

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 08

TERM 4, WEEK 2

24th OCTOBER 2025

DIARY DATES

Monday 27th Oct

Governing Council 7pm

Wednesday 29th Oct

Festival Choir Concert

Friday 31st Oct

Dianella Sausage sizzle

Tuesday 4th Nov

Reception Transition

Tuesday 11th Nov

Remembrance Day
Assembly

Tuesday 11th Nov

Reception Transition

Friday 14th Nov

Grandparent Day

Thursday 20th Nov

Reception Transition

Wednesday 26th Nov

Variety Xmas Picnic
Banksia & Hakea

Thursday 27th Nov

BP Adelaide Grand Final
Excursion – Whole School

Monday 1st Dec

Governing Council 7pm

Monday 8th Dec

Year 6 Graduation Night

Wednesday 10th Dec

JP Xmas Concert

Friday 12th Dec

End of Year Assembly

Friday 12th Dec

Last Day Term 4
2.05pm finish



Dear Families,

Welcome back to the last term of 2025. Term 4 is already flying by, who would have thought it is already at the end of week 2 with today being a Pupil Free Day to allow staff to reflect on 2025, as well as forward plan for next year. This term will be a fast paced and busy one. In addition to the normal academic 'busyness' there are a number of major events this term including Year 6 Graduation, R-2 Christmas Concert, BP Adelaide Grand Final, and the Remembrance Day Assembly just to name a few, please keep an eye on the diary dates so that you know what is happening at Playford Primary this term.



Staffing and class updates for 2026

At this stage it looks like we will begin next year with 12 mainstream classes, as the larger cohorts of our senior students make their way to high school. As we continue to monitor enrolments, over the next few weeks we will begin to look at classes and staffing for next year. It is imperative that we are kept up to date with any students planning on entering or exiting our school.

For planning / budgeting purposes, it is extremely important we have up to date information regarding student enrolments. A notice went home recently requesting information about your children and whether they will be attending Playford Primary School in 2026. We have used this information to determine indicative classes for 2026. If you did not respond or something has changed, please let us know ASAP.



Northern Festival of Music Concert

This coming Wednesday (29th October) students from our School Choir will perform at the Hewitson Theatre, in Evanston Park as part of the Northern Festival of Music Concert. We would like to congratulate the choir on their amazing efforts and the dedication and commitment they have shown throughout the year, which will culminate at the Hewitson Theatre on Wednesday night. A huge thankyou to our Arts teacher, Angela Strauss, who goes above and beyond to ensure our students are ready to perform. We hope to see you there

Staffing Updates

This term we warmly welcome Ms Bianca Drew in G06, backfilling Rosie Connelly in admin as Playford Wellbeing Leader. We also welcome Ms Samantha Jackson in A01, backfilling Amber Kennedy on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday. I am confident that our school community will make both Bianca and Samantha welcome.



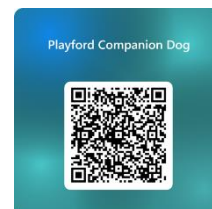


Baby News

We take this opportunity to announce the safe arrival of Ms Lauren Knights baby. Despite coming a little early, Lauren gave birth to a beautiful little girl, Ada last week. We wish Lauren and her family all the best in savouring every little moment that this special time offers.

Companion Dog

The last newsletter we sought community feedback seeking input into the idea of getting a 'Companion Dog' to support our students. We didn't receive many replies, so are seeking your input again. If we don't receive more community feedback regarding a companion dog, we will assume that there isn't the need and won't pursue this any further. If you would like to have your say, take this opportunity now!



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.



Breakfast Club / Fruit Snacks

Recently, we have noticed more and more students are attending Breakfast Club or coming to Student Services requesting a fruit / brain snack. Whilst we would love to be in a position to provide this to all students, quite simply we are facing a major shortfall. The aim of both Breakfast Club and Fruit / Brain Snack, is to supply those students with either breakfast or brain food to help them on a successful learning path for that day. We are finding that a lot of students are having breakfast at home, or at OSHC and then having a second or even third breakfast at school, which means that those students that have a genuine need, may be missing out. Once again, we ask that families have a chat to their children about whether they need an additional breakfast / brain snack as we simply can't afford to be purchasing large quantities of bread to meet the demand. Alternatively, if any families wish to donate either loaves of bread or fresh fruit, these will be gratefully accepted to help us meet the demand. Failing this, we may have to start rationing toast and fruit to try and meet the need.

