Book Week Parade

What an incredible morning we had for our Week 5 Book Week Parade! The turn-out of family and friends was amazing. The gym was packed to the brim and almost too small to hold everyone. The costumes were absolutely brilliant, with so much creativity on show. It was fabulous to see not only our students and staff, but also families and caregivers, getting into the spirit. A special mention to our kindy and childcare children who added so much joy to the parade. Book Week is always one of the highlights of the year, and this year was no exception... stories, imagination, culture and community all coming together.



Miituthirntu Pirrku (Bedtime Stories)

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for our Book Week Bedtime Stories. It was such a special evening. Storytelling has always been an important part of Aboriginal culture, and Miituthirntu Pirrku reminded us how special it is to keep sharing stories with our children ... keeping language, culture and imagination alive. A huge shout out to our storytellers Aunty Cherylynne, Aunty Sharna, Aunty Kellie, and a special thank you to Aunty Mikala who stepped in at the last minute. Also a big thank you to all our helpers who made the night run so smoothly, and to our amazing children, families and community for coming along and sharing the night with us.



Aunty Leayshia



Active Citizenship Convention

Students attended the Active Citizenship Convention, held at Adelaide Oval with various other secondary schools across South Australia. These students participated in activities that demonstrated how to be an active citizen in the community.

They experienced different voices, backgrounds, experiences and opinions that made for great discussions and debates. This exciting opportunity was aimed at Year 10 students learning HASS under the topic of Civics and Citizenship, to empower the next generation of active, informed citizens.

Students had the opportunity to engage with other students from across South Australia and shared their opinions in a safe space.

We met and sang with Dem Mob from Port Augusta who are excited to visit our school and hopefully create music with you all.

We listened to a range of speakers including the Premier of South Australia, the Hon Peter Malinauskas MP.



Aunty Sharna



STEM

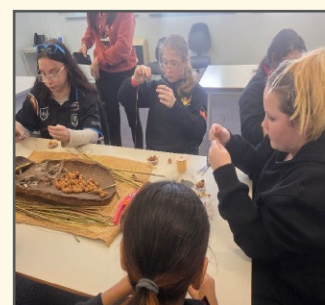
Nina Marni

Term 3 has been a busy term in the STEM room. We had a 3 day coding workshop in the STEM room where students had the opportunity to create an app about something they were interested in. A group of students created a commute app and another created a dating app. My favourite was an app teaching Kaurna Language.

During Week 6, some of our girls also had the opportunity to visit Tavondi Cultural College for 2 days. During this visit they learnt about career opportunities related to Aboriginal cultures. They also discovered some native fruits and they cooked using native food ingredients. The girls loved the excursion and found it really informative.



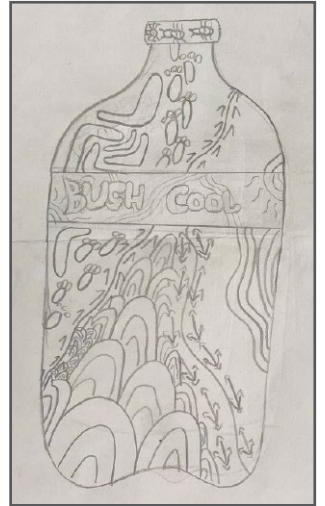
Aunty Jyoti



First Nations Food Innovators - Youth Incubator

Students from Year 7-9 attended the First Nations Food Innovators-Youth Incubator on Tuesday 9th September to Wednesday 10 September at Uni SA in the city. Students engaged in activities to develop prototypes and crowd funding campaigns with the support from Uni SA mentors, First Nations business owners and leaders, renowned researchers, academics, and industry-leading STEM and entrepreneurial mentors. Students created their own prototype for a First Nations business and competed with other schools to pitch their ideas. Two of our Year 7 girls came equal first in winning the competition which will create a pathway for them to further develop their ideas. All those that attended the program worked very hard to pitch their unique and creative ideas. Congratulations to Ariyana and Taiah for their creative and innovative winning idea.

Uncle Ross



English

This term, the Year 9/10s have been researching Aboriginal authors and reading *The Hunger Games* as a novel study. Students each selected an Aboriginal author to research and discuss how the author includes Aboriginal storytelling traditions in the books that they write. We have had some wonderful discussions this term about the importance for space to be held for these stories to appear in the world of Australian Literature.

The Year 8/9s have been working on formal and informal language, learning to tell the difference between the two and identifying different scenarios in which you might use one or the other.

The Year 7/8s have been given a new structure and are working on small group work which has been incredibly successful. Each group has different novels to study including *Deltora Quest*, *Captain Underpants*, and *Goosebumps*.

Our seniors are working hard towards completing their SACE English

requirements and working towards their Year 12 accreditation.

Aunty Jess



Uncle Sean

In AIF, students are continuing their individual projects: updating logs, collecting evidence (photos/ notes), and completing weekly check-ins. They're finalising project plans, scheduling tasks, and preparing brief updates for class.

In Integrated Learning, seniors are working towards completing the SACE external assessment about community involvement: a 2000-word essay.

Current tasks include confirming topics, building a source list, drafting outlines, and producing first and second drafts for teacher conferencing before final submission.

In Stage 1 Aboriginal Studies, students are focused on portrait work. Students are gathering reference images and completing proportional sketches.

Captions and short statements to accompany portraits are being written. In Stage 2, students are assembling a dictionary-style booklet for younger classes to use. Work includes selecting age-appropriate words, writing simple definitions, adding example uses, drafting pages with supporting visuals, and organising the sequence for printing.

Uncle Sean

Aunty Erin

Naa Marni,

We are quickly approaching the 'pointy end' of the year for our senior students. Over the coming weeks, work samples from many subjects will go through a 'moderation' process with the SACE board to assure that all students across the state are being marked fairly and equitably. This means that teachers might be pushing students a little harder to complete work for this process. Final results are also due to the SACE board for all Stage 2 subjects from Week 2, Term 4 onwards. This means that those doing Year 12 subjects need to finalise their assessment by this time. A reminder to families and students that attending all of your timetabled classes and making sure that you are ready to learn is really important at this time of the year so that we can support all of our students to complete their assessments in time for SACE resulting.

Over the last two weeks, our Careers Hub has run an Intro to Construction course in our Trade Training Centre. Aboriginal students from schools across the northern suburbs have been working with trainer, Lindsay, to build new benches and a new bridge for the wetlands. It's been fantastic to watch these young people showing up on time, striving for their best in the theory work, and throwing themselves into the physical work involved in these construction projects. We'd like to say a big thank you to Lindsay, NEVC, and Ciara and Theresa from Workabout Centre for supporting this project and working with our young people to build confidence and skills.

If your child is in Year 10 or 11 and has expressed interest in a VET course for 2026, please keep an eye out for enrolment paperwork in the coming weeks. This will need to be completed and returned as quickly as possible. The enrolments forms can sometimes be a bit overwhelming, so if you need some help, feel free to give myself or Kieran a call and we can support you.

Lastly, some of our Tailored Learning students have taken the opportunity to engage in some bonding experiences with Uncle Sean, Aunty Kamell and myself. Last week we went bowling and played some mini-golf, and this week will see the students head into the city for some escape room fun. These opportunities may seem like fun and games, but they also support us to build strong relationships within the TL group, and support safety, community, inclusion, and engagement.

Ngaitalya,

Aunty Erin

