

PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

Working Together



Week 6 Term 3 Newsletter 2026

From the Principal

Last week the teaching staff and leaders recognised and thanked our School Support Officers, for the incredible work they do every day in our school.

They play a vital role in helping our school run smoothly and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

Their roles are diverse and varied, whether they are supporting students in classrooms, providing targeted learning assistance, working with children who require additional support, assisting with administration, finance, technology, wellbeing, first aid, the library, or the many other responsibilities undertaken each day.

Their flexibility, dedication and willingness to step in wherever needed makes them invaluable members of our team.

Most importantly, they bring kindness, patience, professionalism and care to everything they do. They build positive relationships with our students, support our staff, and help create the welcoming and inclusive environment that makes our school such a special place.

On behalf of our students, staff and families, thank you for your commitment, your hard work, and the difference you make every single day. We are incredibly grateful for all that you do.

I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank Cherie, our wonderful canteen manager, for her remarkable 20 years of service to our school. For two decades, Cherie has been a valued and familiar presence in the lives of our students, staff and families, providing not only nutritious meals and snacks, but also a welcoming smile, great food, and a genuine commitment to our school community. Her dedication, reliability and hard work have made a lasting difference to generations of children who have come through our school. On behalf of everyone at Parafield Gardens Primary School, thank you, Cherie, for your 20 years of outstanding service and for the care and kindness you bring to our school every day. Please join me in congratulating and thanking Cherie on this significant milestone.



Term 3 is in full swing and despite the cold weather, we have been enjoying many engaging activities with our students. It was wonderful to see our Reception to Year 2 students participating in swimming during Week 4, while all of our students became scientists during Science Week, participating in the hands-on activities available to explore including the Mystery Seed. A very big

thankyou to Mr Clark, Miss B and Ms White for all of their work behind the scenes. Well done to our Year 6 students who attended the Parafield Gardens High School for their transition visit recently, we are proud of how they represented our school and took the opportunity to learn more about what to expect when they start Year 7 next year. Thank you to the PGHS staff for putting this event together.

It was a privilege to join 4 of our students and our ACEO recently on an excursion to the STEM Aboriginal Learners Congress. This annual event is a fantastic initiative where our students have the opportunity to explore STEM learning and career pathways further. The hands-on learning experiences led by student leaders across the state, are a great way for our students to discover and learn in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Thank you to the organisers for putting on a wonderful event. Please enjoy reading Baylee-Jade's recount of her experience during this event.



A reminder that Friday 4th September is our next Pupil Free Day. Students do not come to school on this day. Our staff will be using this time to collaborate on our strategic priorities, reflecting on our progress so far this year, and undertaking further professional learning on the new SA Curriculum.

Sara Broster

DIARY DATES

Fri 4/9/26	Pupil Free Day
Tues 8/9/26	Governing Council Meeting 6:00pm
Wed 16/9/26	Festival of Music Concert
Thurs 17/9/26	Assembly at 9:00am in the Hall
Wed 23/9/26	Casual Day with Gold coin donation
Fri 25/9/26	Last day of Term 3 early dismissal at 2:00pm
Mon 12/10/26	Term 4 commences



Reception to Year 2 Swimming

During Week 4, the students from Reception to Year 2 travelled by bus to the Elizabeth Aquadome Swimming Centre for swimming lessons. These lessons, which occur each year, are part of our Health and PE curriculum and are conducted by qualified Education Department instructors.

It was fun on the bus to swimming, but it was a bit noisy. I learnt how to doggy paddle. I used a rope to save someone and pulled them in to the side of the pool.

Lincoln Room 3

We went on the bus to swimming. We floated on our backs and also on our bellies like a starfish in the pool. We used life jackets too so we didn't go under the water. Some of us had goggles.

Parker and Kion Room 4



I went on the bus to swimming. I jumped in the water and I was throwing a ball to my friend. I sat on the edge of the pool and splashed my feet too.

Josh Room 5

I had goggles on and I swam under water and I went all the way down. Then I had a life jacket on. I used my arms to swim and the swimming teacher looked behind her and I was right there. I do swimming lessons at my Uncle Luke's house because he has a big pool and my mum put up a little pool in our backyard. I sat on the edge of the pool and I splashed my feet in the water with my friends.

