

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 09

TERM 4, WEEK 9

11TH DECEMBER, 2025

DIARY DATES

Friday 12th December

Last day of Term 4

2.05 pm Dismissal



2026

TUESDAY 27th

January

First Day School Year



Text your child's
absence to:

0428 469 118

Full Name/Class/Reason

Rory's Canteen
Order online before
8.30am via Qkr App



As we finally arrive at the end of Term 4 for 2025, we take this opportunity to thank all members of our school community for their ongoing support this year. It's been a busy year jam packed with many varied learning opportunities and events. Recently, nearly the whole school attended the BP Adelaide Grand Final. What an amazing day was had by all students and credit to the staff as we took over 400 members of our school community to the event without a single issue. Credit to Amber Kennedy in her coordination of the event as for anyone that knows, the logistics involved in taking a single class on excursion is big, moving a whole school is next level.



Monday night saw our Year 6 students graduate from Primary School. The students did a fantastic job, representing themselves and their families to a high standard. Special congratulations to our specialist award winners Lynka, Maxx and Kaden as well as the recipient of the Dean Clark Award, Maxx. We wish all our Year 6 graduates the very best as they forge forward in the next chapter of their learning journey.



We also wish any of our students who are leaving Playford Primary School at the end of this year, to move to other schools, all the very best. We have a number of families moving out of the area or interstate, so we wish them all the best in their next chapter.



Yesterday morning, our Junior Primary classes performed to a packed gym full of family and friends as they worked through a range of Christmas songs. They did an amazing job and should be very proud of their efforts. It's always great to watch the students sing, accompanied with their dance moves, proudly performing to their family and friends.

In 2026, we start with 12 mainstream classes and 5 Special / Disability Unit classes. Whilst our teaching staff is finalised for 2026, we are now in the process of finalising what our ancillary staffing looks like for next year. At this stage, we aren't sure yet who is staying and who is leaving, but will be able to provide a more comprehensive staffing list in a letter all families will receive in the new year. Please keep an eye out for this, as it will have some important information re: 2026.



2026 Swimming

In an effort to give parents / families as much notice as possible, 2026 swimming lessons will be around \$60 per student. We appreciate that this is a big jump as the bus costs have jumped, so we are letting families know now, to start putting some money aside in readiness for next year.



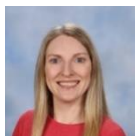
OSHC

As you are well aware, we are establishing an OSHC in 2026. Enrolment forms have been sent out via Edsmart and hard copies. If you want your child to attend, these forms need to be returned so that we can staff it accordingly. OSHC will operate out of Dianella with day one being Tuesday 27th January. If you have any questions, feel free to text / call 0428 539 202 or email PlayfordPS.OSHC277@schools.sa.edu.au.



Staffing updates

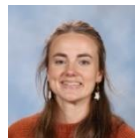
This week we will be saying farewell to a some of our staff.



We sadly farewell Lauren Knowles who has won a new job at Paralowie. Lauren has made a huge and significant impact on the lives of many students here at Playford in the time she has been here. She sets an extremely high standard for the students in her care, ensuring that her students are well equipped for the next stage of their journey. We wish her all the very best in her next chapter.



In 2026, we are 'lending' Mr Bator to Adelaide Secondary School of English so that he is closer to home. Unfortunately, one of his daughters has not been well and being closer to home allows him to get her to medical appointments with less interruption for his class. We wish him well in 2026 and look forward to his return in 2027.



Ms Chelsea Langridge leaves us for another opportunity at Angle Vale Primary School. Chelsea started with us as a brand-new teacher, she has developed and honed her craft to a high level and will be sadly missed. Her impact on the Reception students over the last few years has been significant and she will be sadly missed. We wish Chelsea all the best for 2026 and beyond.



Mr Robert Taylor leaves us after 18 months. Robert stepped in initially as a TRT after several staff left in 2024. We have appreciated his support in helping the students in H02 this year, as we established our first primary year's special options class. We wish Robert all the best in 2026.

Ms Samantha Jackson stepped in to A01 this term, backfilling Amber Kennedy. We thank Samantha for her efforts and wish her well in the future.



Lastly, we say farewell to Ms Zoie Marks. Zoie leaves us for a position at Salisbury Primary School. Zoie has been working at Playford Primary School for a number of years, as both an SSO and a teacher. Zoie's caring nature and drive to ensure that every student in her care has the ability to access the curriculum to achieve results is testament to her as a teacher. We thank her for care and high-quality teaching.

We wish all the above-named people all the very best in the next stages of their careers, and again thank them for their contributions to Playford Primary School.





We warmly welcome in 2026, Ms Nikki Schutz. Nikki will be taking one of the two Reception classes. I know that she is very excited to start working at Playford Primary School.

