Government of South Australia



WEEK 05 **MAY 2024**



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Inside: Reconciliation Week activities

Class Camps

yr 12 Formal

Connection | Respect | Responsibility







AKBANK SCHOOL



Government of South Australia Department for Education



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National Reconciliation Week 27 May - 3 June

Student Free Day Friday 7 June Staff undertaking training in the new South Australian Curriculum & PD

King's Birthday Monday 10 June Public Holiday

Upcoming Events



Pupil Free Day



(MON 10

King's Birthday Public Holiday



Government of South Australia



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From the Principal

Dear Families,

As you read through this newsletter you will see our values of connection, respect and responsibility in action. Our staff have provided our students with many rich opportunities for learning and living our values.

Students in Years 4-7 have been on camp this term, with students in Year 8 attending camp in the last week of term 1. Year 4-6 enjoyed their time at Woodhouse Adventure Camp, Year 7s explored at Adare in Victor Harbor and the Year 8s had their fun at the Murrayland Aquatic Centre.

These experiences, learning with classmates and staff in the outdoors, deepens those connections between members of our school community and the wider community. We know these are the opportunities that create the memories that live on forever after leaving school. Thanks to parents who supported on these camps, particularly with the younger ones. I know that staff value your help greatly.

I would also like to publicly say thank you to my staff who attended these camps. This commitment by teaching staff is over and above what is required of them as a teacher. They spend time away from their own families and out of hours commitments to allow this to happen. They attend out of a deep commitment to the education of children, and know the value that going on a camp brings to the quality of the ongoing relationship with the students back at school. Please take the time to thank them yourselves if you get the chance, I know they would appreciate this.

Agriculture fundraising

Thanks to our dedicated Ag team of staff, parents and students we have several loads of redgum firewood ready to be sold in 500kg lots at \$250 per 500kg.

This is split, dry, seasoned and ready to burn. All funds go to supporting our agriculture



programs and show team. Reach out to Melanie Welsh if you would like to bring along your trailer and grab a load.

With this dry autumn, feed is becoming very expensive and the team have been hard at work seeding our paddocks to try and grow some of our own feed. We are always on the look out for any donations of good quality feed for our livestock. Please reach out to Melanie Welsh, our agriculture teacher, if you have any connections that can help.

) Primary staffing update

Tracey Ward has been on long service leave for the first 5 weeks of term 2.

Tracey was due to return to her leadership role next week. During this time of leave Tracey has made the decision to resign from her leadership position in the Department and move into a teaching role at an independent site.

We thank Tracey for her expert leadership of our primary school and care for many children, over many years at Oakbank School. I know that our children will miss her and the support she has provided to them. We wish her well for the future.

Cath McCole will continue in the role of Assistant Principal Primary School for the reminder of the term whilst we run a recruitment process for a new primary leader.

Uniform

Just a few reminders regarding uniform as this late start to the cold, wet weather kicks in.

- Please ensure that your child has a school jumper to wear, as jackets are not to be worn inside buildings. Blue or white long sleeve tops may be worn under a school polo top.
- Hoodies are NOT to be worn at school.
 Please do not allow your child to wear a hoodie to school, as they may be cold at school when asked to remove it.
- Please ensure your child has either neat blue jeans or blue pants to wear. Leggings are not a standalone part of our uniform. Blue leggings are only to be worn under pants, shorts or skirts. This applies from Reception to year 12.
- See our website, under Documents,
 Polices & Procedures for more information regarding our uniform. Ordering can be

done online and products delivered to the school for pick up. If you have any financial concerns regarding purchasing of uniform, please reach out to your child's homegroup teacher.

New SA Curriculum Pupil Free Day professional development, 7 June

A new SA curriculum has just been launched (see below for further information).

On our upcoming pupil free day our staff will begin exploring this with Dr Julia Atkin. Julia has been integral to the development of this new curriculum and has led the team working on this in the department. As a school we were lucky enough to have already been working with Julia on exploring what powerful learning looks like and what makes a powerful learner. We look forward to this journey into the new curriculum and exploring what this means for our students.

