

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 TERM 3, WEEK 10

24TH SEPTEMBER, 2025

DIARY DATES

Monday 26th September

Last day Term 3
Early finish 2.05pm

Monday 13th Oct

First Day Term 4

Thursday 23rd Oct

Assembly

Friday 24th Oct

Pupil Free Day

Monday 27th Oct

Governing Council 7pm

Friday 31st Oct

World Teachers Day

Tuesday 4th Nov

Reception Transition

Tuesday 11th Nov

Reception Transition

Tuesday 11th Nov

Remembrance
Day Assembly

Thursday 20th Nov

Reception Transition

Monday 1st Dec

Governing Council 7pm

Monday 8th Dec

JP Christmas Concert
Year 6 Graduation

Thursday 11th Dec

End of Year Assembly

Friday 12th Dec

Last Day Term 4 Finish 2:05



Text your child's absence to:

0428 469 118

Full Name/Class/Reason

Dear Families,

As the end of Term three draws upon us, it is a great opportunity to reflect on the term that was. Last Friday we enjoyed the 2025 Sports Day. Whilst the predicted weather was somewhat ominous, the rain stayed away and an enjoyable day was had by all. Blue Sharks won the team cup and Green Geckos won the shield. At the end of the event, I was asked what the difference is between the two 'trophies'. The Team Cup is a collective accumulation of points from throughout the year that students can accrue for their team. The Shield is the results of the students' efforts on the actual sports day.



Special thanks need to go to Mr Thompson and the sports day committee for bringing the event to life, to the staff who arrived early on Friday to set up, Marc (IT) for swapping his work days to be able to support

in ensuring the technology and sound system was working and to all the volunteers for heading up the BBQ and coordinating the catering on the day. A day such as Sports Day is only made possible through the willingness of people to donate their time to help coordinate and support on the day. On behalf of the students, we thank you for your support!



Term 4 – Morning Routines

As we prepare for term 4 (the busy one!!!), it's timely to remind all families of our morning routines to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Can parents please refrain from walking children through the staff carpark as there have been a few near misses with staff coming in at that time. Students are not to play in the Eucalypt and Grevillia corridors in the morning – it's a matter of walk in, drop bags and go out into the main yard.

The playgrounds are not for use in the mornings, irrespective of whether parents are there supervising or not, as it is too hard to monitor which students have parents present and who don't.

There are no ball games in the morning – these are best kept until play times on the two ovals / grassed areas.

If your children are here after the 8.55 bell, they must be signed in at the front office. We appreciate your cooperation in supporting us with these morning routines.

Staffing Updates

This Friday we farewell Ms Lauren Knight who leaves us to go on maternity leave for the next 12 months. We eagerly await the news that her baby has arrived safely and look forward to meeting him or her. We also wish Mr Marner all the best as he takes the next month or so off on Paternity leave as he and his wife await the safe arrival of baby number 3.



Ms Christine Isemonger will return from leave at the start of Term 4, as Mr Matt Tinsley takes the first few weeks of Term 4 off on Long Service Leave. Ms Amber Kennedy will be supporting in the administration for three days a week for the remainder of the year, whilst continuing to support A01 students and their families. Whilst I can't yet inform the community the teacher that will back fill Amber, a letter will be sent to A01 families advising them. We also recently advertised Lauren Knights Wellbeing Coordinator position and the successful applicant was Ms Rosie Connelly. Rosie will be continuing in her Autism Inclusion role on a Thursday and supporting in admin for the other 4 days. Ms Bianca Drew will be working in G06 for the remainder of 2025.

Companion Dog

The last newsletter was meant to seek community feedback regarding Playford Primary School having a 'companion dog' on site. Animals have the amazing ability to support students when they are upset or heightened. The plan is to obtain a pup (Golden Retriever or Labrador) and employ a dog trainer to train the dog, with the support of the students. Obviously, there are a number of things that we need to ensure happens to support our students, staff and families, but before any of that can or will occur, we are seeking feedback from the community. The dog will be attached to an individual staff member and will not be on site or available for students to access at all times, as we also need to ensure the wellbeing needs of the dog are being met. We appreciate that everyone is different; some people have dog allergies, some people are afraid of dogs and some people have not had much experience or opportunity to be around dogs. We would best aim to support all students in families if we have an awareness of what the 'issues / concerns' are. Please take the time to scan the QR code and answer the questions / provide feedback. Whilst feedback can be anonymous, we are asking any responders to include their names so we can contact families if we need extra clarification on something raised. Governing Council have already endorsed this next stage (seeking community input) so now is your opportunity to have your voice heard.



