



# NEWSLETTER

**kongorong**  
primary & cpc  
knowledge • pride • success

Issue 3 - 26 May 2026



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## DIARY DATES



### School Photos

Monday 1 June 2026

### Jam Band Excursion

3 June 2026

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday 8 June 2026

### Mid Year Kindy Transition Day

23 June 2026

### Mid Year School Transition Day

24 & 25 June 2026

### Mid Year Kindy Transition Day

30 June 2026

### Mid Year Kindy Graduation

1 July 2026 - 3pm

## From the Principal

Dear Families,

What an amazing start to Term 2 we have had!

This term, our staff are focused on deepening our expertise in phonological awareness, a critical foundation for literacy development. During our recent student free day, teachers collaborated on research-based strategies to strengthen and differentiate phonological awareness learning, especially within our unique small school setting. This work forms part of our ongoing "teaching sprints" model, where targeted, short-term initiatives help us continually improve outcomes for all students.

Our Term 2 sprint builds on work from Term 1, where we addressed Tier 2 interventions, and directly supports the successful rollout of our new literacy program. The collaborative day also gave us time to revisit our behaviour processes and begin planning for a 2026 learning expedition centred around caring for our oceans, reflecting our ongoing commitment to connecting curriculum with meaningful, real-world experiences.

I am proud of the dedication our staff show to professional learning and to continually refining what we offer our students.

Miss Ryan.

## Reminders

**School Photos day (collect family/sibling envelopes from Front Office)**

**Reconciliation week**

**Jam Band**

**Rayna Sensei (Thursday Week 6)**

## Breakfast Club - Milo Donations Needed

Our Breakfast Club is looking for donations of Milo to help keep our students fuelled and ready for the school day. If you are able to contribute, we would greatly appreciate any tins of Milo sent in with your child or dropped off at the front office.



Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us provide a positive start to the school day for our students.

Principal: Jamie Ryan  
UP Class: Paul Griffiths  
LP Class & Kindy: Angela Jordan  
Finance/Administration: Stacey Wright  
SSO/Playgroup: Vanessa Hook

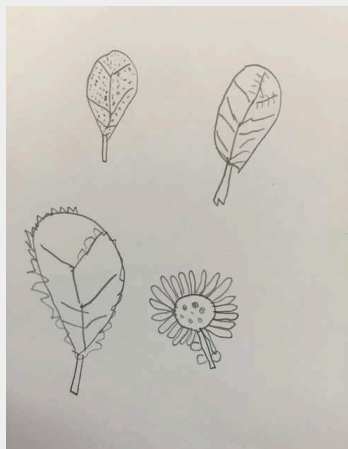
NIT: Ross Mackenzie  
PE: Laura Day  
SSO: Marilyn Gordon  
SSO: Melissa Gibbs



PO Box 9494 Mount Gambier West SA 5291  
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## Lower Primary

This term as part of our Arts learning, LP has a focus on visual arts. We are using nature as a theme to explore using different media and art processes. Last week we used crayons and pencils to make rubbings of different leaves we found in our school yard. Students considered placement and colour to create an interesting artwork. This week we learnt about observational drawing. Students used their lead pencil to have a go at representing the shapes, lines and small details in a chosen natural object. At the end of our lessons, students are enjoying sharing interesting details of their art with each other and then completing an art walk to observe all the different amazing artworks.



Belle



Hudson



Kingsley



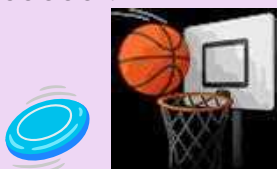
Tyler

## LOWER PRIMARY - PE

In the Lower Primary P.E. classes this term we have been completing the Be Active Challenge together. Every week we tick off our daily 60x minutes of physical activity and a new sport or movement type.

This week we learnt the game "Golden Child", did some hopscotch and tag chasey games. We have a strong focus on resilience this term, so we're thinking about how to bounce back when we get "out" or are having trouble with a new skill.

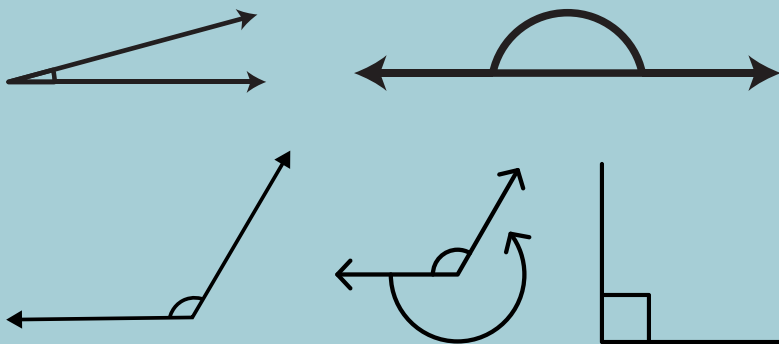
During the rest of the term we will try new games such as frisbee throw, basketball, four-square and soccer.



# Upper Primary

This term, our class has been focusing on improving our narrative writing by using descriptive language to create more detailed and engaging stories. Students have been learning how strong vocabulary and interesting descriptions can help readers better imagine characters and settings. As part of this work, students also used AI image generators to bring some of their descriptive settings to life, which helped inspire creativity and discussion around effective word choices.

