



Kaurna Plains School R-12

Strength Through Learning • Taingiwilta Tirkanthi-arra

NEWSLETTER #9 Term 4, Week 9 2025



2026 Diary Dates

Week 1

- **Monday 26th January**
Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 27th January**
Reception – Year 7 students return
- **Wednesday 28th January**
Year 11/12 students return
- **Thursday 29th January**
All other students return

Week 4

- **Wednesday 18th February**
Lattes n Learning Open Night
- **Friday 20th February**
Pupil Free Day

Week 5

- **Monday 22nd February**
Pupil Free Day

Week 7

- **Monday 9th March**
Public Holiday (Adelaide Cup Day)
- **Wednesday 11th March**
NAPLAN Starts

Week 9

- Kids on Country Camp

Week 10

- **Monday - Thursday**
One Plan Meetings
- **Friday 3rd April**
Public Holiday (Good Friday)

Week 11

- **Monday 6th April**
Public Holiday (Easter Monday)
- **Thursday 9th April**
Community Breakfast & Assembly
- **Friday 10th April**
Sports Day (TBC)
Last day of Term 1

Niina Marni

Principal Panel

As you may know, a selection panel has been convened this term to appoint a new Principal for commencement in 2026. The process is still underway, and we appreciate your patience as we await a positive outcome for our entire school community. Once an official announcement is made, we will promptly share this information with our community.

Farewells

We have a number of staff leaving us for new positions in 2026 plus staff who may return next year. We want say thank you for all the hard work and amazing connections you have formed here at KPS. Thank you to:

Aunty Josie, Uncle Sean, Aunty Sheryn, Aunty Sharna, Uncle Charli, Uncle Craig, Uncle Phil, Aunty Jacqui W, Aunty Jaz, Aunty Jacqui H, Aunty Kamell, Aunty Georgia, Aunty Chantel, Aunty Sandra, Uncle Anthony, Uncle Alessandro and Aunty Erin.

2026 Staggered Start

Once again, in 2026 we will have a staggered start to our year. The staggered start is put in place to give Year 7s a chance to explore their new secondary school setting on Tuesday. Wednesday our Year 11/12s get a day to set themselves up for a successful year, before all students return on Thursday. Teachers will spend any extra time reading student files and planning supports and adjustments.

- Monday: Public Holiday
- Tuesday: Reception – Year 7 onsite
- Wednesday – Reception – Year 7 plus Year 11/12s on site
- Thursday – All on site

(continued over)

Niina Marni (continued)

NASSSA VET & Careers Awards

On Tuesday evening, a group of our students were honoured to take part in the **2025 NASSSA VET & Careers Awards** at The Shedley Theatre. They were joined by Aunty Cherylynne and Aunty Fiona, who supported and guided them as they delivered the Kurna Acknowledgement with pride.

This special moment continues a tradition that celebrates culture, community, and connection. It was amazing to watch our students step forward with such confidence. A big congratulations to **Inara, Indy, Destiny, Millie, Aleena, Alanah, Matilda** and **Ella**, each of you represented our school with pride. We are incredibly proud of you and the leadership you continue to show.



Award Winner!

We also want to send a huge congratulations to our Year 12 student, **Kaila**, who was nominated for both the Success through Adversity Award and Aboriginal VET Student of the Year. We are so proud to announce that Kaila won **Aboriginal VET Student of the Year**. Kaila received \$250 worth of vouchers for Cooks Plus Home and Hospitality, where she plans to buy a chef's jacket. She also received \$100 in gift vouchers along with a glass trophy. What an outstanding achievement! Your dedication throughout your SACE journey has been inspiring, and we couldn't be prouder.



Year 6 Graduation

A massive congratulations to our Year 6 cohort on reaching such an important milestone! Also on Tuesday night, we gathered at the Watershed on Kurna Country to celebrate their graduation. It was a beautiful evening shared with families, friends, and staff, all coming together to acknowledge the students' hard work and growth.

We are so proud of everything they have accomplished this year and wish them all the very best as they take their next big step into high school. Well done, everyone, you are truly amazing!