Playford Companion Dog



OSHC 2026

As we continue to work toward compliance to establish an OSHC service for Playford Primary School families for before and after school care and vacation care, we are seeking an indication from families who is seeking to use this service so we can get a better understanding of the service that we need to provide. We are aiming for our service to be up and running at the commencement of the 2026 school year; however, we are hopeful of starting early in the new year. Please take the time to register your intent so we can better service our school community.



2026 Enrolments



Most recently, we sent home a letter regarding 2026 student enrolments. Despite our best efforts, there are some families that we have not been able to make contact with. Given the multiple times that we have attempted to seek the information with no result, we can only assume that these families WILL NOT be returning to Playford PS in 2026. Alternatively, if this may be you, we strongly encourage you to make contact with the school to secure a spot for your children next year. If you also know of any students / families looking to enrol with us, please let us know as it has a significant impact on how we structure classes.

We wish you all a happy and safe holiday break. We hope that you enjoy the sunshine and the special times you get with your children. School resumes on 13th October.

Best wishes....
Jason, Matt, Lauren and Amber.
Leadership Team



Empowering one another to thrive in learning and life

Our School acknowledges the Kaurna People as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains. We acknowledge their connection to the land our school is built on. The land on which we congregate to learn, play and work. We pay our respects to their Cultures and to the Elders past, present and emerging.

ATTENDANCE



We just wanted to say congratulations to all those people coming to school each day, ready for learning. Remember, attendance at school is important in creating good habits for the future.

Have a great holiday and see you all next term.

Ms Sarah & Mrs Isemonger



STUDENT SHOWCASE – SCIENCE

Matter and Materials Growing Crystals

Curious– Open Minded–
Environmentally Responsible

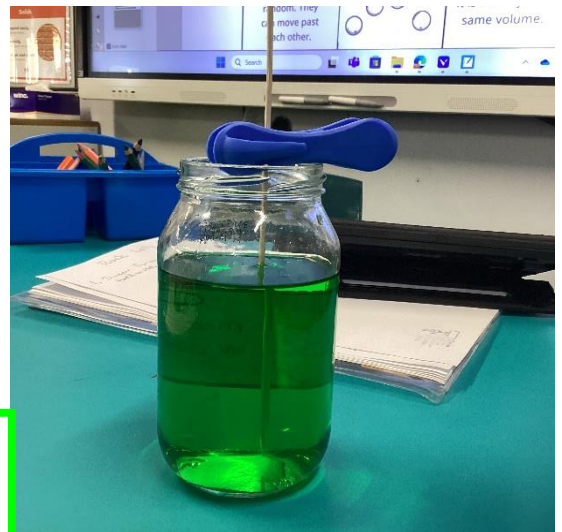
Science
with Ms Strauss



The experiment was set up securely to minimise any movement. The mixture was then placed in the warmest spot in the classroom, by the window, to ensure optimal conditions.



Students went through each step carefully to make sure the experiment followed the scientific method properly.



Exploring and Growing Crystals

Students in C02 and C07 have been delving into the world of substances and particles. As part of their studies, they explored how particles move and are arranged in solids, liquids, and gases, deepening their understanding of the different states of matter.

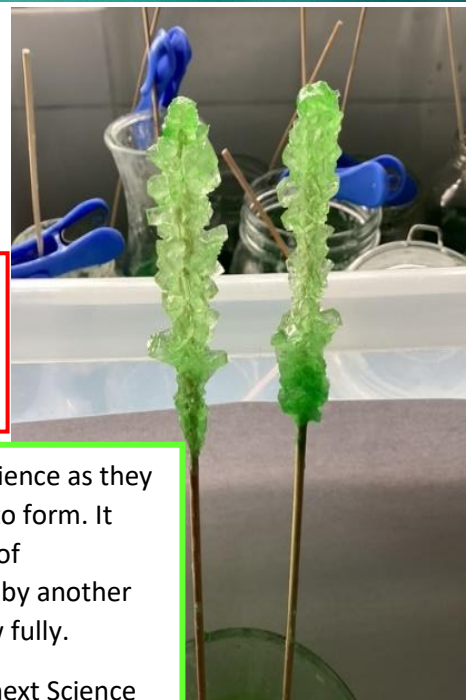


The Outcome...

