

PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

Working Together



End of Term 1 Newsletter 2026

From the Principal

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge one of our staff, Jill Berry. Jill has been involved within our school community as a parent since 1991, as a volunteer on Governing Council and then as an employee from 1993. She has been an integral member of our staff and now, after more than 30 years service to our school, particularly in an administration role, she has decided to retire. Jill has always been the one who people go to for help, no matter what the problem and she has somehow been able to solve everything. We will miss her terribly but we all wish her well for the future.



We would also like to congratulate Mr John Slattery for his upcoming wedding during the holidays. We wish both John and Evelyn all the best for the future.

As we already draw close to the end of another term, I wanted to thank all of our families and students who attended our Learning Conversations during Week 10. These are an important opportunity for students to share the progress of their learning goals and for parents/carers to check in and ask any questions. We encourage any parents/carers to continue to communicate directly with your child's teacher using Class Dojo and you can also request a face to face meeting at any time with any of the staff.

A reminder that school holidays are from Saturday 11th April until Sunday 26th April. **Please note that Monday 27th April is a Student Free Day** and students are not required at school. Staff will be participating in professional learning of the new SA Curriculum and working collaboratively in professional learning communities. **Students are required back at school on Tuesday 28th April.**

We would like to advise families that school photos will take place in Week 3 next term on Tuesday 12th May with the Qr code being available early in the term.

Sara Broster

After School Sports Term 2

Next term the after school sports being offered are:

- Badminton** (Years 3-6)
Run by SA Badminton College
Tuesdays 3:05pm-3:50pm Week 2-9



- Soccer** (Years R-6)
Run by Parafield Gardens Soccer Club
Tuesdays 3:05 - 3:50pm Weeks 2-9



Lost Property

Please check the Lost Property area for any jumpers or jackets which may have gone astray. We urge you to name your children's clothing, particularly zip jackets and long sleeved rugby tops. There are also other pieces of clothing and lunch boxes etc. The lost property items will also be placed outside the front office before and after school until the end of term.

School Fees

A reminder that school fees for 2026 are due by the end of Term 1. We have quite a few options available to families for payment of school fees which will assist in managing household budgets, including cash, EFTPOS, Centrepay, direct debit or by using the Qr app. The School Card scheme is available upon application for low income families and needs to be applied for every year, using the appropriate form which is available at the front office or online at www.sa.gov.au under the heading Education, Skills and Learning.

Jenny Southwell - Business Manager

Vacation Care and OSHC

Our Vacation Care program is available for the coming school holidays, but with limited spaces, so please ensure you contact the centre on **8281 5104** to make a booking. Preference will be given to parents who have work commitments and those who attend our school.

To help with your calendar, our **OSHC service will be available** to families for the **Pupil Free Day** next term on **Monday 27th April**, so please contact us on the above number to make a booking for this date as soon as possible.

Aida Chapman - OSHC Director

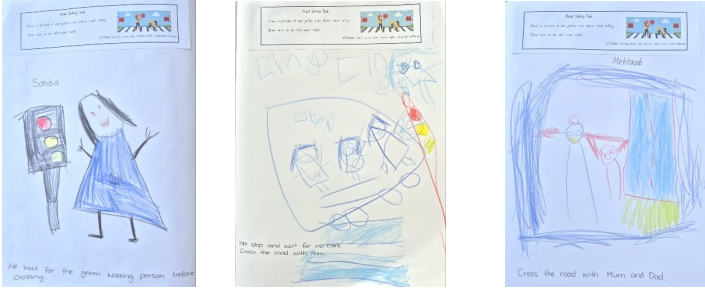
DIARY DATES

Fri 10/4/26	Last day Term 1
Mon 27/4/26	STUDENT FREE DAY
Tues 28/4/26	TERM 2 STARTS
Thurs 7/5/26	Mother's Day Stall Assembly in the Hall at 9:00am
Fri 8/5/26	Mother's Day Stall
Tues 12/5/2026	School Photos Governing Council at 5:30pm



SAPOL Road Safety

On Friday 13th March the Foundation students participated in a visit from the South Australia Police Road Safety Team. They learnt about road safety, playing in safe places, correct use of seat belts when travelling in the car as well as wearing a helmet when riding a bike or on a skateboard. They also learnt to Stop, Look, Listen and Think before crossing the road. After the session the children drew pictures about what they learnt.



