

PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

Working Together



Newsletter - Week 4 Term 1 2023

From the Principal

THANK YOU

It was great to see so many families at this year's Acquaintance Night. The students seemed to really enjoy the Yellow Brick Road. We hope you enjoyed meeting all the staff, visiting classrooms and looking through the new building and the refurbished building.

Thank you also to the staff and families who were able to stay on for the Governing Council Annual General Meeting.

2023 GOVERNING COUNCIL

Our elections for 2023 Governing Council members took place at the AGM. Congratulations to our parent members for 2023:

Continuing Members: Kyall Zechner, Muhammad Asaduzzaman, Melissa Oldland and Melissa Semczuk.

Re-elected Members: Stephanie Thompson-Skelly, Ilona Atterton and Melissa Robertson.

New Members: Kelly Hitchcock, Amy Jarvis, Luz Hernandez, Harika Sriperumbudur and Kwan Gregory

Community Rep: Kerry Smith

Our Governing Council members are keen to start a fundraising committee this year so I'm sure you will hear more about their plans soon.

TRAFFIC and PARKING around the school

There is a lot of traffic congestion before and after school being exacerbated by illegally parked cars. Please obey the parking rules and don't stop at all where there is a solid yellow line along the curb. A dotted yellow line means you can pull in and pick up or kiss and drop but please don't leave your vehicle. When using our *kiss and drop zone* on Shepherdson Road, please move your car to the furthest available spot to allow others to pull in behind you. Despite the high volumes, it flows quite well if everyone does the right thing.

Staff Car Park - Please don't walk your children to school through the staff carpark, particularly before 9am and after 2:45pm. We have lots of trucks delivering goods, taxis dropping off students and staff arriving and leaving. Please use the school entrance gates instead.

Opening Times for Gates

Pedestrian access gates are unlocked in the mornings at 8:20am when staff go out on duty.

The Casuarina Drive gate is locked from 9:00am and after that time late arrivals will need to enter from the Shepherdson Road main entrance.

The main entrance, and OSHC/visitors gates will be kept closed between 8:45am and 2:55pm.

Once gates are open parents/caregivers are welcome to wait in the yard for their children. Please note some pedestrian gates will be locked when teachers come off duty after 3:15pm.

It is important to keep our gates shut/locked during the school day as we have a number of students still learning about safe boundaries and we need to make sure strangers can't wander into our grounds.

Thanks for your understanding.

FAREWELL and GOOD LUCK: At the end of week 2, we farewellled Ms Georgia Thomson who is expecting her first child soon. Ms Thompson has run our very popular Performing Arts program for a number of years. We wish her all the best and look forward to meeting baby Thomson soon.

HOT WEATHER

Summer has finally arrived in Adelaide this week. We have fantastic air-conditioning so the buildings are always cool. We also have lots of shade outside and so we try to get the children out for a play in the mornings if its not too hot and there are plenty of games and activities to play indoors if we need to have inside play at lunch. Teachers encourage the students to drink lots of water and of course there are always slushies and ice-blocks which can be purchased from the canteen. *School is a great place to be when the temperature soars!*

Rachel McLennan

DIARY DATES

Thursday 9/3/23 & 6/4/23	Assemblies in the Hall at 9:00am
Tuesday 28/2/23	Naplan Practice Test Governing Council Meeting at 6:30pm
Friday 3/3/23	Year 6 Big Day In - Leaders Day
Friday 10/3/23	PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 13/3/23	Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup
Wed 15/3/23 - Monday 27/3/23	NAPLAN FOR Years 3 and 5 students
Tuesday 28/3/23	Governing Council Meeting at 6:30pm
Thursday 30/3/23	Year 6 Aquatics
Monday 3/4/23 - Thursday 6/4/23	3-Way Learning Conversations
Friday 7/4/23	Good Friday - Public Holiday
Monday 10/4/23	Easter Monday - Public Holiday
Friday 14/4/23	Last Day of Term - 2:00pm dismissal



Pupil Free Day

A reminder that **Friday 10th March** is our first Pupil Free Day for the year. Staff will be training off site, however the **OSHC centre will be open**. Only a few spaces are left, so please contact them as soon as possible on **8281 5104** to book your child in for that day.

Canteen Volunteers

Our school community is extremely fortunate to have a school canteen with a wide range of healthy options for recess and lunch. Families can order their child's food via the QkR app, or place money in a lunch bag which is delivered to the canteen in classroom lunch boxes.

Cherie, who is the manager of our canteen, is urgently seeking parents or other family members to put aside a little of their time to join the team and volunteer to work in the canteen. Tasks include making up lunch orders and serving students at recess and lunch times. It's a great way to meet new people and learn a little bit about our school.