CRYSTALS!!!

Students demonstrated great resilience as they patiently waited for their crystals to form. It took four weeks for the first signs of crystallisation to appear, followed by another four weeks for the crystals to grow fully.

Although we've moved on to our next Science topic, *Living Systems*, students are still carefully tending to their crystals, eager to see just how large they will grow.



National Science Week – Week 5

What a blast we had celebrating National Science Week! At lunchtimes, our school was buzzing with curious minds and busy hands as students jumped into a range of fun activities. From fizzing lava lamps to colourful binary code bracelets, and plenty of high-flying paper planes, there was something for everyone to enjoy. The smiles, laughter and creativity on display made it clear—science really is amazing!



STUDENT SHOWCASE - THE ARTS

The Arts

Reconciliation Week Artwork



Cru had an idea during Arts lessons, that students could create a piece of artwork to celebrate Reconciliation Week this year at Playford Primary School.

He thought it could involve students from other classes as well. This artwork incorporates students from year 3 to 6 displaying the National Reconciliation Week 2025 theme of Bridging Now to Next. It reflects the ongoing connection between past, present, and future.



DANCE

JP students dancing with scarves to relaxation music.



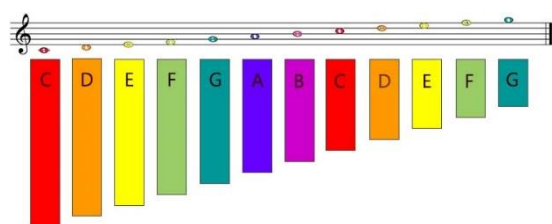
Acting & Dancing

D02 and D07 students getting ready to perform at assembly.



Tuned Percussion Instruments

Year 6 students playing music using the boomwhackers.



STUDENT SHOWCASE - AUSLAN



This semester, students have continued to develop their Auslan skills in creative and engaging ways:

Reception students explored how to sign the colours of the rainbow through art-based activities. Additionally, students learnt to sign the vowels and the first letter of their name.

Junior Primary classes strengthened their knowledge of the Auslan alphabet through a variety of fun, hands-on learning experiences.

Primary students used technology to extend their skills, focusing on constructing meaningful sentences to share information about themselves in Auslan.



DECODING THE UNIVERSE



During Science Week the students were able to join in on lunchtime science activities. Lots of fun and excitement was involved. Some senior students who visited A07 were able to undertake the task of sorting out the stick insect eggs. Once sorted they are cared for by Mrs Menz until they hatch late next summer.



AUTISM INCLUSION SPECIALIST

INCLUSIVE MORNING TEA



On Thursday of Week 8, we celebrated a wonderful Inclusive Morning Tea with our school community. During the session, I shared practical strategies that parents can use at home to support children with autism, as well as ways to recognise and nurture the unique strengths of all children!



Afterward, families enjoyed a delicious spread of scones, biscuits, and cupcakes, thoughtfully prepared by Sharon Barlow and our Year 6 students, who worked hard to make the event extra special.

AUTISM INCLUSION CONFERENCE

On Monday of Week 9, I also attended the Autism Inclusion Conference alongside approximately 300 Autism Inclusion Teachers from across South Australia. The conference centred on the theme *"Neurodiversity: Embrace Curiosity. Build Connection. Strengthen Belonging."*

The event featured keynote speakers, including the Minister for Education, Blair Boyer. I was also honoured to be selected as a panel speaker during the Q&A session, where I shared insights into the Autism Inclusion Teacher role and how it has been implemented at Playford Primary School. I look forward to taking further knowledge from this event to the school community.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email, rosie.connelly131@schools.sa.edu.au

Kind regards, Rosie Connelly - Autism Inclusion Teacher



FINANCE NEWS

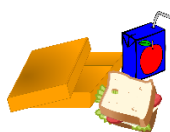


Thank you to all our families who have finalised their 2025 School Fees, arranged an instalment plan or have lodged a School Card Application. Final reminders Have been sent home to those families who have outstanding accounts.