Pupil Free Day

Empowering one another to thrive in learning and life

Friday 24/10 (today) was the last of our Pupil Free Days for 2025. The whole staff took a deep dive into our site Perspective Survey (school perception and culture), further exploration into PAT (Progressive Achievement Testing) with a focus on Maths with the afternoon spent forward planning for 2026. Always a meaningful and productive day where staff can collaborate and learn together for improved outcomes of student learning.

Kind regards,

Jason, Christine, Rosie and Amber

Leadership Team

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.

FUNDRAISING NEWS



The fundraising team have been working on getting some wonderful donations for our School's **Christmas Raffle** this term.

We are currently seeking donations to put in the Christmas baskets. If you are in a position to donate it would be appreciated. Donation items may include non-perishable Christmas food items, new goods such as toys or homewares. Alternatively, if you have a small business, you may consider a donation of a voucher or small item from the business.



We ask the whole school community becomes involved by selling a small book of tickets. Extra books will be available from the Front Office.

Can all donated items please be taken to Student Services or the front office no later than FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER.

**DONATIONS
NEEDED**

Can you help??

AUTISM INCLUSION

Helping Your Child Learn at Home

Understanding Cognitive Load

For children with autism, learning can be hard when there's too much happening at once. Knowing how your child's brain takes in information can help reduce frustration and build confidence.

What Is Cognitive Load?

"Cognitive load" means how much information the brain can handle at one time. It's like a computer — if too much is open, it slows down.

There are **three types** of load:

1. **Intrinsic Load** – How hard the task is.
2. **Extraneous Load** – The extra things that make learning harder.
3. **Germane Load** – The good thinking that helps learning stick.

There are ways that you can support your child at home, to ensure they have the correct amount of space to take on board instructions and to learn.

1. Break It Down

Give one step at a time.

Instead of "Get ready for bed," try:

"First, brush your teeth."

"Next, put on your pyjamas."

2. Use Visuals

Many children with autism learn best when they can see what to do.

Try picture charts, checklists, or short videos.

Visuals make instructions clear and build independence.

3. Reduce Distractions

Before your child starts a task (homework), make the space calm.

Turn off the TV, clear the table, or use headphones.

A quiet space helps the brain focus.

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



Kind regards, Rosie Connelly - Autism Inclusion Teacher

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?
 Christian Morgan	Wonderful Whyalla High	I loved Drama, Music and Recess.	Thailand...going back for a fourth time this year.	Play guitar, sleep and travel.	With pepperoni, it's a must!
 Daniel Thompson	Modbury Primary School	Maths	Bali and Queensland	Relax by my pool.	ON EVERY PIZZA! (Goes well with vanilla ice-cream and strawberry topping as well.)
 Zoie Marks	I went to Evanston Primary, and then I went to Xavier College for high school.	I loved Art and English.	Anywhere warm and tropical! I also really enjoyed travelling around Europe	I don't get much time to relax these days with a toddler, but if I do, I like going to the gym or watching a girly tv series.	Yes!
 Rachel Knight	Fulham Primary School before it closed then Pembroke School for secondary.	French	Point Turton on Yorke Peninsula, where we catch up with family friends each summer.	Spend time with family and friends, swim, listen to music and watch Netflix.	Sure.



Remember to say a big thank you to all our wonderful teachers on the 31st October for World Teacher's Day.





On Tuesday 11th November week 5, our school will pause for Remembrance Day.

At 11:00am on the 11th of November 1918 a peace agreement was signed between Germany and the Allies, ending World War One.

Now, that date every year is called Remembrance Day.

Remembrance Day is a day where we remember those that sacrificed their life so we could have peace, and remember those that have served and are still serving.

A Minute of Silence

Every year at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, nations around the globe fall silent for one minute to remember those who have served their country.

Red Poppies

The Flanders Poppy was one of the first plants to grow on the battlefields of France and Belgium. After WWI, silk poppies were sold with proceeds going to a charity for the Returned Soldiers League (RSL).