If you would like to volunteer please contact the school by phone or pop into the office.

2023 Parent Information Packages

The 2023 family package will soon be sent home to all families.

Inside the package you will find:

- your account for your 2023 School Fees
- School Card information
- Other information as required

The Material and Services charges for 2023 are due by the end of Term 1.

Parafield Gardens Primary School fees for 2023 (known as Material and Service Charges) are \$269 per student. We have quite a few options available to families for payment of school fees which will assist in managing household budgets, including cash, EFTPOS, Centre Pay, direct debit or by using the QkR app.

The State Government has implemented a \$100 rebate for students who are not eligible for School Card.

The School Card Scheme is administered by the Department for Education and provides financial assistance towards school fees, supporting low to average income families. It is available for dependent students from 4 years of age receiving full-time schooling. Applicants are required to **apply each school year**, using the appropriate form which is included your package or on line at www.sa.gov.au under the heading Education, Skills and Learning.

Lynne Lean - Administration Officer

Year 6 Senior Jackets

Forms have been sent home for the next round of Year 6 Senior Jackets. They will be available to be ordered **this term only** from **Thursday 23rd February until the 24th March** at a cost of \$68. This will be your last chance to order a 2023 Year 6 Senior Jacket for your child. Sample sizes which are available in the office will assist you in placing your order.



Engaging in Active Play

As Early Years educators, we are passionate about play and the benefits it has for our learners. Research has evidenced the importance of play for a child's overall development of intellectual skills, thinking and motivation. Our classrooms are designed to promote opportunities for children to follow their interests and passions as well as the development of social skills and oral language in line with the Australian Curriculum.

Studies have shown that engaging in active play encourages the development of language skills. A child's vocabulary grows and develops as they play together with peers and interact with adults.

Participating in play supports the development of literacy skills, such as listening skills and sound recognition.

Play is associated with the development of social and emotional skills and the ability to develop positive relationships. As children play with each other they learn to get along, communicate their needs, cooperate and resolve conflicts.

Play fosters creativity and imagination - valued traits that are vital in the modern world. Using imagination, children are able to find solutions to a variety of problems they encounter.

The set up of the classrooms is designed to provide opportunities to develop these necessary skills. The children also have the opportunity to develop these important skills when playing in the Nature Garden.



Traffic Monitor Training

On Thursday 16th February the students from Year 5 and 6 attended a training session by a member of SAPOL, to become a traffic monitor at our school crossing. By volunteering, students develop community spirit and leadership skills - personal qualities we particularly encourage in all our students.

We have already received lots of names of students who have made themselves available to be involved in this important role and the roster will be given to classes ready to start in Week 5.

Last Thursday we went to the hall to listen to a police officer talk to us about doing Crossing Monitor duties. He gave us so much information to help prepare us for our role.

We learnt that we always have to wear a hat and a neon orange vest when we are on duty. We also have to make sure that the vest is zipped up so that drivers can clearly see us. We also learnt that if the lights aren't working for any reason we have to tell an adult and put our arm out to stop people from crossing. If an ambulance comes along while students are crossing the road, we have to make sure that they are across before we stop any other people crossing, so that the ambulance can go through the crossing.



If a car is speeding we have to try and identify the car by looking at any stickers or the colour of the car. We can also try to get the number if possible but that's not essential. We have to make sure that students listen to us and walk between the designated lines on the crossing. They also have to pay attention to the traffic, the same as we do.

We learnt that we have to stand close to the pole where the button is located so that other people can't push the button and we only push it when there are lots of people waiting, rather than stopping the traffic for only one or two people.

As you can see, we discovered that it is a very responsible role to have, so we need to stay focussed. If our friend is on the other side of the road we aren't allowed to call out to them or try and chat. We also have to wait for the teacher to tell us if we can leave. Each class has a roster so we all need to take note of when it's our turn to be a monitor and find a replacement if we aren't able to do a session.

This is our first year as Crossing monitors and we are very excited!

Indie, Japnoor and Isabelle - Year 5 Room 16

Our Year 6 Leaders

The following students have been selected as 2023 Year 6 Leaders:

Room 15: Lucca and Bella

Room 16: Rajveer and Kayleigh

Room 17: Kaylee and Lydia



Our Arts Captains are:

Isaac Room and Amelia 15, Claire and Sanskriti Room 17.

Our Sports Captains will be announced in the next newsletter.

