HENDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Reach for the stars

NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 4 2026

Our values
KINDNESS
RESPECT
TRUST

Diary Dates

TERM 4	
Week 4	
Friday 6/11	Assembly 2:10pm
Week 6	
Monday 16/11	**Pupil free day** (OSHC available)
Friday 20/11	Casual Day, gold coin donation
Week 7	
Tuesday 24/11	Governing Council
Wednesday 25/11	Choir performing at West Lakes Mall - 11:00am Junior Primary 1:00pm Middle Primary/Upper Primary
Friday 27/11	Whole School Transitions
Week 8	
Tuesday 1/12	Christmas Concert
Friday 4/12	Whole School Transitions
Week 9	
Wednesday 9/12	Year 6 Graduation
Friday 11/12	Last day term, **Early dismissal 2pm**

Connect with us

FOLLOW US...

Follow our Facebook and Instagram page for the latest news.

hendonps

@hendonprimaryschool

Seesaw

www.hendonps.sa.edu.au

Hendon Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land of the country on which the school is located and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Principal's Report

I often start the newsletter by sharing information about events and student learning opportunities that have taken place. In this newsletter it is great to be able to share with you some fantastic academic results from our Hendon Primary students.

Every year in Term 3, Year 3-6 students across all Government schools in Australia participate in PAT (Progressive Achievement Testing) for both Reading and Mathematics. It is a snapshot of curriculum knowledge that can be tracked from year to year. We are also provided with a comparison to the national average, and portfolio average. Our portfolio is a group of schools located near to each other – our portfolio of schools spans from Hendon Primary and West Lakes Shore as the northern most schools, all the way along the coastline to Brighton Primary as the southern most school. It is made up of about 12 primary schools. We recently had a close look at the results and have the following highlights to share:

PAT-Reading Highlights

Hendon Primary Year 4s, 5s and 6s have had higher growth in their scores since these students were in Year 3, compared to both the national schools and our portfolio schools' growth.



Hendon Primary Year 3s, 4s and 6s average score was higher than the national average score. Hendon Primary Year 3s average score was above the average of our portfolio schools for the first time in many years.

PAT-Maths Highlights

Hendon Primary Year 4s, 5s and 6s have had higher growth in their scores compared to national schools' growth. Hendon Year 4s and 6s have had higher growth in their scores compared to portfolio schools' growth.

Hendon Primary Year 3s, 4s and 6s average score was higher than the national average score. Hendon Primary Year 3s average score was well above the average of our portfolio schools for the first time in many years. Hendon Year 5s had their highest average score for a number of years.

While these results are very promising and validate the high-quality teaching and learning at our school, we also recognise that academics are only one part of the whole child.

Congratulations to Kimi Johns and Jo McWhirter

Our school leadership panel processes were finalised toward the end of last term. I am excited to announce that **Kimi Johns** will continue in the role of Wellbeing Leader for the next 3 years. Kimi is an asset to the Hendon Primary Community, calmly offering wise advice to students, staff and families, for a range of concerns. It is great to be able to have her continue in this very important role.

Jo McWhirter has been appointed as our Inclusion Leader from the beginning of next year. Jo comes to us from The Grove Education Centre, specialising in students with disabilities and diverse complex needs. Prior to this, she has held a number of Inclusion leader positions in a range of schools across Adelaide. Her experience, humour and work ethic will be well received at Hendon Primary School.

As a result of these appointments, we will be saying farewell to **Dionne Gray,** Special Education and Aboriginal Education Leader, at the end of the year. In a highly diverse role, Dionne has been integral in building cultural awareness and Aboriginal perspectives across our site. Her knowledge around inclusion, students with disabilities, and the processes that support funding, special options placement, and modifying the curriculum to cater for a variety of needs, has been extremely important. Add to this, the coordination and communication with external providers, it is clear to see the breadth of her knowledge and expertise, and the impact that this has had on our students, staff and families. Dionne will be taking up a new position at Wandana Primary School, in Adelaide's Northeast and we wish her all the best. Thank you Dionne!

Christmas Raffle Donations Wanted

If you have any donations for the Christmas Raffle, please bring them to the front office over the next few weeks. Our fundraising committee are working to get things organised for our End of Year Concert, and would love if you could help by donating items that could be included in the prize hampers.



Scott Mathews
Principal



Year 5/6 Camp – Arbury Park 2026

In Week 1 of Term 4, our Year 5/6 students headed off to Arbury Park Outdoor School for three exciting days filled with adventure, new experiences and plenty of fun!