We take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and safe festive season with your families and loved ones and look forward to seeing you all back in 2026. School resumes on January 27th, 2026.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Jason, Matt, Christine, Rosie and Amber



AUTISM INCLUSION

Supporting Children During the School Holidays

The school holidays can be an exciting time, but the change of routine can sometimes feel tricky for children with autism. Here are some simple ideas to help your child feel calm, supported and ready to enjoy the break.

Keep a Simple Routine

- Try to keep wake-up, meal and bedtime times similar each day.
- Let your child know early if plans change.

Prepare for Outings

- Talk about where you're going and what it might look or sound like.
- Pack comfort items such as headphones, fidgets, snacks or a favourite toy.



Support Social Situations

- Explain who they'll see and how long you'll be there.
- Give your child a small "job" to boost confidence (e.g., carrying a bag or choosing the music).

Talk About Feelings

- Use clear, simple language or visuals to talk about emotions.
- Ask, "How is your body feeling?"
- Help them practise what to do if a situation feels "too loud" or "too busy."

Every child is different, and small adjustments can make a big difference in helping them feel calmer, supported, and ready to enjoy the holidays.

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

Thank you, Rosie Connelly - Autism Inclusion T



YEAR 6 GRADUATION



Congratulations 2025 Festival and School Choir!

The Playford Primary School Choir has had an exciting and productive year. Students have been learning a wide range of repertoire, including pieces featuring Auslan and choreographed elements. Throughout the year, the choir performed at several school assemblies and attended a rehearsal at the Hewitson Theatre at Starplex. During this rehearsal, our students met choir members from other schools and had the valuable opportunity to sing together in preparation for the Northern Festival of Music Concert. On Wednesday, 29 October, the Playford Primary School Choir proudly performed at the Northern Festival of Music. Congratulations to all students involved. What an outstanding achievement!

Angela Strauss, Arts Teacher



A special congratulations to Grace and Harper, who once again represented our school as hosts this year, and to Mackenzie, who performed two solo parts in *The Bee Bop*. A sincere thank you also to Tammy G. for accompanying the choir to both the rehearsal and the concert evening.



Our soloist, Mackenzie rehearsing on stage at the Hewitson Theatre.



Our hosts, Grace and Harper trying on their costume on a Saturday rehearsal. Yes, we rehearsed on the weekends as well!



On the way to the Hewitson Theatre to prepare for our concert night. We were all excited and a little bit nervous.



Preparing to sing at assembly.

Playford Primary Music Ensemble

The Playford Primary School Music Ensemble has had a successful year. Many of the students who joined us in 2025 were learning a musical instrument for the first time. This year, our ensemble included students learning descant recorder, alto recorder, glockenspiel, xylophone, clarinet, and guitar. Congratulations to all music students for their dedication and the wonderful performances they have given throughout the year. If your child plays a musical instrument or is interested in joining the Music Ensemble, please contact me via email. Angela Strauss, Arts Teacher.



Guitar Lessons at Playford Primary

At Playford Primary School, we offer classical guitar lessons through the Department for Education's Instrumental Music Program. Our guitar teacher is Mr Ben Leahy. Once students have developed their fundamental skills, they are invited to join the ensemble alongside our other music students. If your child is interested in learning guitar and can commit to a full year of lessons, please contact me via email. Please note that places are limited.

angela.strauss370@schools.sa.edu.au



We have studied and performed a range of songs this year, including *Bingo*, *Minuet*, *Inanay*, *Old McDonald*, and *Jingle Bells*, some of which we presented again for the preshow entertainment at the JP Christmas Concert.



Our Buddy Project has been a huge success! After visiting the racetrack last week, Reception and Year 5 students teamed up to design and build their own miniature race tracks using a range of recycled materials. The students explored how different materials and shapes influence movement and speed, linking to our Design and Technologies and Science learning. Reception students practised sharing ideas, creating simple designs and using tools safely, while the Year 5s applied their understanding of forces, friction and construction to support their younger buddies. It was wonderful to see such teamwork, problem-solving and creativity come to life in their colourful and imaginative final tracks.

BP Adelaide Grand Final Schools Day 2025



DEFENCE MENTOR



This year our Defence students have been involved in many activities, including resilience programs, deployment clubs, cooking sessions and much more.

We held our Remembrance Day assembly which was expertly run by our senior defence students. We did lots of cooking including gingerbread houses. It was lots of fun!

We had many deployments during the year. Our defence bears visited families and had lots of exciting adventures.

Farewell to all of our families that are moving on this year and to our year 6's who continue their journey into High School. Enjoy your Christmas break.