Our Peace Committee Representatives are:

Room 2: Nampheung **3:** Aleena **4:** Zakia **5:** Emma **7:** Jessie **8:** Hudson **9:** Bentley **11:** Farhan **12:** Nate **15:** Omar **16:** Dhyey **17:** Ella **22:** Aria **23:** Alissa **24:** Amir **27:** Kaitlyn **28:** Shayaan **29:** Sossan **30:** Greta **31:** Eliana **32:** Brandon **34A:** Anna **34B:** Venisa



Congratulations to all students who are taking on a leadership role this year.

Premier's Reading Challenge

We will once again be taking part in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The Premier has challenged students to read 12 books by the beginning of September, with 8 books from the P.R.C. list and 4 books of the students' own choice. The awards are: 1st year – certificate, 2nd year – bronze medal, 3rd year – silver medal, 4th year – gold medal, 5th year – champion medal, 6th year – legend medal, 7th year – Hall of Fame medal, 8th year – Hall of Fame Reader for Life award, 9th year – Reader for Life bronze award and 10th year – Reader for Life silver medal.

Students in Years 3-7 are required to fill in their own form and when completed return to the Resource Centre. We will fill in forms for Reception to Year 2 students. Students need to be reminded that they can only choose **2 books from any one series**. Hopefully all of our students will take part.

Let the reading begin!

Janet Armstrong - The Hive

Assembly Awards

Term 1 Week 2: Room 2: Van Tin **3:** Tirth **4:** Aniyuah **5:** Emma **8:** Hania **9:** Xavier **11:** Bismullah **12:** Winnie **15:** Katie **16:** Conna **17:** Mackenzie **22:** Aria **23:** Lavanya **24:** Amir **27:** Angus **28:** Shayaan **29:** Ziara-Lee **30:** Alysha **31:** Digvijay **32:** Savannah **34A:** Eddie **34B:** Emmett

Health/PE (Mr Cuconits) Room 34B

Health/PE (Ms Ryan) Room 11

Music/Drama (Ms Thompson & Sarah) Room 27

Visual Arts (Ms Dimitropoulos) Room 2

Auslan (Mrs Neilson and Ms Shephard) Room 34A

Secondary School Open Nights

The Year 6/7 transition process for 2024 is due to commence and High School information will be sent home early next term. Now is the time for families to consider their choice of secondary school for next year. High schools will be holding their Open Nights and Information sessions over the next few weeks and as this information comes to hand it will be published in our newsletters as well as on Class Dojo. The following schools have announced their open days and special evenings for students and their families to attend.

Salisbury East High School

Open Night - Thursday 16th March from 5:30pm to 7:30pm with a free barbeque

Please contact the school on 8258 2070 for more information or visit: www.sehs.sa.edu.au, alternatively email: dl.1011.info@schools.sa.edu.au

OLSH - Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

Pen Day - Sunday 19th March from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

For more information please visit: olsh.catholic.edu.au or contact the school on 8269 8800.

Acquaintance Night - Follow the Yellow Brick Road



A huge thank you to the hard working team of volunteers who cooked the barbeque and served the food at our Acquaintance Night, helping to make the night a huge success.

How we teach reading at Parafield Gardens Primary School - Part 2



Deana Cuconits
Lead Teacher – Quality Teaching and Learning



Last newsletter I wrote about how we are adjusting our home reading program to align with the way we teach reading at school. This has been changing across the state, country and in our local partnership for a number of years. In our next installment I will explain a little more about what has changed.

Decades of research have determined that reading occurs in a specific way in the brain in all people. It does not occur naturally the way that speech does. The process must be taught.

It is a process of building neuro-pathways in the brain that link sounds of speech to written symbols or letters. The strings of letters are attached to meaning, and then those 'letter strings with meaning' are stored in the brain's 'letterbox' for later retrieval that is fast and effortless.

This process is called orthographic mapping and it is our goal to help our students build a giant 'letterbox' of instantly retrievable words, which translates into fluent reading and understanding.

Guessing at words based on context does not aid in orthographic mapping, phonic decoding does.

A NEW PATH AT PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

So what does all of this mean for your child? If your family has been a part of PGPS for some time, you'll notice some changes in how we teach reading; if you're new to PGPS, jump on board, it's going to be a wonderful journey! It's an exciting time to be in education as we align our instruction with the Science of Reading!

Listed on the next pages are some points of research that we will be addressing as we embark on a new school year at PGPS.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information about the changes we have made to our reading program and an invitation to an info session for families.





Reading at PGPS

Code Emphasis in Junior Primary

In the Early Years, students will focus on acquiring skills to crack the code of our alphabet to the speech sounds in English.

DID YOU KNOW? There are 44 speech sounds in English and 150 ways to read and spell them!

Children must first learn to decode (sound-out) words before they can understand the meaning of text.