The camp began with a scenic walk along the Heysen Trail from Bridgewater Oval to Arbury Park. Over the three days, students participated in a range of activities designed to challenge themselves, build confidence and strengthen friendships.

Some of the highlights included orienteering, campfire cooking, Mission Possible challenges, freshwater life investigations and the Web of Life activity. Students also enjoyed an afternoon hike to Mount George, taking in the beautiful surroundings along the way. Another highlight was definitely the delicious food, which was a big hit with students!

The fun continued into the evenings with a trivia night and a special visit from Trent Hill, who entertained students with an engaging performance.

Throughout the camp, students demonstrated our school values of Kindness, Respect and Trust, supporting one another, stepping outside their comfort zones and showing resilience when faced with new challenges.



We are incredibly proud of the way our students represented Hendon Primary School. It was wonderful to see them develop their independence, strengthen friendships and create lasting memories.

A big thank you to the staff at Arbury Park Outdoor School for making camp such a wonderful experience. We would also like to thank Mr Mathews, Ms Pacillo, Mr C, Ms Abbi, Ms Britney, Mr Daniel and Ms Meera for attending camp and supporting our students throughout the three days.

Take a look at some of our favourite moments from camp!

Brigitte Pacillo, Deputy Principal

(See more photos on the following page)













Year 5/6 Camp – Arbury Park 2026 (continued)










Health and PE

Wow! Hendon Primary School has had a jam-packed year, full of sport. There's been so many positive things happening at Hendon.



Earlier in the year, we had sixteen Year 4/5/6 students compete in the **Western SAPSASA - Cross Country Day** at West Beach. Overall, Hendon Primary finished 3rd in the small school's division.

Hendon proudly had two Year 5/6 teams, one boys and one girls, attend the **Western Netball Carnival**. They represented our school beautifully and enjoyed a fun-filled day. It was wonderful to see students showing great teamwork, enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the carnival.





We also had 20 Year 4, 5 and 6 students attend **Athletics Day**. Well done to Mayton who got 3rd in discus for 10-year-olds. Congratulations to Tyrell who came 1st in discus for 11-year-olds, making it through to represent Western at the state finals. Congratulations to Marlee running 4th in the 100m sprints also going through to represent Western in the state relay finals. Everyone should be super proud of their efforts at Athletics Day. Hendon finished 2nd in the small school division, a fantastic effort and result by all.

Our upper primary Year 5/6 Hendon students have been representing our school, trying out in a variety of **SAPSASA** sports this year including football, soccer, golf, softball, netball and cricket. Well done to all these students for having a go and doing your best. A special mention to Riley. Riley tried out for the SAPSASA Western/Port districts softball and made the team. At the **state** carnival, her team then went on to win every game, they were undefeated and took out **1st place**. A massive achievement. *(continued over)*









HPE (continued)

School Soccer Teams

Hendon had 3 soccer teams this year. During Terms 2 and 3, our **under 7s**, **under 9s** and **under 11s soccer teams** all did a wonderful job representing Hendon Primary School. They trained hard every week at lunch time then played each week on Saturdays. Students showed great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship as they played against other schools. It was fantastic to see their skills and confidence grow throughout the season. Most importantly, all three teams have represented our school with pride, encouragement and a positive attitude. Well done to all of our players for their effort, commitment and excellent team spirit. A special mention to Lily T who stepped in and helped another school for the season, who were short on players.



Oscar, Larenzo, Jonas, Gursahib, Toby, Samuel, Nick & Saxon
Absent: Adam, Luka & Henry



Austin, Charlie, Jorja, Noah, Oliver, Arman, Jacob, Max, George & Rudransh

New Hats

Hendon students were excited to receive a new reversible hat just in time for Sports Day last term. A big thank you to the local church and Hendon Primary School for helping cover the cost of these wonderful hats. Students have been loving them! Not only did they look fantastic on Sports Day, but they have also brought lots of colour and team spirit to the school yard as students proudly show off their team colours.

Sports Day

What an amazing Sports Day we had! It was a fun-filled day with lots of energy, excitement and big smiles. All students did a wonderful job joining in, trying their best and cheering on their teammates. It was fantastic to see such great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day. Congratulations to **Kadli - Red Team** for being our overall winning team, and a big well done to **Kadnu - Green Team** for winning the Sportsperson Shield for showing kindness, encouragement and team spirit. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a fun and memorable event for our school community. *(continued over)*



Logan, Bobby, Calvin, Chandler, Blake, Oscar, Steven, Tyler, Mackenzie & Nickaan. Absent: Dontae





HPE (continued)



HPE (continued)

Sports Captains

Our sports captains did an outstanding job on Sports Day and throughout the year, showing wonderful leadership, enthusiasm and responsibility. They have been excellent role models for other students, always encouraging participation, teamwork and school spirit.