KPS Christmas Concert 2025

What an incredible afternoon we had at Kurna Plains School in Week 7!

Our Christmas Concert was filled with excitement, laughter, and a wonderful sense of community. The turnout was fantastic, and our students absolutely sparkled on stage. It was a joy to see so many families cheering them on and celebrating together.

We were lucky enough to receive a surprise visit from Santa, and our Christmas Market Stall was buzzing with plenty of smiles and festive fun all around. Thank you to every family, staff member, and community supporter who came along and helped make the day feel so special.

(See photos on the next page)





Niina Marni (continued)

Literacy Intervention Update

Our Literacy Intervention team has been hard at work completing end of year assessments and gathering important data to guide our planning for 2026. This process helps us understand the progress students have made and ensures we can tailor our programs to support every learner's needs in the year ahead.

A huge shout out to our fabulous team for their amazing work, and to all the students who gave their absolute best during testing. We are so proud of you all!

Celebrating T4 Students' Achievements

What an incredible end to the year for our KPS students! We are so proud to acknowledge a number of outstanding achievements across art, leadership, and STEM.



Principal's Awards – Congratulations!

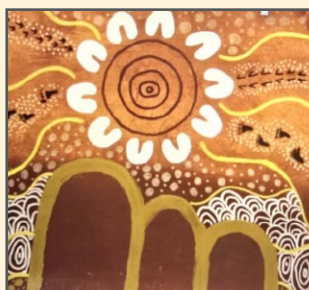
A huge congratulations to our Principal's Award recipients this term: **Hassan Kamara, Harry Nesbitt** and **Shaniqua Campbell**.

These three students have stood out for their exceptional kindness, strong engagement in learning, and consistent demonstration of our CORKA values. Whether it's being positive role models, showing outstanding commitment to their classwork, supporting others, or demonstrating leadership in projects, each of them has made an impressive contribution to our school community. Well done, Hassan, Harry and Shaniqua... we are very proud of you!



Nunga Kids Art Competition

Several of our secondary students participated in the Nunga Kids Art Competition, with this year's theme *Strength, Vision and Legacy*. We are thrilled to share that **Latisha Karpanty** won **First Prize**, and **Alana Holmes** received **Second Place**. Latisha was presented with her award at the Department for Education Head Office in Adelaide... an amazing achievement for both students.



MADEC Lead Scholarships

Congratulations to our MADEC scholarship recipients:

Lexi Kokolis-Henry, Inara Constable-Pelczer, Shaniqua Campbell, Isabelle Coe, Eli Stone, Violet Briggs, Alana Weetra and **Jordan Brown**.

We are incredibly proud of their hard work and commitment.

Wapaara Anpa Award

Congratulations to **Nikky Gervasoni**, who was a **2025 Wapaara Anpa Award Finalist**. This recognises her leadership and cultural strength.

STEM Scholarships

Congratulations to **Malee Young** and **Aaron Newman**, who have been awarded the **2025 STEM Scholarships**. Both students will be undertaking studies in Chemistry in 2026... a fantastic opportunity that reflects their passion and dedication.

Holiday Reading

Keep Reading Over the Holidays

The Christmas holidays is the perfect time to relax, but it's also important for children to keep reading so they maintain their skills. Even just ten minutes a day can make a real difference! Here are some simple ideas to support reading at home:

Daily Language & Reading Tips

- **Have conversations:** Explore new words while you chat, and talk about books you read together.
- **Play word games:** Fun activities like *I Spy* help build sound awareness and vocabulary.
- **Reduce screen time:** Swap a bit of tech time for stories, reading, or imaginative play.

When Reading with Your Child

- Look closely at the pictures and predict what the story might be about.
- Talk together about what's happening in the story and illustrations.
- Highlight tricky words and explain what they mean.
- Join in when you hear rhyming or repeated phrases.
- Pause to ask questions such as "What do you think will happen next?"
- After finishing, encourage your child to retell the story in their own words – beginning, middle, and end.

Enjoy the holiday break – we can't wait to welcome everyone back in 2026!

Leadership Team

Kaurna Plains School R-12