Jacqui



TERM 4 FROM THE KITCHEN

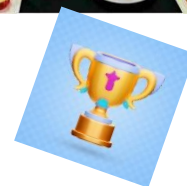
As we reach the end of another school year, I am filled with immense pride at the growth and accomplishments of all our students. It's hard to believe how quickly this year has flown by! We've shared so many wonderful moments and overcome countless challenges together. Our students have been involved in Grandparents Day which was a huge success from year three to six. This was followed by our very first MasterChef competition between all the year 6 classes. Six students were picked to represent their class. The students were so excited and a little nervous when the judges arrived, Rory's catering leadership team. They were blown away with the flavour, presentation and creativity. They loved being part of this experience. D07 won the trophy for 2025 MasterChef and did an excellent job of Pizza and Pumpkin Donuts. Then to finish off the year Grace from D01, Sophia from D02, and Lynka from D07 received the Golden Spoon Award. So as the term comes to an end, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Thanks to everyone for their support.

Sharon Barlow



Master Chef Judges



Grandparents Day



JP CHRISTMAS CONCERT



What an amazing performance our Junior Primary students gave us at the Christmas concert this year. They all had a wonderful time singing, dancing and entertaining us.



Well done to the students, teachers and SSO's for all their hard work.



Merry Christmas



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2025

Don't forget the school day finishes at 2:05 tomorrow (Friday 12th December). I'm sure your children will be excited and ready to start their holidays!



**Happy Holidays to all!
See you all next year!**



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Prior to school returning for 2026, families have the opportunity to purchase new uniform if required, our **finance window** is strictly open during the following times:

Thursday 22nd January 10.00am - 11.00am and 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Friday 23rd January 10.00am – 11.00am

If you would like to purchase uniform and are unable to come in, **we will also be taking phone orders during these times only**. Phone orders will be available for collection at the office or delivered to classrooms on the first day of school.

We appreciate your understanding. Given our limited administration hours leading up to school return, the finance window and phone **will not** be operating for uniform purchases outside of these times. **To avoid disappointment, get in early and purchase 2025 uniform now!**



Hats will be available on the first day of school under the veranda next to the notice board | \$7 each Cash Only

A full Uniform Price List is available on our website:

<https://playfordps.sa.edu.au/parent-information/general-information/>

CHRISTMAS RAFFLES



A huge thank you to our wonderful families and local community,
for participating in our Christmas raffle for 2025.

Congratulations to all our winners. Enjoy your prizes!

WINNERS





Thank you to all the amazing businesses who supported our Christmas Raffle this year



**THE LOCAL
GUYS**
PEST CONTROL



Blakeview



Munno Para

Craigmore



Craigmore

Craigmore



Munno Para



Munno Para



Munno Para

Woolworths



COMMUNITY NEWS



EVERY STEP THERAPY SUPPORT

Therapeutic & developmental supports designed to enhance the well-being of children, adolescents, and their families.

OUR SERVICES

Play Therapy

Group Therapy

Counselling

Family Therapy

Social Work Support

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING REFERRALS

We're excited to welcome new clients - and the best part? We visit your site! Don't miss your chance to secure a spot for your child or family.

www.everysteptherapysupport.com.au

0417 856 837



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
- ✓ Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment
- ✓ 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



saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



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	<input type="checkbox"/> Is at least 18 years old <input type="checkbox"/> Has a child at school or attends vocational education themselves i.e. TAFE <input type="checkbox"/> Regular income from work (you or your partner - casual, full or part-time work) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Card/Pensioner Concession Card <input type="checkbox"/> 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) <input type="checkbox"/> 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.dss.gov.au program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

For Official Use



CFS GUIDE The Fire Danger Season

The Fire Danger Season generally runs from November through to April, although these dates may change due to seasonal conditions.

The exact dates are published prior to the Fire Danger Season on the CFS website.

During the Fire Danger Season restrictions are placed on lighting fires to reduce the chances of large fires starting.

These restrictions are escalated when a Total Fire Ban Day is declared.



Fire Ban Districts

South Australia is divided into 15 Fire Ban Districts.

The Fire Ban Districts are:

1. Adelaide Metropolitan
2. Mount Lofty Ranges
3. Kangaroo Island
4. Mid North
5. Yorke Peninsula
6. Murraylands
7. Riverland
8. Upper South East
9. Lower South East
10. Flinders
11. North East Pastoral
12. Eastern Eyre Peninsula
13. North West Pastoral
14. Lower Eyre Peninsula
15. West Coast



South Australian
Country Fire Service
cfs.sa.gov.au

Contact the
Information Hotline
1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677)
@CountryFireService
@CFSaifs



Bushfires and the law



Police officers have the lawful authority to take preventative action to stop bushfires from starting. This authority **applies all year round**, not just during the Fire Danger Season¹.

The law states:

If a police officer is satisfied that:

- A person proposes to carry out an activity of a kind prescribed by the regulations, or any other activity that may cause a fire; and
 - Due to weather conditions, the fire, (if caused by the activity), might get out of control,
- Then a police officer may direct that person to stop the activity during a period specified in the direction.