Reminder: If you received a school card form via your child, please either return the form to school or lodge a School Card Application online as soon as possible.

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

CANTEEN NEWS

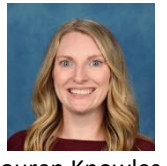
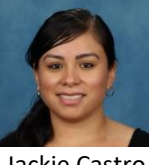


Cut off time for orders is 8.30am on the day required and please check you have entered the correct date for the order. For menus and details on the app, including how to order online, please visit our website:

<https://rorys.com.au/information-for-parents/>

Kind regards, Rory's School Lunches

GETTING TO KNOW US

Staff	Where did you go to school?	What was one of your favourite subjects at school?	What is your favourite holiday destination?	What do you do for relaxation?	Does Pineapple belong on pizza?
 Georgi Menz	I went to school in the Barossa.	My favourite subjects were Art and Science.	Anywhere with my family. I have a long bucket list.	Reading crime novels, scrapbooking & photography	Yes
 Angela Strauss	Unley Primary & Unley High School	The Arts	Cold Destinations	Watch Movies and Paint.	Yes
 Lauren Knowles	Started in England, then Elizabeth East Primary and Trinity College	I loved learning French – have forgotten most of it now though!	Anywhere with a beautiful beach	Veg on the couch with a good book or TV show	I LOVE pineapple on pizza!
 Jackie Castro	Parafield Gardens High School	Psychology	Anywhere warm	Watching a movie with a nice, scented candle on or going to the gym.	Yes



2026 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS



2026 is fast approaching, to assist us with planning and forward projection, we welcome any reception enrolments for the 2026 school year now. Initially, we will only take confirmed enrolments in the immediate Craigmare area, however we have also developed an expression of interest form for families of Reception students, to register their interest for a place at Playford Primary for the 2026 school year. Whilst we can confirm enrolments for families in the immediate Craigmare area within a week of receiving the forms, expressions of interest will be confirmed later on in the school year for those Reception students residing outside of the immediate area.

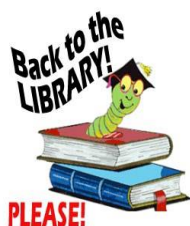
RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS



Term 3 has been another exciting term for celebrating books and reading. We had an amazing day dressing up for Book Week with parades and stories to share.

Huge thanks to all the parents and caregivers who helped bring all the book characters to life with costumes.

Premiers Reading Challenge has now finished for 2025. PRC Awards are due in November and will be presented next term.



On a sad note, we have lots of overdue books so could you please ask your children to have a look and return them to the library.

Have a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to another busy Term 4

June Holland



DEFENCE NEWS – REMEMBRANCE DAY - 11th November



Once again for Remembrance Day this year, Playford Primary will be remembering our school communities' military members both past and present.

If you have family members that have served our country, we would love you to share. Please send in a photo, along with their name and a little story about them

and their service history, including the years they have served (e.g. 1995-2008). I have attached an example below.

Further information about our assembly will follow next term.

If you can please send this information to me via email, that would be appreciated. I will then put it all together when I return from leave in term 4. If you shared your history with us last year, there is no need to do it again.

Thankyou,
Jacqui Langstreth

Jacqui.langstreth279@schools.sa.edu.au



STUDENT SERVICES NEWS



Clothing Reminders: If your child has borrowed school clothing from Student Services, please return the item/s washed ready for the next student.

The **lost property box** is full to the brim with school jumpers. If your child /ren have misplaced an item of clothing or lunch box/drink bottle please come and check the lost property boxes. We have items dropped off daily, many with no names. Thank you



SAKG – KITCHEN



Cooking Up Some Fun in the Kitchen



The end of term 2 we celebrated Naidoc Week. The kitchen came alive with the different aromas from the Indigenous Lemon Myrtle Biscuits, Wattle seed, Quandong biscuits and our favourite Damper. Students enjoyed the variety of new ingredients to cook and taste.

As we returned after the holidays our garden harvest was flourishing. Students from B01, B02, B07, G06 and H02 made Banana Muffins, Vegemite and cheese scrolls, Potato Pancakes, dinner rolls, Pizza and much more.

