



NEWSLETTER

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Term 2 2026

From the Principal

Dear Families

This Term 2 Newsletter is late due to some unforeseen circumstances in the last week of the term. You all know that we had an unscheduled school closure on the last Thursday due to the theft of the school's water metre. We had a beautiful water feature at the front fence for most of the day with water only being reconnected at around 8:30 that night. No water means no toilets and so closing the school was the only option. I want to thank all families for your cooperation on that day in dealing with what was an extreme inconvenience.



On the last day of the term I received confirmation that our Business Manager (BM), Vera Pozniak has won a promotional position at The Heights Technical College for the balance of the year. Vera has been working with us since 2023 and has done a wonderful job in improving our budgetary position, renewing facilities and developing our SSO workforce. In her absence, Mandy Turner, who has a long history with the school and has been working very closely with Vera, will act in the BM position. We wish Vera well.

Mini Woolies has been on the agenda for our school for some time. In early August it will officially become part of our school program. The program will have enormous benefits for students across the whole school in terms of work skill development and community engagement. While it is physically located in the senior section of the school it will be accessed by all students from Reception onwards.

These school holidays have seen the implementation of the Skills Development program operated by A to Z Disability Service. The program has operated mainly in the gym and the Purple Building courtyard after the OSHC service operated by the YMCA was discontinued. The program has been very successfully coordinated by our own Stacey McGarrigan and majority staffed by our school's SSOs ensuring continuity of care for students. Feedback from families has been positive and my visits to the program over the holiday period show a safe and calm environment with very happy and engaged young people.

The process for selection of the new principal here at ANSS is underway and hopefully an appointment will be made by the beginning of Term 4. The department is committed to making the right choice given the significance of this school in the provision of special education in the state. Governing Council chair Bri Maclean and our AEU representative Simon Fuller will ensure the interests of families and staff are at the forefront of the selection process as they will participate on the panel.

A reminder that the first Monday of the new term is a Pupil Free Day. The major focus of the day is all staff training in CPR. Students will commence on Tuesday 21 July.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

Cam

PURPLE UNIT

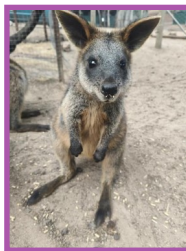
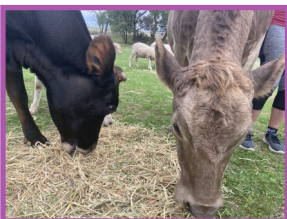
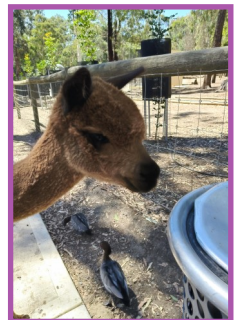
Penny James

Class F2 have been studying Horticulture this term.

We went to the Precinct—a community garden that is close to our school.

We met Dawn who taught us about plants and what they need to grow.

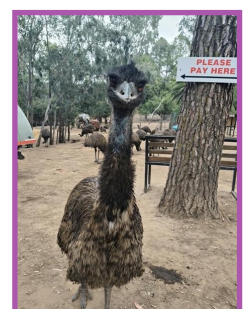
We look at succulents, rosemary and beans. A magnifying glass helped with seeing the details.



PURPLE UNIT

Peter Smith

So far this year, F1 has been having lots of fun out and about while learning Science. We are investigating different types of animals and what they need to thrive. So far this year we have visited an Australian Native Animal Habitat, a working Dairy Farm and a small Zoo in the hills. On each trip, we were able to meet some amazing creatures, and we got to feed them and help them grow.





PINK UNIT

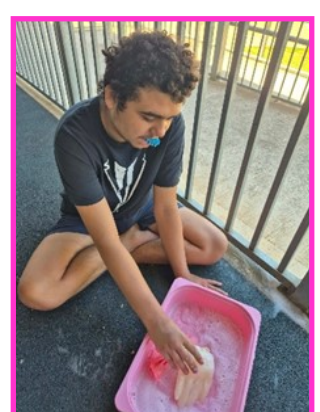
Kayla Mancini and Emily Faulkner

This term, our D1 and D2 classes have continued to thrive in their hospitality and horticulture programs. These hands-on learning experiences are designed to build essential daily living skills and prepare students for life beyond school.

Horticulture Highlights

Students have been exploring the importance of hand washing and practising kitchen safety, including recognising safety signs commonly seen in the community. The program has also introduced some basic kitchen skills, such as knife safety, mixing, and safe use of the microwave. Students have also enjoyed shopping for ingredients needed for recipes.

Our students have especially enjoyed making treats like fruit salad, smoothies and nachos, as well as developing their fine motor skills by making play-dough. It has been wonderful to see everyone engaging with such enthusiasm and growing in confidence with each new skill they learn.





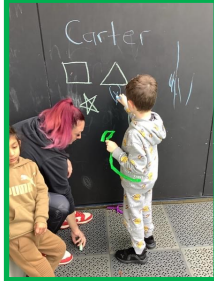
GREEN UNIT Alison Conlon



This term, we celebrated the special ladies in our lives—Mums, Nans, and Bonus Mums—by hosting a wonderful workshop with a special guest from Bunnings! Amanda guided us through building our very own photo and trinket boxes, and everyone had the chance to use real hammers and nails. Although some of our Mums were a little unsure at first, our students showed great bravery, demonstrating that we can try new and challenging things safely and with confidence.

After the workshop, we gathered for a delightful Afternoon Tea, complete with cupcakes and chocolate crackles—chosen by popular class vote! It was a fantastic opportunity to spend time together, share stories, and celebrate the amazing women who support us.

A heartfelt thank you to Amanda from Bunnings for her generosity and expertise, and to all our special ladies for joining us and making the day so memorable!



GREEN UNIT Ally Roling



This term in Mathematics, students have been learning about 2D shapes through a variety of engaging and hands-on activities. They have practised tracing and dotting shapes to develop their shape recognition and fine motor skills. Students have also used shape car mats to reinforce their understanding of different shapes in a fun and interactive way. They have been matching shapes to everyday objects, helping them make real-world connections and identify shapes in their environment. Students have explored the properties of shapes by identifying the number of sides and corners and using mathematical language to describe what they notice. As part of their learning, students created diamond-shaped kites, providing an exciting opportunity to explore and discuss the properties of shapes while being creative. Students have also enjoyed listening to and singing songs about 2D shapes, which has helped reinforce shape names and properties in an engaging and memorable way. Through these experiences, students have grown in confidence recognising, naming, and talking about 2D shapes in both the classroom and everyday life.