What is an activity of a kind prescribed by regulations??

There are many specific activities, but common ones include:

- Lighting and maintaining a fire.
- Operating a gas fire or electrical cooking element.
- Operating an appliance for welding, soldering, metal cutting, grinding or abrasion.

Roadblocks and closures

For many reasons, travelling into, through, the scene of an emergency can be dangerous and potentially fatal. Therefore, such travel must be controlled and minimised to reduce risk to the community and ensure clear access for firefighters. Roadblocks are usually managed by police officers though responsibility may also be delegated to other authorised personnel such as firefighters or the State Emergency Service.

Additional powers during a declared bushfire

Police and other authorised officers have powers under the *Emergency Management Act 2004* to:

- Direct or prohibit the movement of persons, animals or vehicles².
- Require a person to provide such information as may be reasonably required in the circumstances³.

For real-time information regarding roadblocks and closures, search: [SAPOL - Road closures](#)

1 Section 105A Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005
2 Regulation 54 Fire and Emergency Services Regulations 2021
3 Section 25F Emergency Management Act 2004
4 Section 25A Emergency Management Act 2004



The Fire Danger Season

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CFS GUIDE

It is important to know which districts you live in, you may travel through and you work in, as restrictions may differ for each district on a day-to-day basis.

Each district has individual Fire Danger Season dates.

Dates and restrictions for each district may vary due to fuel loads, rainfall, ground moisture levels, and population densities.

To find which district you live in and the Fire Danger Season dates for your district, visit the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au and use the interactive map and map legend to find your location.

Alternatively, you can call the Information Hotline on 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677).

Fire Danger Ratings

Fire Danger Ratings indicate the degree of difficulty of stopping a fire under the predicted weather conditions.

The Bureau of Meteorology, in partnership with CFS, determines the Fire Danger Ratings based on a combination of predicted weather conditions and current observations.

The official Fire Danger Rating for the following day is issued after 4:30pm by the CFS, and includes preliminary forecasts for the next four days.

The ratings do not predict how likely bushfires are to occur, but rather how a fire would behave if one started.

The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more dangerous the fire conditions are in that district.

Fire Danger Ratings should be used to determine your Bushfire Survival Plan response for the following days.

Fire Danger Ratings forecast two to four days out should be used as a guide only and may change.



KNOW YOUR DAILY FIRE DANGER RATING

MODERATE

Plan and prepare.

HIGH

Be ready to act.

EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property.

CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.

Bushfires and the law

Did you know it is an offence to:

- Light or maintain a fire in the open during the Fire Danger Season, unless you comply with the following requirements:
 - The fire is contained in a properly constructed fireplace, a portable cooking appliance or a trench at least 30 centimetres deep; and
 - The space immediately around and above the fire is cleared of all flammable vegetation to a distance of at least four metres; and
 - The fire does not occupy an area larger than one square metre; and
- A person who can control the fire is present at the site of the fire from the time it is lighted to the time it is completely extinguished; and
- There is an appropriate agent adequate to extinguish the fire at hand.
- If a Total Fire Ban Day has been declared in your district, you must not light a campfire or any fire for warmth or comfort without a council permit⁵.

Other offences during the Fire Danger Season:

- Lighting a fire to burn off on your property or burn rubbish or grass clippings without a Schedule 9 council permit. On a declared Total Fire Ban Day, a Schedule 10 council permit is required to light a fire – otherwise it is an offence⁶.
- Using an appliance for welding or soldering with an exposed flame or an appliance for metal cutting, grinding or abrasion – that produces sparks in the open air – is not permitted unless you comply with the following requirements:
 - The space immediately around and above the appliance is cleared of all flammable vegetation to a distance of at least 10 metres; and
 - There is an appropriate agent to extinguish the fire at hand; and
 - A person who can control the appliance must be present at all times while the appliance is in use or alight.
- Use is not permitted on a Total Fire Ban Day without a permit⁷.

More offences to be aware of at any time of the year:

- Dropping or throwing a burning object or material from a vehicle⁸.
- Burning in the open is regulated for environmental and air quality reasons. Failure to obtain the required permit under environmental protection laws is an offence. Contact your local council for advice⁹.
- Using private fireworks¹⁰.

5 Regulation 30(1) Fire and Emergency Services Regulations 2021
6 Section 79 (1) Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 & Section 31 Fire and Emergency Services Regulations 2021
7 Regulation 38 (2) Fire and Emergency Services Regulations 2021
8 Regulation 45(2) Fire and Emergency Services Regulations 2021
9 Section 34 Environment Protection Act 1993
10 Regulation 9 Explosives (Fireworks) Regulations 2016