The middle of the term began our practice for Master Chef in term 4 with the senior classes. The students made pumpkin soup, carrot cake, gozleme with flat bread, cold rolls, apple pop tarts, corn bread and many other delicious dishes. They worked in teams to collaborate, organise and make these amazing dishes in a set amount of time. Great fun was had with many ups and downs, spills, measuring and reading recipes completely. All excited for term 4

Week 8 we assisted in catering for a school morning tea with the help from some students in D07. The students did an amazing job with the baking and setting up of the tables. Well done to them all.

Thanks Sharon Barlow



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COMMUNITY NEWS



Could Saver Plus help with your education costs?

Saver Plus Information Sessions

We are running Information sessions for anyone thinking about joining the program and wants to learn more about how Saver Plus works.

Eligibility, income and participation criteria. To find out more head to <https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/>.

To Register please use the QR Code or Zoom Link Below.



[Click here to Register](#)

saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.



Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



1300 610 355 [saverplus.org.au](https://www.saverplus.org.au)



Guide for eligible savings goals



Education items that are eligible:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Textbooks ✓ Uniform mandatory for education (sports uniform included for children only) ✓ Computers and tablets (new or purchased second hand from a registered business with an ABN) ✓ Stationery ✓ Furniture for studying (desk, chair, bookshelves, desk lamp) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tutoring specific to study ✓ TAFE/VET fees ✓ Computer Accessories (antivirus software, the Microsoft Office suite, monitor, modem, printer, external hard drives, other hardware etc.) ✓ Bulk transport passes (monthly, 6 monthly and yearly passes) to school, university, or TAFE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equipment and industry specific clothing mandatory for vocational training. Please note that evidence must be provided to show that the equipment and/or clothing is a requirement for the course being undertaken ✓ Short courses and conferences that complement the vocational training being undertaken |
|---|---|--|

For children only the following educational items are also eligible:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Children's Primary and Secondary School items that are eligible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excursions, trips, and camps - School bag, lunch box, drink bottle - School materials - Laptop Hire Scheme - School materials for specialist subject costs - School photos | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Children's club or community activity items (e.g., sport, music, dance, scouts/girl guides, cadets, art): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership fees and lesson fees such as swimming or piano lessons - Equipment and uniform - Excursions, trips, and camps |
|---|---|

NOT eligible:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Private school fees ✗ Childcare fees and school holiday programs ✗ HECS-HELP debts ✗ VET-FEE-HELP debts ✗ Motor vehicles and accessories, driving lessons and car parking costs ✗ Medical or health equipment ✗ Glasses (prescription or otherwise) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Mobile Phones, Mp3 Players, TVs, or gaming consoles ✗ Internet plans ✗ Shoes, clothes, or accessories for school formals ✗ Shoes, clothes, or accessories for outside school, including watches, wallets, and purses ✗ Non study related furniture ✗ Bicycles ✗ Gym memberships | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Second hand goods not through registered dealer (with ABN (Australian Business Number)) ✗ Item purchased without a Tax Invoice that includes an ABN |
|---|---|--|





CHILD & FAMILY WELLBEING OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS JOHN MCVEITY CENTRE & THE PRECINCT

Sessions & events located at:

John McVeity Centre
182 Peachey Road, Smithfield Plains
or
The Precinct
112 Coventry Road, Smithfield Plains

For more information:

Email: jmc@playford.sa.gov.au
Phone: 8480 0100

SENSORY MAGIC WITH EBONY

Monday 29th September &
Thursday 2nd October 2025
10am - 11am | John McVeity Centre
Unlock a world of wonder and
discovery for your child
through play with
Sensory Magic with Ebony!
Ages: 2 - 7 years
\$5 Bookings via Eventbrite

GROW YOUR OWN PIZZA PLOT

Monday
29th September 2025
12:30pm - 1:30pm | The Precinct
Learn how to grow fresh herbs &
veggies perfect for yummy pizza
toppings!
Ages: All ages
\$5 Bookings via Eventbrite

KIDS ZUMBA

Monday
29th September 2025
4pm - 4:45pm | John McVeity Centre
Learning fun, kid-friendly, dance
routines to upbeat tunes will keep
young Zumba fans active & smiling!
Ages: 5 - 12 years
\$5 No bookings required

