



Principal's Message

Friday, 12th September

Dear families,

As we enter the last part of Term 3, it is amazing to look back on the achievements, celebrations and hard work covered since our last newsletter.

Book Week 2025

Each year since 1945, the Children's Book Council Of Australia (CBCA) has brought children and books together across Australia through CBCA Book Week. Celebrated throughout schools and public libraries across Australia, the week sets out to highlight incredible Australian authors and illustrators, bringing light to the magic that is reading stories. The theme for 2025 was "Book An Adventure".

On Thursday 29thAugust we had our Book Week parade. It was wonderful to see the time and creativity that students had put in to come dressed as their favourite book character or person who inspires them. An enormous thanks to Jane Pogas who again delivered an amazing Book Week with engaging student activities and of course the brilliant Book Week parade. Thanks also to our staff for their enthusiasm and participation in the parade and to our parents/ carers for their time and effort of organising costumes for their child/ren, it was wonderful to see so many of you in attendance at the parade.

Student Support Week

In Week 6 we shared a special morning tea to celebrate Student Support Week, which includes School Service Officers, Aboriginal Community Education Officers and Grounds staff. It is almost impossible not to come in contact with, or hear your children talk about, a member of our front office, classroom support team or grounds staff. I am sure you will share in my appreciation of the enormous contribution they make to a safe, happy and informed learning environment. Our school, like all schools, is lucky to have such amazing people prepared to give their time, enthusiasm and care for the work they do.

Dates to Remember



School Photo Catch UpWednesday 24th September

Sports Day Friday 26th September

Last Day of Term Friday 26th September 2:15pm Early Dismissal Pupil Free Day

Monday 13th October

Term 2 Begins

Tuesday 14th October

School Closure Friday 21st November

Honesty, Respect, Confidence, Resilience



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Principal's Message Cont.



Progressive Achievement Testing and Phonics Screening Check

Over Weeks 7- 10 Year 3- 6 students will participate in the Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) in Reading and Numeracy. The PAT tests provide schools with data about their students learning in the areas of reading (particularly comprehension) and numeracy. PAT testing occurs every year, providing schools with an opportunity to measure student growth, by comparing the most recent data with the data from the year before. We then use the same data to set growth targets for all students. We also spend time analysing the data to identify any patterns that may emerge and use that information to inform our planning, teaching and learning agenda.

During Weeks 3 - 6 Year 1 students participated in the Department's Phonics Screening Check (PSC). The assessment evaluates their understanding of phonics, a key component of early literacy. The assessment covers a range of skills, including recognising individual sounds (phonemes), blending sounds to form words, and decoding both real and pseudo-words. Pseudo words are known to the students as alien words. These skills are essential for developing strong reading abilities. The insights gained from this assessment allow our teachers to tailor their strategies to meet individual student needs, enhancing their learning experience and supporting literacy development.

Attendance

Thank you to parents for supporting our focus on attendance. It is pleasing to see an increase in children attending on time and for parents informing us regarding all absences.

NOTE - A special reminder that our school hours start at 8:30am each day. Children are not permitted on the school grounds prior to this as we do not have supervision at this time. Early arrivals can access OSHC from 6:30am and parents are directed to use this service so that the shared responsibility for children's safety is met.

I thank our teachers, SSOs and leadership team members for their time and effort that ensures students had another positive and productive term. I would also like to thank Governing Council and parent/carer volunteers who support our school.

I hope all families are able to spend some quality time together over the next fortnight. If you are able to get away, may you have a safe and enjoyable time. I also remind families that Monday 13th October is a Pupil Free Day so I look forward to seeing you all Tuesday 14th October when Term 4 commences.

Kind regards, David



Messages from Leadership

As Term 3 nears its end, we are proud to share the steps our school has taken to support student wellbeing and regulation. Throughout the term, students have been actively participating in a range of engaging yard activities, as well as enjoying Chess Club and Computer Club during recess and lunch breaks—providing opportunities for both social connection and calm, structured play.

Our staff have also undertaken professional development in *Creating Clever Classrooms*, learning how to optimise classroom spaces to better support student regulation and learning. In addition, we are currently seeking funding to equip every classroom with a standardised toolbox of sensory tools. These tools are vital in helping many students regulate their emotions, focus, and organise their bodies, but it is important they are used appropriately as tools for regulation rather than as toys. We ask our school community to support us in reinforcing the purpose of these resources, ensuring they remain effective and respectful tools for all learners.

Kind regards, Natalie Such Wellbeing Leader



Fundraising News









Thank you for supporting our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraiser!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our recent sausage sizzle fundraiser at Bunnings Gawler. Your generosity and enthusiasm have helped us raise essential funds for our Year 1/2 excursion to AFL Maxx.

A special thank you to the volunteers who dedicated their time and energy to make this event a success. Your efforts are truly appreciated and have made a significant impact in lowering the cost of the excursion.

We are grateful for the continued support from our wonderful community that came out to Bunnings to purchase a sausage and look forward to more successful events in the future.

Warm regards,
Tenniel McKenzie and the Year 1 / 2 team