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Talking about school

‘How was school today?’ is a big question. To get kids talking about school, try asking simple, positive questions. It shows you care about their learning.

raisingchildren.net.au

Just a little bit of interesting information regarding how to talk to your children about school. We all know the answer to the question “what did you do at school today””er, nothing”. The Raising Children website has some great information for parents (click the above link to take you there).

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.

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.



EALD at Playford Primary

EALD stands for English as an Additional Language or Dialect. The EALD teacher

- ❖ values the language and cultural knowledge that students bring from home.
- ❖ supports students to improve their skills in English, either through withdrawal or work in class.



decoding and sentence
creation linked to the InitialLit
programme



exploring grammar and the features
of different genres while improving
genre writing



using
language
with
hands-on
activities
and
connecting
with class
story
books



celebrating favourite foods, as shared at
assembly, and writing about people special
to us, while improving written language

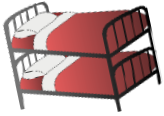


support with preparing
presentations



oral and written
narrative
development

YEAR 6 CAMP



My Amazing Camp Experience by Our Amazing Year 6 Students



Camp, a fun thing to experience. Overall, camp was one of the best experiences for some of the year sixes, it was so fun, and students had lots to do. Such as 3 or more activities a day.

On the first day, everyone arrived early to school so that we wouldn't miss the bus. After that, we all got on the bus as the teachers were counting us. Although the bus drive was really long, it was so fun because no one had to do anything. After about an hour or so we finally arrived at Woodhouse Adventure Park.

When we arrived there, we all got off the bus and the teachers counted us to make sure we were all off the bus. We were all advised to take our luggage up to the top floor and go downstairs for the instructors to speak to us while we had our lunch. Our first activity was hiking, and we got lost at first, but then we kept walking. After walking for some time, we stopped and did a small relaxation game for 5 minutes. Then we headed back to have our first meal of the day.

One of our favourite highlights was when we did the Challenge Hill obstacle course part 2 because Ornella and Pendeza raced in the water and Pendeza fell. Another thing that happened was when we took pictures in the water and when we had lasagna and ice cream.

Overall, camp was an amazing experience, and we will always reminisce about all the amazing moments we had together. Pendeza, Ornella and Shristy



Harper.R: My favourite part of camp was when my group did Challenge Hill. When we reached a lake next to the hill, we all tried to go through the ropes over the river. As I began to do it, I was succeeding to pass it, until I let go of the rope and fell into the piercing cold lake. Even if I got out cold, it was by far my favourite thing I did at camp.



Patrick: My favourite part of camp was the dorms. At night, I kept screaming to wake everyone up which caused the teachers to tell us off. Every time the teachers kept coming in our dorm, I acted like I was asleep, and everyone else got in trouble. Moreover, I jumped on Kaleb's bed and he kept hitting me. When everyone was asleep, I put all their bags in a pile and all their clothes got mixed up. In the end, I had a fun time in the dorms at camp.



Amiliya: There was a lot of fun experiences at camp, but the most enjoyable one was definitely when my group went to the river. My group finished almost all of Challenge Hill and the last obstacle was a river. I tried to climb up a wall and completed it, so I decided to play in the water. Me, and one of the boys in my group, Josh, kept splashing water on each other, and I fell over and hit a rock. Fortunately, I was unharmed. That was my favourite experience at camp.

Exciting

FUN

Amusing



Maxx: At camp, there were many exciting moments and this is my favourite. As the rain poured down on the muddy terrain, the slippery surface worried everyone's clothes. We arrived safely, but still with the chance to get dirty. In the lagoon there was a rare chance to find a bug. Because of the slipperiness of the mud, everyone slipped and slid everywhere. Luckily, I didn't and I kept my clothes clean. Whenever I tried to help someone, they fell again. As you can see, this was obviously funny.



Lily: As soon as it was time for camp, I was super excited. My whole group climbed up the small hill on the way to the tube slides. Since it was raining and a wet day, it seemed even more fun because of the slippery surface. Me and Ella went on the big tube slides together all the way to the top. Ella did most of the dragging up the steep hill. As we went down the slide, I started screaming and holding onto Ella. In conclusion, camp was really fun, especially the tube slides because it was slippery and exciting.



