



NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 2026

From the Principal

Dear Families

Term 1 has almost passed and I'm pleased to report that, apart from some minor hiccups, the term has been a successful one. In the last newsletter I talked a lot about class placements for this year and from what we observe, those placements appear to be working well. This certainly assists greatly in supporting the learning of our young people. Our staffing is also very settled as we traditionally experience little turnover from one year to the next although two of our longest serving teachers did retire at the end of 2025. We wish Kat and Jenny all the best in their new lives after school.

Last year we saw the final closure of the Annexe class at Elizabeth Vale. That came about with the increase in mainstream based units and special classes, meaning our school can pursue its core business of providing special education for our community's highest needs students. It also means our overall population has come back from a peak of about 193 students in 2022 to 175 this year.

A new year also means a new Governing Council. The AGM occurred in Week 8 this term with an excellent turnout of families and election of a new look Council. Bri Maclean was again elected Chairperson and we congratulate her. The chairperson role carries an extra responsibility this year given that I am retiring at the end of the year and the chairperson will play an important part in the appointment of a new principal. Council also supported the provision of commemorative polo shirts and hoodies for Yr 12 and Yr 6 students with Bri and Sam Fisher working hard to source the shirts and gain sponsorship to make that possible. And of course the sponsors, Inspire Care SA and Jump in Support Options whose generosity made the commemorative shirts possible.

While Governing Council is the official parent body within the school, the more informal ANSS Parents and Carers group exists to provide friendship and support to families living with disabilities. If you're interested in finding out about the Parents and Carers group you can contact Bri on 0433 599 121.

We all know that many of our students have a limited dietary range or have very specific requirements concerning their meals. Our school supports those needs but I do ask parents and carers to assist us in providing that support safely. We have a hot food and drinks policy in our school for obvious reasons so we ask that families not to pack containers of hot foods or drinks for their students. We have the capacity to heat food and drinks to appropriate temperatures if that's necessary (i.e., according to an Oral Eating Care Plan). If there isn't a health reason for heated foods please just send cold foods for lunches. We want to keep mealtimes for our students as straight forward as possible which contributes to our students' wellbeing and safety.

I wish all our families a safe and happy holiday period, however it is you choose to spend it. First day of Term 2 is a Pupil Free Day so we look forward to seeing your student on Tuesday the 28th of April.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

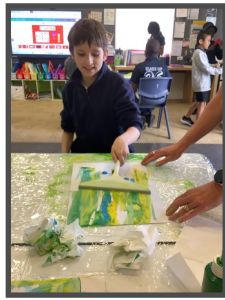
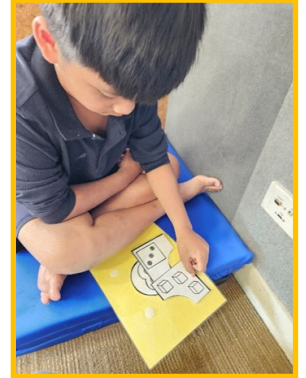
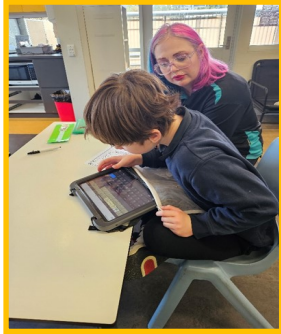
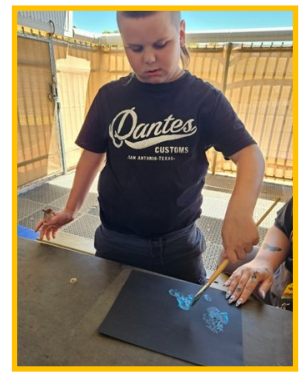
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YELLOW UNIT

Sarah Skuse

This term the students from C1 have settled back into school for 2026. The students have enjoyed engaging in a variety of hands on numeracy and literacy learning activities, with this terms book focus being about space, and maths focus being on shape. They have thoroughly enjoyed making art works of space and shape to display in the classroom.



YELLOW UNIT

Claire Palmer / Christelle Pleasance

This year has started with a busy and engaging schedule for C6! Students have actively participated in a variety of activities, including visits to the school library, cooking sessions, outings on the school bus, and social time in the gym alongside other primary unit classes.