When we play at home we should play in the back yard. If we played out the front it's too close to the road. If a ball goes on the road we have to ask mum to get it for us. When we cross the road with lights we have to wait with mum. We have to stop, look, listen and think before we cross the road.

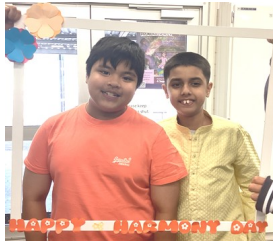
Eden Room 4

When we go in the car we have to sit in the back because we are too little to sit in the front seat. We always have to have a seatbelt on and we have to wait for mum or dad to undo the seatbelt. We always have to wear a helmet when we ride our bikes or even a scooter.

Avery and Lily Room 5

Harmony Week - Everyone Belongs

With the message of 'Everyone belongs', Harmony Day is a day to celebrate our differences and similarities, promote inclusiveness and show mutual respect for everyone, regardless of race, colour, religion, or background. It's a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Harmony Day is celebrated each year on March 21st.



People are encouraged to wear orange on Harmony Day as traditionally, the colour orange relates to social communication, encouraging two-way conversations, supporting the development of new ideas.

On Tuesday 17th March our school came alive with the vibrant colours of orange and beautiful cultural dress as we celebrated Harmony Day together. Harmony Day is all about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone. It reminds us that our diversity makes us stronger and that every culture has a place in our community.



Our students had a fantastic time participating in our special "community plait" activity, contributing colourful strands that will be woven into a unique artwork representing our unity in diversity.

Thank you to all our students, families and staff for making today so special. Together, we are creating a community where everyone belongs.



Festival of Music Choir

On Thursday 19th March (Week 8), Parafield Gardens Primary School proudly hosted Blair Athol Primary School and Robin Filmer for a Combined Choir Rehearsal as part of the Primary Schools Music Festival. Our 50 student choir did an incredible job rehearsing the repertoire and received glowing feedback on their beautiful singing and enthusiasm.

It was fantastic to see students coming together through music, building confidence, teamwork and a shared love of singing. The energy in the room was amazing, and moments like this truly showcase the joy of performing arts and the powerful way music brings people together.

Maryann Boettcher - Performing Arts Teacher



Assembly Awards

Our assembly awards are aligned to our Peace School Values: **P** - Persistence **E** - Enthusiasm **A** - Acceptance **C** - Community **E** - Excellence

Week 11 Room 3: Lincoln **4:** Eden, Parker **5:** Lily **7:** Matthew **8:** Ethan **9:** Veer, Noah **11:** Jax, Gurmehar **15:** Dim **16:** Anna, Khan **17:** Caroline, Mohadesa **21:** Aniyah, Kahlani **22:** Hamish, Luka **23:** Krishav, Phoenix **24:** Elena, Haniya **27:** Adrika, Kabiell **28:** Arij, Kayden **29:** Farhan, Emma **30:** Brijuleen, Het **31:** Arthur, Roseline **32:** Ariya, Charlie **34A:** Takshvi, Lincoln **34B:** Austin, Sharan

