

# PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

*Working Together*



## Newsletter - Week 6 Term 2 2024

### From the Principal

#### Capital Works Official Opening

On Thursday 30th May our new modular building and refurbished reception classes were officially opened by The Honourable Blair Boyer Minister for Education, Training and Skills and Mr John Fullbrook MP, member for Playford. I invited former principals, Simon Harding and Rachel McLennan to join in the celebrations as they were involved our capital works process. Simon Harding successfully applied for the funding (\$6.3million) and Rachel McLennan, Jill Berry and I managed and coordinated the construction projects.

We are very grateful for our modern learning spaces. They represent a significant step forward in equipping our students and teachers with the tools and environment needed to prepare our students to enter the world beyond the classroom. With state-of-the-art facilities, our teachers can implement innovative teaching methods, and our students can engage in dynamic, interactive and collaborative learning experiences.

The benefits of these improvements will be felt for years to come. Our students have access to resources that will enhance their educational journey, preparing them for the future with skills and knowledge that are critical in today's world. Our teachers are empowered to inspire and nurture young minds in an environment that fosters collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and a love of learning.

Photos from this event are on the last page of our newsletter.



#### Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week is held every year from 27 May to 3 June and is 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.

27th May marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

3rd June marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title with the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights over their lands did survive British colonisation.

*At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.*

#### New Education Management System - EMS

Next Friday 14th June, our school will 'Go Live' with the Department for Education's new Education Management System - EMS. This new system is a modern, student-centred cloud based service for South Australian public schools and preschools. It is a fully integrated learning and administration system that allows children and young people, staff, parents and caregivers to access a single system. EMS will also replace the system we have been using to send SMS messages to families for non-attendance at school. As we become more familiar and use more applications in EMS, our SMS and email communications will look different. It is also likely that you will receive more emails as EMS has options for digital documentation. More than ever, it will be important to make sure that the school has your correct home address, mobile phone and email contact information. Please call the school on 8258 1816 to update your contact details anytime they change. We will continue using Class Dojo to share learning and to communicate with families.

**Vicki Poulain**

#### 2024 School Fees are now overdue...

Thank you to all those families who have settled their accounts for the 2023 school fees. Statements have been issued to all those who are in arrears.

Please settle your accounts as soon as possible as debt recovery action will be taken in accordance with Section 106A of the Education Act, which allows Governing Councils to legally recover outstanding Materials and Service charges.

We offer various ways to pay accounts eg. credit card, direct deposit, QkR phone app, Centrepay. If you think that you may be eligible for School Card due to low income please come in and fill out an application form or apply on line.

**Jenny Southwell - Admin Officer**

#### DIARY DATES

27/5/24 - 3/6/24	Reconciliation Week
Mon 10/6/24	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Wed 3/7/24	Casual Day with gold coin donation
Thurs 4/7/24	Reports go home
Fri 5/7/24	Last day of term 2 with early dismissal at 2:00pm



## Maths Achievement

Recently, students from Rooms 27 and 29 competed in the South Australian Times Table Rock Competition. The students triumphed in this competition by showcasing their exceptional skills and dedication in knowing their times tables. Room 29 won the whole competition coming 1st out of more than 50 schools, which is a testament to their hard work, Persistence and team work.

Among this outstanding group, two students really shone. Laura from Room 29 and Caroline from Room 27 secured 1st and 2nd places out of hundreds of participants. Their commitment and passion for learning and recalling number facts have set a wonderful example for us all.

**Ms Raelene White - Senior Leader**

## Digital Technologies in Humanities and Social Science

On Wednesday 22nd May our students were invited to our first Digital Technologies in Humanities and Social Sciences Expo - a place where innovation meets exploration, and where curiosity and creativity know no bounds. In a world where technology is the key to unlocking limitless possibilities, our Year 5 students in Room 34 have embarked on an extraordinary journey into the digital realm. The STEM classroom space in The Hive was filled with excitement as students and teachers gathered to witness the culmination of months of hard work and creativity. This wasn't any ordinary Expo but an immersive experience where the lines between reality and the digital world blurred.