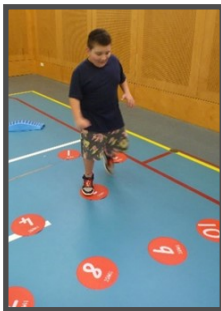
In cooking, the class has enjoyed making pizza scrolls, cheese and zucchini slice, and finished the term by preparing some delicious Easter chocolates.

During bus outings, students have been practising how to make safe choices, such as keeping their hands to themselves, fastening their seatbelts, and using inside voices. On some outings, students have also had the opportunity to visit local shops to purchase items for sensory play, such as shaving foam and play doh.

Each week, C2, C4, C5 and C6 come together in the gym to play favourite games like "What's the Time Mr Wolf?" and "Duck, Duck, Goose." A particularly popular moment is when someone calls out "DINNER TIME!", resulting in lots of laughter and everyone racing back to their seats.

ORANGE UNIT Darren Bradshaw

In week 6 this term, Adelaide North had it's annual Clean Up Australia Day event. In Seniors, classes joined together with buckets, tongs, vests and gloves to help make our school an even more beautiful place. In the lead up to the event, our class did a lot of work on how to pick up rubbish safely, why litter is a problem for the environment, and where our rubbish goes after we pick it up. Senior students were tasked with cleaning up the school car parks, as well as in and around our own building. Our class chose our classroom and the middle area of our building as somewhere they'd like to clean, and what a great job they did! It was great to see every student get involved in cleaning our chosen area, and also joining the rest of the senior classes as they went out into the carpark. Many hands made light work and got our school sparkling clean after our students did such a great job. A big thank you to everyone involved.

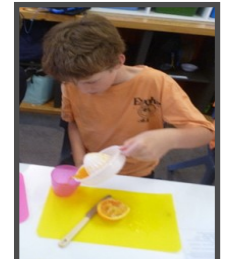
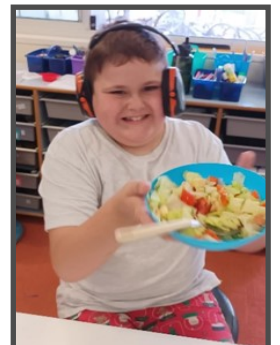


ORANGE UNIT Andrew Clark

On Mondays, students enjoy Physical Education lessons in the gym. This term, we have focused on developing balance while moving through an obstacle course.

Each Thursday, students have the opportunity to participate in community access with a focus on life skills, which is always a highlight of our week. We begin by taking the school bus to the Stretton Centre Library. Students take out their library bags and personal library cards to return previously borrowed books. They then engage in self-selected reading and choose a new book to borrow for the week, using the library computer to complete the borrowing process independently. Afterwards, students eat their recess together in the shared space. Once they have finished eating, we spend some time at the Town Park playground.

Another highlight of our week is our food preparation lessons each Friday. This term, students have been learning basic food preparation skills and how to safely use tools such as a knife, grater and blender. They have prepared a variety of fruits and vegetables, as well as designed and made their own milkshakes, special salads, and ice cream mixes.



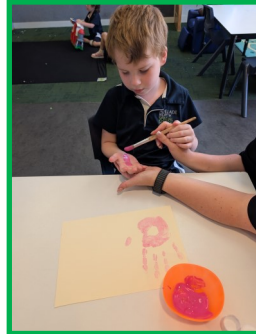
GREEN UNIT

Ashlee Barnes

This term in Junior Primary B1, we have been using sensory boxes, puzzles, and craft materials to learn about numbers and measurement.

Our sensory boxes are filled with pasta, chickpeas, rice, and oats. We use these to find, sequence, and count numbers, which helps us recognise and identify numbers in a fun, hands-on way. We also love using puzzles to practise finding and matching numbers, helping us learn what each number looks like.

In measurement, we have been exploring concepts such as big, small, short, tall, heavy, and light. Craft activities make learning about measurement exciting. We have used different sized objects, like big and small handprints, to identify and explore these ideas.



GREEN UNIT

Laura Tunn

Our JP class has had a wonderful start to the school year! All students have shown impressive resilience and enthusiasm as they adapt to new routines and explore their new classroom. It has been inspiring to see everyone quickly settling in and supporting each other during this exciting time of change.

A highlight for our class has been our regular visits to the trampolines. The students absolutely loved participating in these sessions and are eager to try new activities together. These experiences not only help build confidence and gross motor skills but also strengthen friendships and teamwork.

We are so proud of how positively each student has approached the start of this year, embracing learning and demonstrating our school values every day. We look forward to many more fun and rewarding experiences in the weeks ahead!