Health/PE (Mr Cuconits) Room 29

Health/PE (Ms Ryan) Room 27

Visual Arts (Mr Luke) Room 34B

Music/Drama (Ms B) Room 34A

Design & Design Technology (Mr Clark) Room 11

Auslan (Ms Neilson) Room 32

Big Day In - Leaders Day

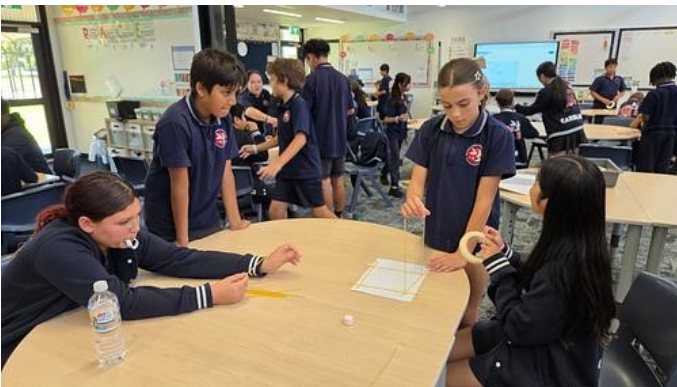
At Parafield Gardens Primary School our Year 6 students are expected to lead by example to uphold our school values of 'working together' and 'making good choices'. As part of our continued commitment to developing our Year 6 students as leaders of the school, we once again ran our student leadership day, *The Big Day In*, on Friday 6th March. The students took part in this opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Feedback from staff and students in previous years, has indicated many benefits from participation in this special day.

During the Big Day In we had a visit from the Sammy D Foundation and we learnt that Sammy went out one night and some unkind people went to the same party and did some not very nice things to a boy and provoked him. Sam went to help his friend but was unfortunately hurt and he passed away. We watched a video of his dad telling us what happened and how he got a phone call about that night. We learnt how it not only destroyed the family but also the community that surrounded him. We learnt not to provoke or fight back and to use safe hands and safe feet and to make sure everyone is kind to others. We also were given little bracelets and we were told that they made us supporters of the Sammy D Foundation.



Ms Granozio taught us about teamwork and being able to work with each other, so she put us into random groups so that we weren't necessarily with our friends. She gave us 20 spaghetti sticks and a marshmallow and a roll of sticky tape. We had to try and build a tower and have the marshmallow on top. If we broke a stick we weren't allowed to replace it. It was really hard because she didn't specify what we could do or couldn't do. I realised

at the last minute that we only needed to have a piece of the marshmallow at the top. Even though the task was about teambuilding it was also very competitive and lots of fun.



Earlier in the term we were given a survey and we were asked to write down questions about the role of the police and afterwards the teachers sent our questions into the police. As a result, two police officers came to our Big Day In to give a presentation about their jobs and especially about cyber safety and what we should do later as adults to keep ourselves safe. They also told us about their equipment and their role in the community, which is to go around to schools to tell students how to keep safe.

In our classes we all had to rotate through three different activities. The first one was led by Ms Sarah about discovering our character strengths. We had little cards and watched a video on how to do it. It was actually really good to learn what our character strengths are.

The next activity was in the hall where we played full court dodgeball. The Sports Day captains from each class ran the activity so there were no teachers involved. There were three captains in each team and one captain as the referee. At the end of the game we had to gather up everyone and ask them how they went and what was the best part. The teachers just had to sit and watch the game while we had to do all the calling out and in the end we had two tied games and it was lots of fun. The leaders had a public speaking challenge which was called the 'stand and deliver challenge'. It was a type of improvisation activity supported by Ms White. We had three minutes to plan and then make a speech about how power can be used for either good or bad. Building on that we worked in pairs, choosing to express ourselves in a speech, a skit or a little role play in front of the class. The top pair was able to choose from prizes like house points, a slushy voucher or lollies. And most of us chose house points.



As a reflection we learnt that we didn't have to work with our friends to be successful and that other people could be fun to work with. We also learnt about the dangers of doing bad things and the results that could occur like with Sammy D. We also learnt that it's best to stay out of trouble like the SAPOL officers told us. We learnt that even students can be leaders and that teamwork is really important throughout our lives. It was a great day and everyone had fun.

Anna, Alexia, Aston and Spencer

Year 6 Aquatics

On Thursday 26th March, as part of the Health and Physical Education program this year, the Year 6 students participated in an Aquatics program at West Lakes Aquatic Centre. Qualified instructors worked to ensure all students had a safe and enjoyable learning experience while developing a range of skills and understanding about water safety, survival in the water, rescue of others, mobility in, on and around water and environmental issues that impact on marine life. Students were involved in sailing and kayaking, which were conducted on the lake, plus a beach awareness program using boogie boards held a short walk away at Tennyson Beach. It was wonderful to see the students challenging themselves, supporting each other and most importantly - having fun!