Alice room 5

Today in swimming we got to wear a life jacket and sit on the edge of the pool and splash our feet. We floated on our back and our front. We also ran in the water and jumped backwards. There were 3 groups - Polar bears, Leafy Sea Dragon and Sailfish. It was lots of fun.



Elliot Room 22

At swimming we have been learning how to go under the water and we learnt the sign for safety. We had to pretend we were in trouble in the water and put our arm up straight out of the water to ask for help.

The teacher got us to jump in the deep end and swim along the edge. We could use doggy paddle or freestyle. My favourite was freestyle. We also had to float on our belly then flip over onto our back.

Aphia Room 7

Swimming lessons have been about safety. We learnt to wear life jackets so that if you are in a boat and fall out, you can float with your life jacket. We also learnt how to save someone. The person in the water had to put their fist up high out of the water and pretend they were in trouble. The person on the side of the pool used a pool noodle for the other person to hold onto. We had to help them come to the edge of the pool and then helped them

get out. It was hard. The teacher also gave us some 'sinkies'. We dropped them in the water and then we had to try and catch them before they got to the bottom of the pool. We learnt how to do breast stroke by moving our arms in front of us in a circle. The teacher called it the pizza stroke because we were pretending to make a pizza and we kicked our feet up and down. Swimming has been lots of fun.



Adaline Room 11

At swimming I pretended I needed help and I put my hand up and I did a star float to keep safe and I had a life jacket on. Then I was on the edge of the pool and I got down into the water safely and I swam to the other side. I did the pizza stroke.

Tommy Room 23

We had fun floating on our backs like a starfish and we had a noodle around our backs to keep us up and it was hard, but the instructor helped us. When we were in the water the teacher told us to float on our back and go like a rocket. We put our arms up behind our heads and kicked our feet.

Ruby, Zainab and Hania Room 24



Aboriginal STEM Learners Congress

This year, four of our Aboriginal students had the incredible opportunity to attend the Aboriginal STEM Learners Congress. An event designed to inspire and connect young Aboriginal students through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Highlights included a special excursion to the Zoo, where students used teamwork and creativity to design animal traps and learned about their traditional and modern uses. They also explored the significance of Aboriginal Ochre and enjoyed interactive activities, with Marcus placing second in a Kahoot quiz about Ochre. Nitro Nat's science show and a live performance by DEM MOB were crowd favourites, and all of our students enjoyed the chance to hear from keynote speakers and other young people pursuing exciting STEM careers.



Baylee-Jade

Saraiya White - ACEO

On Tuesday 18th August the Year 6 students went to Parafield Gardens High School for another transition visit. We were divided into our class groups and went to different destinations. Our group went to English first. The teacher was very nice and we planned a story as a group, then we went into table groups. The teacher gave us an envelope and we wrote down the plot twist, the characters and their traits. Once we had these ideas we had to continue with the story. It was fun working together. After English we went to Dance and the teacher taught us some warm up moves then some hip hop moves which was a lot of fun. Our third class was in the Technology area, where we learnt how to bend plastic with a heated wire. We were making a picture frame which we were able to take home afterwards. We were told not to touch the wire because it was very hot so we all had to wear safety glasses. I'm looking forward to high school although it will be a bit daunting.

It was exciting to go to the high school to see lots of new faces. All the teachers seemed very nice. My favourite activity was Art with Mr Carletti. We were given a picture of a cupcake and we had to paint it in watercolours. We also went to Technology where we used a heated rod to bend some plastic to make a picture frame. The plastic slowly got softer and softer so we could eventually bend it and we were able to keep it. We also did an English class which was pretty much like what we do in our classes already. So we worked in pairs and we had to write our story on a big piece of paper using shared ideas about the plot and the characters. I'm looking forward to going to high school next year.

A photograph of a young person, likely a student, wearing a blue school polo shirt with a crest and a matching blue bucket hat. They are focused on a task in a workshop or classroom setting, using a heated rod to bend a piece of clear plastic. The background shows shelves with various materials and tools.