In Mathematics, students have been exploring different types of angles through a range of hands-on and creative activities. We investigated angles found in artwork by creating letter art designs that incorporated acute, obtuse, right, straight and reflex angles. Students also used angle fans to identify, compare and classify angles, helping to strengthen their understanding of angle size and mathematical vocabulary in an engaging way.



Don't forget to place your orders for our delicious Pie Drive fundraiser! There is a great range of pies available to order from the OK Pie Shop, with all items priced at \$14.50 each. Orders and payment are due by Monday 1 June, with pies to be delivered on Thursday 12 June. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser.



## HASS - UPPER PRIMARY

This term in the Upper Primary class we have been focusing on Geography and Australia's connections to the rest of the world. We are working our way through the continents of Asia, North America and Europe.

We have been working as a group at the beginning of lessons to tackle quizzes about where the countries are in the continent and what their flags look like. Students have been researching a different country each lesson and finding how Australia is connected to it, mainly through trade, tourism, defence or health.

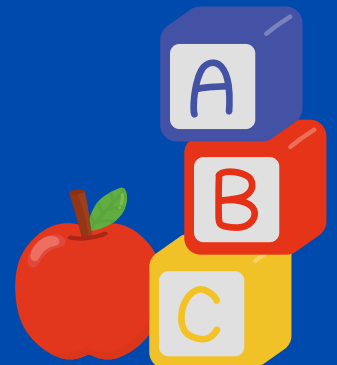


In the Lower Primary class we have been looking at the differences between the past and present, we've been using the words "then and now" to help remember. We have looked at photographs of objects and machines from the past, like washing machines, phones and cars. In this task we were looking at Mount Gambier in the past (during 1980) and the present. Students recorded and illustrated similarities and differences between the two photographs.



## Berry Street Professional Development

This term, Vanessa and Miss Ryan participated in trauma-informed practice training through the Berry Street Education Model. Our focus was on best practices for supporting the social and emotional wellbeing of young children, essential preparation as we plan to welcome more 3-year-olds to our preschool program. We look forward to applying our new learning across our early years' setting.



## Mothers Day - Paint & Sip

This year's Mother's Day was made extra special with our Sip and Paint providing the opportunity to paint, create, and share a relaxed morning tea together.



A heartfelt thank you goes to Miss Jordan for organising this memorable occasion, and to a past parent for generously donating the pots used on the day.

Thank you to all who attended and we hope all of our mums had a wonderful Mother's Day!



## Registrations of Interest Now Open for 2027 Preschool!

We're excited to announce that registrations of interest are now open for both 3-year-old and 4-year-old preschool programs in 2027.

We invite families considering options for preschool in 2027 and beyond to an Open Morning and Information Session with our principal during Playgroup on Wednesday 10 June from 9am-10:20am.

Registration of interest forms for both the 3-year-old and 4-year-old preschool programs are available via our website: <https://kongoc7.sa.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-process/> or in person at our front office.

If you are unsure which program your child should attend or would like to discuss your options, please call to speak with our Principal.

For more information about enrolling in the universal 3-year-old preschool program, visit [www.education.sa.gov.au/preschool-for-3-year-olds](http://www.education.sa.gov.au/preschool-for-3-year-olds).

You can also visit the Office for Early Childhood Development for more details about the 3 year old preschool roll-out: <https://www.earlychildhood.sa.gov.au/>.

We look forward to welcoming new children and families to our preschool community in 2027!

## GRIP Leadership Day

Our Year 6 leaders attended the GRIP Leadership course at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre in week 2, joining peers from across our region and South West Victoria. It was an energetic, interactive event filled with leadership challenges and new ideas. Inspired by the experience, our leaders are working on launching a 'Buddy Time' initiative to strengthen ties across year levels, helping older students support and mentor younger learners.



## Measurement in Action: Exploring Length and Mass

This term in LP, we have been excited to trial a spiralsised maths curriculum, which involves teaching two maths units alongside each other. This approach helps to regularly revisit and build on important concepts throughout the year, supporting deeper learning and retention.

One of our key focuses has been measurement, with a dedicated lesson each week on understanding length and mass. Our students have developed strong skills in identifying, ordering, comparing, and measuring objects around our classroom. It's been wonderful to see so much engagement and enthusiasm as we explored questions like "Which is longer?" "Which is heavier?" and discussed what it means for objects to be tall, short, wide or narrow.

A highlight this term was activating prior knowledge through a guided drawing activity. Students enthusiastically demonstrated their understanding of measurement vocabulary, such as long, short, tall, wide and narrow, by illustrating their ideas on mini whiteboards.

We look forward to continuing our exploration of measurement, building confident mathematicians who can apply their learning across a range of everyday situations.



# TEAM COLOURS DAY



Our school values— Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, Inclusion, Perseverance  
Our school vision—We encourage a love of learning, a strong sense of self, respect for others and the desire to become good global citizens. We promote independence and responsibility as we guide our school towards a positive future.



Jamie Ryan -Principal



# Early Years Expo

*For parents, carers, and families with children aged 0-5 years*

Discover local support for your child's early years and beyond - all in one place!

- Meet local health, parenting, education, and community services
- Get expert advice on child development
- Connect with other families
- Learn what support is available near you



**Tues 9 June at 10am-12noon**

Millicent Public Library  
Ridge Terrace, Millicent

**Free Entry**



WORDS  
GROW  
MINDS



TALK. PLAY. READ. SING.

Learn more at  
[wordsgrowminds.org.au](http://wordsgrowminds.org.au)