Kayaking was fun. Before getting into the kayaks and the water we learnt how to hold the paddles and how to use them to make the kayak move and how to hold the paddles. We each had a partner so one person in the front and one at the back. The person in the front just used the paddle on one side of the kayak to make the it move and turn in a direction and the person in the back paddled both sides to give the kayak momentum. Once we were in the water we had to paddle to the other boat ramp and we took turns being in the front. Some of us capsized - my partner was meant to go right but he turned his whole body left and we tipped over. It was OK because we were wearing life jackets and we managed to get back in and get back to the bank. We wore life jackets for both kayaking and sailing but not boogie boarding. Kayaking was actually tricky but we all managed in the end because we had to work as a team.

For boogie boarding we had to go across the road to the beach. Before we went into the water we had a safety talk about rips and currents and also the way in which the wind was coming. We had a strap attached to our wrists so that we didn't lose our board accidentally and it was a bit tricky because it was so windy. We had to walk into the water once we saw a wave and waited for a good one. We then turned around and rode the wave back to shore by lying on our stomachs on the board. It was lots of fun until the end, because by then the wind was getting stronger and it was blowing sand into our faces.

Over all, we all had lots of fun learning some new activities and skills.

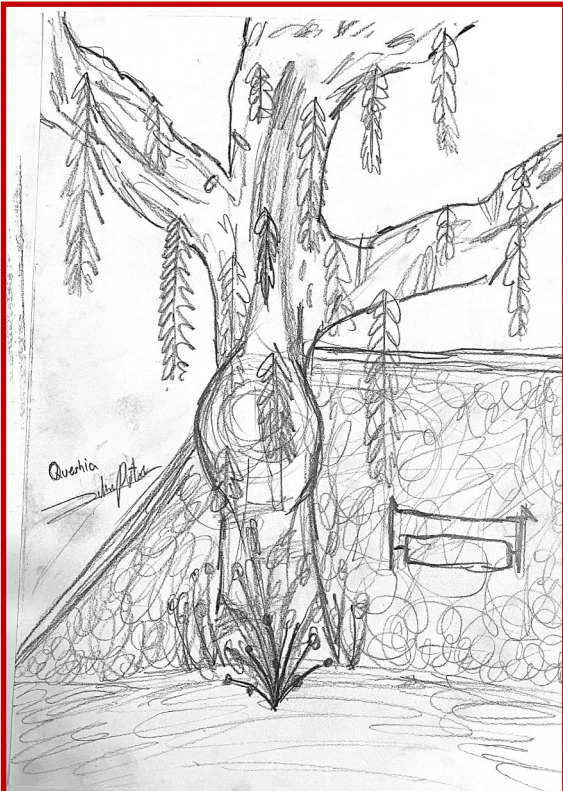
Sailing was fun too. Before we got onboard we learnt all the different parts of the boat. There were either 6 or 7 people on each boat. We got to experience touring around the lake and seeing new locations. The back of the sail boat was where the rudder was to steer the boat. We had to duck under the boom and go to the other side of the boat. We had to be careful not to be hit by the boom. A couple of us nearly fell off. We all had a turn at steering the rudder by holding onto the tiller.



Alexia, Sam, Bawi, Zahra, Annabelle and Murtaza

Quick Sketches

Great artists don't always take their time; sometimes they capture magic in minutes! In Visual Arts, Mr Luke's students have been learning how to quickly sketch faces and nature scenes using clever techniques and a 6B pencil. These impressive works, created by our talented Year 6 students, were all completed in just one lesson.



Some art classes with Mr Luke went outside and chose an object to draw. I chose a tree because I could see some interesting shapes in it. The other classes worked inside and used a mirror to do a self portrait. During both lessons we only used pencil and we used quick hand movements and shading to produce our sketches. We only had 1 lesson to create our sketches.

Mr Luke showed us how to draw an oval shape for our face and then to add in features like eyes and mouth. We all really enjoyed the process because we could see something that we had created so quickly.

Queshia Room 15 and Harvish Room 17