2026 Sports Captains

PE Week

Next week is **PE Week**, and there will be lots of exciting activities happening across the school. Our **Sports Captains** will also be leading a range of clinics throughout the week, helping students join in, build their skills and have fun being active.

New Equipment

It has been great that our school has invested in upgrading some of our sport equipment throughout the year. They have certainly been getting a lot of use. We have been lucky enough to get **new volleyball poles and football posts on the oval and basketball back boards in the gym**. A special mention to the **SANFL** who, through their community partnerships program, donated the new football goals posts to Hendon Primary!

Mel Phillips, PE Teacher

Technology, Art & Teamwork in Our Buddy Classes

Rooms 7, 6 and 19 have been working together through fun Kahoot quizzes and art and craft activities. The children have enjoyed themed quizzes on Book Week, Halloween, Disney and sports in preparation for Sports Day. Working with their buddies, students have been practising turn-taking, sharing ideas, teamwork and encouraging one another while having fun learning together!

It has been wonderful to see our buddies building friendships, developing teamwork skills and having lots of fun while learning together!















Wellbeing

Children's Week 2026

A week to celebrate you, your rights and everything that makes you unique.

What is Children's Week?

Children's Week is a national celebration of children and their rights.

It is celebrated across Australia each October. It's a time to celebrate children, their ideas, talents and experiences, and to learn more about the rights of every child.

Children's Week also gives children opportunities to join in, have a say, create, connect and celebrate with their families, schools and communities.

Did you know?

It started with a worldwide idea

In 1954, the United Nations created Universal Children's Day to promote friendship and understanding between children around the world.

Australia celebrates in October

While some countries celebrate Universal Children's Day in November, Australia holds Children's Week in October.

It's for every child

Since 1985, Children's Week in Australia has celebrated all children, wherever they live and whatever their background.

Children have rights

Children's Week celebrates the rights of children, including the rights set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

This year, we are celebrating your right to:

- Use your own language
- Enjoy and celebrate your culture
- Practise your religion or beliefs

These rights belong to every child.

What does that mean?

The things that are important to you and your family are part of who you are.

That might include:

- The language or languages you speak
- Food you enjoy
- Songs, stories or games
- Celebrations and traditions
- Your culture
- Your religion or beliefs
- Things your family enjoys doing together.

Every child and every family is different – and that's okay.

Office for YOUTH

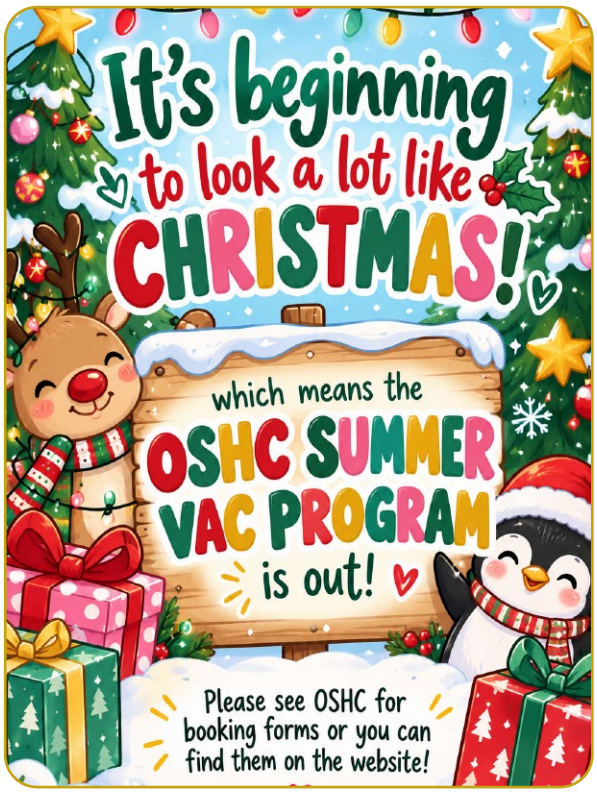
NSW GOVERNMENT

Wellbeing (continued)





Kimi Johns
Student Wellbeing Leader





Community Notices