Lee Knight | Principal

New SA Curriculum for Public Education

The first four subjects of the South Australian Curriculum for Public Education have now been launched.

The South Australian Curriculum for Public Education will be an adapted version of the Australian Curriculum to respond to local feedback from students, teachers and employers, and deliver the best graduates for a changing world.

The new curriculum is being developed for every subject, with English and Mathematics a key focus, along with Arts and Languages.

The key changes of the curriculum include:

 A bigger focus on reading in English – inspiring students to read more and use their literacy skills on a daily basis.

- Teaching students the important life skills they need for everyday life through a strong focus on financial literacy in mathematics.
- Decluttering the curriculum to give teachers the time they need to teach topics in depth.
- Adding important qualities such as resilience and empathy into each subject area for the first time – qualities employers are increasingly demanding of graduates.
- A stronger focus on the process of art creation in the arts curriculum to strengthen students' techniques and skills.



Primary School Student Leadership Council Representitives

The Student Leadership Council (SLC) consists of a group of students in primary, middle school and senior school to provide a voice for our students around matters of importance relating to learning, the school environment and our school values of connection, respect and responsibility.

Our newly appointed Student Leadership Council (SLC) representitives from our Primary School shared with us why they joined the SLC.



Eloise Thurlby (President)

"I love helping people and I love being a leader. I like to share my ideas and I love to help others to have a voice and share their ideas too."



Ruby Hughes (President)

"I wanted to let other students have a voice and I wanted to give my own opinions on different ideas."



Addison Hocking (Vice President)

"I like to get ideas from kids to make our school community a safe and happy place for children to play and have an amazing time."



Ella Partridge (Vice President)

"To make a difference and make everyone have a voice and care for everyone, I love being a leader and helping everyone."

Primary School SLC Representitives Statements



Ruby Glynn

"I thought it would be a good way to help the school and to value other people's opinions. Also to help the students have a voice for what they want."



Felicity Smith

"I want to make the school a happy place and the kids be excited to come to school. I want this to be one of the best schools in the area."



Iris Cassidy

"I wanted to have a voice for the last year of my primary years. I want to speak for people who have something to say but don't know how to tell the **teachers.**"



Flynn Lopez

"To make Oakbank School a better place. I wanted to help everyone that needs help so that they can concentrate on their work and achieve great things."



Edwina Hampton

"It is fun to help everyone and the school community"



Logan Clayfield

"I joined the SLC to find ways to help the kids who don't fit in well at school."



Charlize Havriluk

"To help others and take their ideas (and my own) to the staff to allow the students to have a voice."



Grounding

Grounding exercises are spoken about often, but what are they?

A grounding exercise is something that we can do to bring ourselves back into the present moment. For example, if we begin to notice that we are feeling overwhelmed or panic is creeping in, a grounding exercise can help us to pause and bring our focus to the here and now. These are short exercises that we can do by ourselves, or with the help of someone else.

A five senses grounding exercise to try:



thing you can taste

Oakbank School Wellbeing Team



Jasmin Ferraro Wellbeing Leader Aboriginal Education Teacher



Liz May Counsellor



Ryan Matulick Pastoral Care Worker

Secondary Athletics

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On Monday 26 March, students from Oakbank School ventured off to the SA Athletics Stadium to compete against other students from schools around the state in friendly Athletics competition. These students were those who had performed well in winning events at our own school Athletics Day.





On arrival, we were greeted by a beautiful day just perfect for Athletics.

We did have quite a bit of success placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in many events, as can be seen in the list of placings This is a great achievement and the students should be particularly proud of their efforts, attitude and never say die character.



Girls

Inara Castle 1st Open Shot Put, 1st Open Discus.

Jaime Gordon 1st Open Long Jump.

Jessamie West 1st U15 High Jump.

Amity Causer 1st U16 High Jump.

Hannah Jolly 1st U15 1500m, 3rd U15 400m.

Tayisha Holt 2nd U16 Shot Put.