Max: I think that the best part about camp was Quiz Night. Me, Riley, Zach, Marc, Trav, Patrick, Harper B, Rocky, Flynn, and Kaleb were in a team called The Toilet Cleaners.com.edu. we are the best. Me, Zach, Riley, and Harper B were doing most of the work. Our biggest competition was Kaiden's group. People were yelling in either happiness or annoyance. The Quiz went on for about 3 hours, but in the end, we won by 3 points. This was the best part because it was all my friends together doing something really fun.



In Term 3, the Year 6s went on a long bus ride for camp to Woodhouse Adventure Park. When we got to Woodhouse, we had to help take all the bags off the bus. After we got our bags, we went to our rooms and got everything unpacked. We came back downstairs and got into our groups for the camp activities. One of the most exciting activities was the Tube Slide because we slid rapidly down the steep hill like a lightning bolt hitting a powerline, but climbing up the steep hill was a nightmare carrying a heavy tube. Another amusing activity was orienteering because we got to go and explore Woodhouse with each other, and it was also a scavenger hunt. By Delilah and Sienna

In Term 3, the Year 6s went to Woodhouse Adventure Park for camp. Firstly, we got off the bus to take our bags to our dorms and set everything down. It was exciting to be in dorms with our friends because it is the first time, we've done that. Our first activity was tube sliding which was exciting. We had to get a large round tube to sit in and then climb to the top of a hill which was really tiring, but it was still worth it. We got to sit in the tubes with a friend and go down the slides as fast as a lightning bolt. Our favourite activity was the Challenge Hill obstacle course. We enjoyed swinging on the rope, trying to get across the river. It was funny because we saw our friends fall into the river and we all were having a great time. Overall, I recommend that next year's Year 6's go to camp because it was a memorable experience. By Tajalah, Zahra and Rubi D07



In Term 3, the year 6s went to Woodhouse Adventure Park for camp. One of my favourite parts was going on the tube slides, but we had to climb up a giant hill to get to it. It was worth it though because it was thrilling from the track being wet. Another one of my favourites was Bouldering. Bouldering is basically rock climbing, but instead of climbing up, you climb across the wall. I enjoyed being in the same dorm as my friends as we could hang out between activities and at night. By Shayla

D07 SHOWCASE



In D07, we have been learning about significant people and events that led to Federation. As part of this, we made a double page spread about the Eureka Stockade.

We needed to include what the Eureka Stockade was, Why it happened, the impact of the Eureka Stockade on how Australia was run and three adjectives to describe it.

The flag of the Southern Cross represents Australia's democracy. They raised the flag in the middle of the stockade.-Rubi

The miners protested with anger about the mining licenses and unfair treatment- Flynn

I thought it was unfair that miners needed to pay for licences to mine for gold— Ava

Peter Lalor lead the stockade and the miners. He also lost his left arm in one of the fights, but he survived. He became a member of parliament in the coming years.-Lynka



SPRINGTIME IN THE GARDEN WITH MRS P

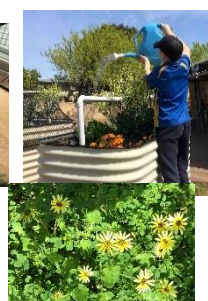


A few students in D02 enjoyed preparing and painting timber with John. While others were busy in the vegetable garden with Mrs P.



C07 students couldn't get enough of the orchard, weeding and moving compost to the vegetable gardens while searching for grubs.

Flowers in the orchard attract essential pollinators, like bees, for transferring pollen between fruit blossoms



Photos taken by chosen student photographers capturing the beauty and nature in the orchard.

FUN FACTS ABOUT 🍎 🍎 🍎

They float!: Apples are about 25% air, which is why they float in water.

They are related to roses: Apple trees are part of the rose family, which also includes pears, cherries, and plums.

They have a long life: Some apple trees can live to be 100 years old and still produce fruit.

It takes time to grow: It can take at least five years for an apple tree to produce its first fruit.



RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

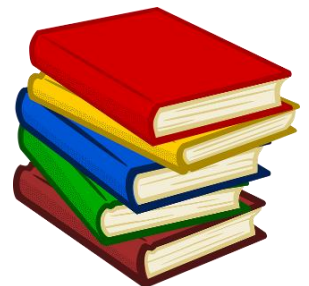


PREMIER'S READING Challenge



The Premier's Reading Challenge continues to be a great success for Playford Primary students. This year 260 students completed the challenge by reading and recording at least 12 books. Awards including medals and certificates will be handed out as soon as they arrive. Congratulations to all the students for their persistent focus on reading, and the adults who read with them. The PRC is just one way that children can explore new stories in their journey to becoming an independent reader. A recent survey of our Year 3-6 students revealed that the top 3 challenges to improve their reading were understanding new vocabulary, making time to read and focusing for longer periods of time. You can help your child with all of these challenges by talking with them using big words, once explained, they will understand more than you realise. Setting aside time each day for reading is also critical in helping your child focus and develop reading stamina. Bedtime is a great time to switch off devices and open a book. For more information about how reading at night can benefit you and your child take a look at this advice from Healthline <https://bit.ly/3sNKYKL>

At this time of year, we kindly ask that you start looking everywhere at home for any overdue library books or take-home books that might be lurking in your children's bedrooms, bookcases, under beds or possibly in the car. All schoolbooks are barcoded with Playford McAuley Campus stickers. If you receive an overdue notice email in the coming weeks, please return the books or make a suitable replacement donation of a preloved book. Unfortunately, we still have 2359 missing or outstanding books from previous terms which have possibly been overlooked. You will understand that this is an expensive loss to the library. We would be grateful for their return, so we don't have to go through the process of ordering replacements, cataloguing and covering the books again. Thank you for your cooperation.



TRAFFIC AND PARKING INFORMATION



Parking restrictions at schools are for the safety of your children. **Do not park across residential driveways** – Also, please take note of the following rules:

NO PARKING (Left sign in the photo.): You may drop off and pick up in this zone during the designated times. You cannot leave your vehicle during this time and there is a two-minute limit.

NO STOPPING (Right sign in the photo.): You must not stop in this zone at any time.

DOUBLE PARKING: You must not stop where any part of your vehicle is between the centre of the road and a car parked at the side of the road. Fines apply for failure to comply with these restrictions.

For further information on parking restrictions, please visit the City of Playford's website:

<https://www.playford.sa.gov.au/explore/getting-around/parking>

School zones have a speed limit of 25 km/h at any time when a child is in the zone, whenever a child is on the road, footpath, median strip, even if they are on a bike. A child is any person less than 18 years of age and includes a student of any age wearing school uniform.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Get up to \$500 for education costs

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months,
and **ANZ will match it up to \$500.**

To be eligible, you need to meet these requirements:



18 years
or older



A regular
income
(you or your
partner)



Attend
free online
financial
education
workshops



Are studying
yourself or
have a child
at school, or
starting next
year



Current
Health Care
or Pensioner
Concession
Card



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.



Saver Plus referral sheet

Saver Plus is a matched savings and financial education program that assists people on lower incomes to strengthen their financial skills, develop a savings habit and save for educational costs

From	
Organisation	
Staff Name	
Staff contact number	
In Reference to	
Name of person enquiring	
Address	
Telephone number/s	
Email address	
Best time to contact	
Preliminary eligibility check* – ALL tick criteria must be met: *Evidence not required at this stage	☐ Is at least 18 years old ☐ Has a child at school or attends vocational education themselves i.e. TAFE ☐ Regular income from work (you or your partner - casual, full or part-time work) ☐ Health Care Card/Pensioner Concession Card ☐ be in receipt of a Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment (many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information) ☐ Has not completed the Saver Plus program before.
I, _____ (name of person), give my consent for my details to be passed onto a Saver Plus Coordinator who will contact me to discuss the Saver Plus program.	
Signed: _____	
Send to	
Please send to:	saverplus@thesmithfamily.com.au
Date Referral sent/given to Saver Plus Coordinator	

Saver Plus is a matched savings and financial education program, developed by Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, and Berry Street and www.sss.gov.au program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.sss.gov.au for more information.

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