Athefa Room 15



School Crossing Monitors

Week 4, 5 & 6:

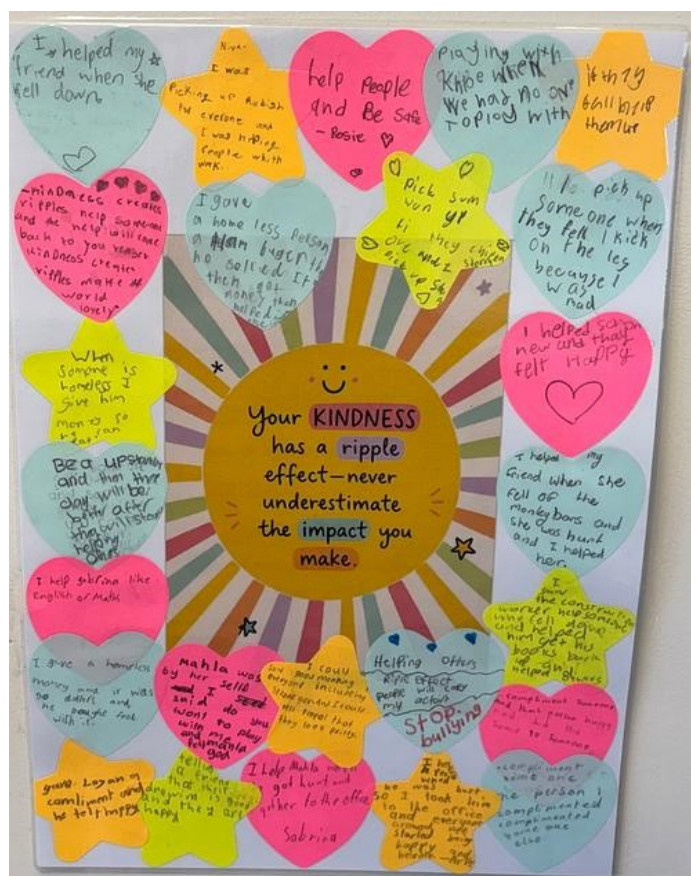
Week 5: Room 29: Isaac, Blake, Evelyn, Kanupriya.
Rebecca, Haiden, Marlee

Week 6: Rooms 34A & 34B: Logan P, Jayce, Senuli, Logan G, Thang, Maddison, Takshvi, Sarah, Lalana, Austin, Shania

Last week was Bullying No Way Week. We saw lots of pops of purple in support of this and we did some great learning throughout the week, including how small acts can make a big impact and how kindness can create a ripple effect.

A ripple effect could be as simple as complimenting someone or including someone in a game to give them more confidence. It could be the simple act of opening a door for another person or by helping someone.

The students from Room 31 made this amazing poster as a reminder to use kindness.



National Science Week

On Monday the 17th of August, a mystery egg, that had no leg landed upon Parafield Gardens. Everyone was shocked. Their brains were locked. They were trying to decide if they needed to hide. As days went on, hours felt long. The egg was changing. Brains were paining. It now had feathers! I wonder if it has treasures. The next day, it had my Mum's hair! For some reason, it even had a pear. My mum eats pears. Its true. I wonder if that's a clue. On Friday, it hatched - my mum's hair attached. Out came my mum, eating a pear crumb. I don't know why, but she had feathers. Sadly, there were no treasures.

Iris Room 34



*Our mystery egg slowly opened and evolved over the week and a creature emerged!
Meet Fluffle Wisp!*



National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science technology, engineering and mathematics. This year's theme is Seeds of Science: Nurturing knowledge for all.



Our young scientists enjoyed their time in The Hive to increase their knowledge of seeds through investigation and curiosity. They also loved wearing the white lab coats!



National Science Week

On Friday 7th August our Year 6 STEM Ambassadors visited the Science Alive STEM Careers Day at the Royal Adelaide Showgrounds.

We had an amazing STEM experience at Science Alive. A top favourite at our fun Expo were the Animals Anonymous. There were lots of different animals to hold, pat and see. Harry's favourite animal was the quokka while Spencer liked the mice. He thought that they were fed to the snakes, but he was wrong. Marcus enjoyed the robotics stalls. He thought it was interesting to see robots fight until they were heavy metal - lucky he likes ACDC! The virtual reality (VR) headsets were especially interesting and learning about the journey of the BEER Labs. Damon discovered BEER is not actual beer, but it stands for 'Brewed Engagement Extended Reality Laboratories'. They create fun and interactive games for schools and events to play through VR and AR experiences.

One of the most well known features of Science Alive are the main shows in the theatre. Nitro Nat was our first pick. She did a show about how different characters act together. It included a demonstration of setting her hands on fire with the protection of soap. It was a fun and interesting excursion.

Marcus, Spencer, Damon and Harry - on behalf of the Year 6 STEM Ambassadors