Abigail Birchall 2nd Open 200m.

Bianca Schafroth 3rd Open 400m, 3rd Open 800m, 3rd Open 1500m.

Laura Van der Heyden 3rd U13 Long Jump.

Lucy Flavell 2nd U14 Long Jump.

Shae McMahon 3rd U15 200m.

Jas McMahon 2nd 800m.

Open Relay 1st. Under 16 Relay 3rd. Under 15 Relay 3rd. Under 13 Relay 2nd.



Boys

Bailey Jones

1st U13 Shot Put, 1st U13 Discus, 1st U14 Shot Put.

Kieran Welsh 1st U16 Long Jump, 2nd U16 High Jump, 3rd U16 Discus.

Seth Chandler 1st Open 800m, 2nd Open Discus.

Seth Heffernan 1st Open High Jump.

Edison Ewing 1st U13 High Jump.

Charlie Askew 3rd U14 Discus.

Jem Warnest 3rd U14 Long Jump, 3rd U14 1500m.

Angus Green 3rd U15 Discus.

Hamish Butler 3rd U16 200m.

Harry Schultz 3rd U16 400m.

Riley O'Shea 2nd Open 400m.

Under 15 Relay 3rd. Under 16 Relay 3rd. Oakbank also did very well in the overall school results for the day, coming in 3rd place. There were 8 schools competing in our group and the top 5 are shown below:

- 1 St Francis of Assissi School 838pts
- 2 Eudunda Area School 640.50pts
- 3 Oakbank School 570.50pts
- 4 Urrbrae Agricultural High School 553.50pts
- 5 Hamilton Secondary College 541.50pts

All schools are given duty responsibilities on the day, Oakbank being no different. The following student helpers should be commended on the way they volunteered and assisted on the day within these duties- Taylor Ramsay, Cameron Flavell and Banjo Blades. Their help was commented on positively by other officials on the day.

A huge thank you should also go to ex Oakbank staff member Jan Mattingly for giving up her time to help on the day. Jan's extensive Athletics experience and knowledge was used to good effect. We would have been lost without her.

Lastly, a big thank you to fellow teacher Ms Kaesler for all of her assistance in ensuring that the day went off smoothly and in assisting with student preparation before the day.

Shane Wissell | Athletics Manager.

Outdoor Classroom Day

Did you know that learning outdoors can be very beneficial?



In Week 4, Oakbank School acknowledged Outdoor Classroom Day. On Friday 24 May, the year 12 Society and Culture created and implemented an activity for the reception to year 3 students. Our senior students created a scavenger hunt around the school.

All of the students involved had a wonderful time building connection with other peers and our school.

Some of the health and wellbeing benefits of outdoor learning are:

- Builds teamwork and social skills
- Positive emotions are released when exposed to fresh air
- Connects you to nature
- It can help you have a growth mindset, build confidence and build resilience
- Improves focus and behaviour
- Nature can also allow you to feel more relaxed
- It can lead to improved academic results.

Jasmin Ferrraro | Wellbeing Leader | Aboriginal Education Teacher

Year 4/5/6 Camp

I conquered Challenge Hill at Woodhouse Adventure Park!



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Year 4/5/6 Woodhouse Camp

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In week 3 of this term, the year 4/5/6 students attended Woodhouse camp for 3 days and 2 nights. Students had a great time doing team building challenges to escape lava on the floor, climbed challenge hill, played disk golf, did an orienteering course, played on Cameron's Climb, and solved the Labyrinth.



At nighttime we played 'Capture the Lantern' and watched a movie with way too many movie snacks! We were lucky to have amazing weather the entire camp and were able to make many new and fun memories. A huge thank you to our parent helpers Chris Atkinson, Cindy Havriluk, Mercedes Mangall, Simone Pahl, Rachel Lopez, and James Lopez, who volunteered their time. Without their support, camps like this can't function.

Nikki Kearton | 4/5 Teacher









NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024

27 MAY-3 JUNE

#NRW2024

RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU





Reconciliation Week

Reconciliation Australia defines National Reconciliation Week (NRW) as "a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians."