Guessing at words based on context does not aid in orthographic mapping, phonic decoding does.



[Gough & Tunmer, 1986; Hoover & Gough, 1990]



Explicit and systematic phonics instruction

We follow a specific sequence of phonics skills, progressing from simple to complex, which will be followed throughout the early grades and into the primary years. Students will progress through the continuum as they master these skills.

In Year 3 - 6, word study will continue with a stronger focus on grammar and morphology (learning about word parts such as Greek and Latin roots).





Reading at PGPS

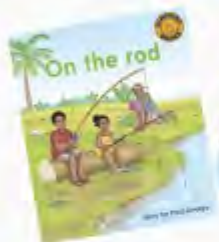
Phonemic Awareness

This is the ability to identify the individual sounds in words by listening, and to manipulate those sounds orally. While this skill will be emphasized in R-2, we will make sure all students at PGPS have this necessary foundation.

Students in the primary years may need to practice these skills until they have firmed up this foundation of reading. Don't be surprised if you have a child in Year 3-6 who is working on phonemic awareness! This is an area that the research has indicated is hugely important.



Later this term we will offer a parent workshop to share more information about how we are teaching students to read, as well as strategies that you can use at home to help your child.



Sit



Decodable Readers

You might have noticed that readers haven't been sent home yet this year. This is because our new 'at home' reading program is being adjusted to reflect the teaching that is happening at school. We have been through a big process of re-organising our current readers and purchasing new ones so that all of our students are able to achieve success in reading at home.

Our beginning readers will be working with decodable readers. These are books or passages that only include words that the students can 'decode' (sound-out) according to the skills they have been taught and are able to identify. Our students need lots of practice with the phonics skills they are learning and these books provide that practice.

NAPLAN – Privacy Collection Notice

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN helps parents, carers and educators to see if children are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards.

Collection of personal information

Schools are required by law to collect personal information about you and your child, irrespective of whether your child participates in NAPLAN testing.

The purpose of this notice is to advise parents and carers of how your child's personal information will be used for NAPLAN testing (both online and paper tests) in 2023 and, as part of NAPLAN Online, readiness activities scheduled at various times leading up to the test in March 2023.

NAPLAN testing

Since 2022, except for Year 3 writing which remains paper-based, all other NAPLAN tests are completed nationally online through computer-based tests.

Online testing brings many benefits and opportunities including providing better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information.

More information on NAPLAN Online is available at: www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/.

Readiness testing activities

A critical step in preparing for NAPLAN Online is schools' participation in readiness testing activities.

The purpose of readiness testing activities is to ensure your child is familiar with their device and the online test environment, as well as to test school and national infrastructure systems and processes.

Disclosure of personal information

For every student participating in NAPLAN Online testing and readiness activities, personal information will be uploaded by the Department for Education, as the Test Administration Authority (TAA), to the NAPLAN Online Assessment Platform ('assessment platform'). This information is listed on the next page.

The information below marked with an asterisk (*) is also provided by the department, as the TAA, to FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd for the purposes of printing paper test materials and the printing of student reports. FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd ("FUJIFILM") is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education and is only permitted access to personal information from a relevant school for the purposes of providing the contracted services.

FUJIFILM's privacy policy can be found at: <https://www.fujifilm.com/au/en/privacy>

- Student name*
- Jurisdictional and local school student identifiers*
- School name, class and year level*
- Gender*
- Country of birth



NAPLAN – Privacy Collection Notice continued

- Date of birth* Disability adjustments (where applicable) *
- Language background other than English
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status
- Parents' occupation, education and language background

The personal information for students who are exempted, absent or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing is collected and used for reporting purposes.

- Country of birth
- Language background other than English
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status
- Parents' occupation, education and language background

The personal information for students who are exempted, absent or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing is collected and used for reporting purposes.

Data security

Security and privacy are key requirements for the delivery of national testing.

NAPLAN Online

The online assessment platform has been designed to comply with relevant national data security policies and guidelines, as well as data encryption standards.

The assessment platform is managed by Education Services Australia (ESA). ESA is a not-for-profit company jointly owned by the Australian education ministers. ESA is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education.

ESA only has access to personal information from a relevant school or TAA for the primary purpose of fulfilling ESA's role in supporting the operation of the assessment platform.

ESA's privacy policy can be found at: www.esa.edu.au/contact-us/privacy.

Access and correction

To request access or correction to personal information collected for NAPLAN and held by schools, please contact your school principal in the first instance. Any concerns about a breach of privacy by a school should be directed in writing to the school principal.

More information

Speak with your school principal in the first instance if you have any questions about this information.