MAGGIE MOO

Tuesday 30th September &
7th October 2025
John McVeity Centre
Sing & dance along to the
Moo Music songs with Michelle.
Ages: birth - 18 months | 9am &
18 months - 4 years | 10am.
FREE
No bookings required

NRL CLINIC

Tuesday 30th September 2025
10am - 12pm | John McVeity Centre
Come & Try Rugby at this fun,
action-packed session!
Ages: 8 - 12 years.
FREE
Bookings via
auquestars.com

LIL' MOVERS

Wednesday 1st October 2025
9:30am - 10:30am
John McVeity Centre
Explore your little ones
motor skills through play!
Ages: 0 - 2 years
\$7 No bookings required

BUG EXPLORERS

Thursday 2nd October 2025
10:30am - 12pm | The Precinct
The Ark Project join us for a
hands-on session where curious
kids can see, touch, and learn all
about live insects!
Ages: 2 - 12 years.
\$5 Bookings via
Playford Library

ACRO DANCE

Thursday 2nd October 2025
Multiple Sessions
John McVeity Centre
Flip, roll, and build strength in this
fun acro dance session!
Ages: 5 - 14+ years
\$5 Bookings via Eventbrite

INFLATABLES DAY

Friday 3rd October 2025
Multiple Sessions
John McVeity Centre
Bounce around the courts on lots
of jumping castles and inflatables.
Ages: 3 - 15 years
\$7 Bookings via Eventbrite

PAINT AND PLANT

Tuesday 7th October 2025
12pm - 2pm
John McVeity Centre
Paint and create with the team
from Picasso on Wheels.
Decorate your very own plant pot!
Ages: 5 - 12 years
\$10 Bookings via Eventbrite

PLAYGROUND TOUR

Wednesday 8th October 2025
10am - 2pm
Meet at John McVeity Centre
Jump on a bus with us and explore
some of the new and exciting
playgrounds in Playford.
Ages: 0 - 12 years
\$4 Bookings via Eventbrite

WOMBAT STEW

Thursday 9th October 2025
10:30am - 12:30pm | The Precinct
Snuggle in for a story, meet a real-
life wombat up close, and get your
hands dirty making your own
wombat stew!
Ages: 2 - 12 years
\$5 Bookings via
Playford Library

FUTSAL CLINIC

Thursday 9th October 2025
Multiple Sessions
John McVeity Centre
Kickstart your futsal skills with
former Futsalroo -
Chris Higgins.
Ages: 5 - 14 years
\$7 Bookings via Eventbrite

HIP HOP DANCE

Thursday 9th October 2025
Multiple Sessions
John McVeity Centre
Dance it out with high-energy
hip hop moves and fun beats!
Ages: 5 - 14+ years
\$5 Bookings via Eventbrite

CHEFS CLUB

Friday 10th October 2025
Multiple Sessions
John McVeity Centre
Designed for kids to explore their
creativity in the kitchen in a
safe & fun way!
Ages: 5 - 15 years
\$7 Bookings via Eventbrite

BASKETBALL CLINICS

Growing for Gold
with GGL &
New Family Connections
Wednesday
2nd October 2025
Ages: 5 - 16 years
FREE
Bookings via
Growing for Gold

SA Church
Basketball Camp
Wednesday
8th October 2025
Ages: 8 - 15 years
\$25
Bookings via
SA Church
Basketball

CASUAL COURTS

John McVeity Centre
Come in and shoot
some hoops!
Check JMC Facebook for
available times.
\$5 per person
No bookings required

PICKLEBALL

Saturday
27th September, 4th & 11th October 2025
9:30am - 11:30am | John McVeity Centre
Drop in for a hit & challenge your friends
to a game or two of Pickleball!
Ages: All ages
\$5 per person
No bookings required

ARCADE GAMES

John McVeity Centre
Drop by JMC and enjoy the
range of arcade games
we've got set-up in the foyer
for the holidays!
FREE
No bookings required

BOOK VIA
eventbrite

For all programs requiring bookings head to our
Eventbrite page to register
(Unless specified differently above).
playfordwellbeinghub.eventbrite.com.au



Visit our Facebook 'John McVeity Centre' for more info!