Reconciliation Week is an important part of the year and at Oakbank School we acknowledge this annually. This year we have focussed on creating our own class or homegroup definitions about what reconciliation means to us:

G Reconciliation is about forgiving, recognising **G**Reconciliation is people as people, caring for others and acknowledging the respecting their choices. wrongs of the past and making a brighter future **10**B for all. 9B 7 **G**Reconciliation is recognising and taking responsibility for **G** Reconciliation is about respect and fairness towards Indigenous the recognition of the Australians and other First Nations people in cultures. order to support, heal, listen to and understand 8 P Australian indigenous If you have an communities and cultures, and to continue argument, you should to make positive changes have forgiveness, show in our country. respect and connection by showing peace and harmony. This is what 11 B reconciliation is. 2/3

Jasmin Ferrraro Wellbeing Leader | Aboriginal Education Teacher



Year 7 Team-Building Camp

In week 4, the year 7s headed to Victor Harbor for three days of fun and adventure at the Year 7 team-building camp! Students embraced their challenges with enthusiasm.

They collaborated (and competed) to overcome obstacle courses and challenges both mental and physical. The activities were designed to boost leadership and teamwork skills and our year 7s excelled on both counts. This unforgettable experience was the perfect way to solidify our year 7's positive connections and their own confidence to kickstart their high school lives.

Emily Playford | 7A Teacher









Careers Expo

Early in Term 2, all year 10 students were invited to explore career pathways in emerging and future industries at the 2024 Student Pathways and Careers Expo.

Adelaide

Careers & EMPLOYMENT expo TERTIARY SKILLS TRAINING JOBS



Students had the opportunity to:

- Connect with employers in some of SA's fastest growing industries.
- Engage in captivating industry exhibits and activities.
- Discover how they can start their career pathway while at school and completing the SACE.

The students had a great day with plenty of informative conversations about pathways for their future.

The Adelaide Hills Careers Expo, hosted at Cornerstone College in Mount Barker will also be run later in the year which students will have the opportunity to attend.

> Megan Forder Assistant Principal Senior School

adelaide hills EX Ro

save the date Tuesday, 6 August







Yr 12 Formal 2024

Our Year 12 cohort recently gathered atop Mount Lofty Summit for an evening of celebration as they marked the end of their high school journey. Dressed to the nines, students exuded sophistication and style, creating a memorable sight against the backdrop of Adelaide's city lights.



Our two best dressed students, **Marissa O'Conner** and **Bradley Wright**, stole the limelight with their fabulous attire.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement as students and staff enjoyed the stunning views and celebrated the accomplishments of our wonderful year 12 cohort. The three course meal was followed by group awards and some interesting dancing. Amidst the twinkling stars, under the watchful gaze of Mount Lofty, our Year 12 formal of 2024 will be fondly remembered as a night of elegance and camaraderie, marking the close of one chapter and the beginning of another.

We wish all of our Year 12 students the best for their futures and celebrate their success at Oakbank School.

> Megan Forder Assistant Principal – Senior School











2024 Governing Council Materials & Services Raffle



Thank you so much to all parents/caregivers who have paid their 2024 Materials & Services Charges in full, who have set up an instalment plan or who have applied for Schoolcard by the end of Term 1, 2024.

Photo: L-R Governing Council Chairperson Alistair MacPherson, Karl Braendler, Sarah Fawcett, Kristy & Milla Threadgold, Principal Lee Knight. At the recent meeting of Oakbank School Governing Council, chairperson Alistair MacPherson presented prizes to the winners of the Governing Council's Materials & Services raffle.

Grocery vouchers were presented to the winners:

- 1st prize Sarah Fawcett
- 2nd prize Kristy Threadgold
- 3rd prize Karl Braendler

The 4th prize of a family ticket to Monarto Zoo, kindly donated by K**atrina Windebank**, was won by the **Crook family.**

Wendy Hayes | Business Manager



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