The students huddled around screens, with their faces illuminated by the glow of virtual worlds and interactive stimulations. The use of CoSpaces, Merge Cubes and VR headsets transported students to worlds where innovation of *Unnecessary Products* were everywhere. As students and staff wandered through the Expo, they were inspired by the creativity and ingenuity on display. It wasn't just about mastering digital tools, but about using them to explore what it means to be human and understanding how our own needs and wants affect the world around us. It was an extraordinary expedition into the intersection of technology and society.

**Ms Nina Ostrun and Ms Raelene White**

*In class with Ms Ostrun we have been working in groups to make an unnecessary product, which is something that isn't really needed and not important. Liam's group designed a standing keyboard and mouse and Thomas' group designed a control chair, which was a chair with a motor that you can control. Even though we designed them on paper we also used Co-spaces and Tinker Cad, which is a design program. We focused on the design for our product and the room it was being set in.*

*We've also been talking about VR which stands for Virtual Reality, which is lots of fun. When you put VR goggles on it's like you are in another world and you can't see anything else except what is presented in your goggles. You can go anywhere with VR as long as you can create it, by loading an empty co-space or a template. When you have the goggles on you are technically 'there' in*



*that world - it might be under water, on the water, in space or in a house or park.*

*Ms Ostrun and Ms White helped us set everything up in the STEM area in the Hive so that we could present our VR worlds to other students and they all seemed really excited while they were there. We had to help the little ones by holding the goggles on their faces and gently turning their chairs around so that they*



*could look around within their VR world. We could hear that the children were excited but the only thing we were disappointed in was that there was no 'jump' feature. The scenes we showed were mainly parks and houses. It was fun to share our imaginative ideas and knowledge to others, especially the younger students so that they can look forward to doing the same things.*

**Liam and Thomas Room 34**

*The VR experience in the Hive was lots of fun but it would have been good to have the 'jump' feature. I went into a cat shelter world and a city world. It wasn't my first time using VR goggles but it was still good.*

**Jack Room 31**

*I got to see different worlds and I saw houses and two people and trees and a boat. I saw a puppy too. One of the big students helped me hold my goggles on and turned me around on my chair so I could see everything. It felt like I was really there. It was exciting.*

**Mia Room 5**

*I looked into the VR with the goggles and I saw a house and went inside and ran into the kitchen and I walked outside. I saw big mountains over our home and it felt real. It was lots of fun.*

**Connor Room 2**

*Students from Room 34a and 34B made VR designs. We had phones and uploaded data onto the phones and connected them to a VR headset so that we could walk around and view what they had designed. They exported the information about the designs they had made in Tinker Cad to the VR program so that we could view their created worlds. They did a great job and we all had fun.*

**William Room 16**

## Visual Arts with Brooke Rigney

On 15th and 16th May our Year 4 and 5 students in Rooms 27, 28, 29 and 34 participated in a Visual Art incursion during their lessons. Students had the opportunity to work with local Aboriginal artist, Brooke Rigney.

Brooke shared stories about her culture and country and how her artworks reflect both. The students learnt about the Ngarrindjeri culture and created paintings on canvas to reflect their new



learning. The students had a great time and really appreciated the rare opportunity to work with a living artist!



*During our art lesson with Ms Dimitropoulos we were visited by Brooke who is an Aboriginal artist and she lives in Adelaide. She showed us some videos of Dreaming Stories and one of them was about birds explaining how they were all different with their own special features. She asked us to think about what we had seen on the videos to inspire us to create our paintings. Brooke had already painted the background on our canvases - some had swirls and others had straighter lines. Annabelle painted a river, Lilli painted some kangaroo feet and some dots, while Sophia did some dot painting and later painted a fire with people sitting around it. We all really enjoyed this experience of working with an Aboriginal artist and to use our imaginations to create beautiful pieces of artwork.*

**Annabelle Room 28, Lilli Room 29 and Sophia Room 34b**

### Student Free Day - Learning Together

During our Student Free Day on 24<sup>th</sup> May some of our Year 5 and 6 students were invited to work with teachers to talk about Learner Agency. It was wonderful to see students and staff working collaboratively on activities that promote lifelong learning while also engaging with and learning more about the 4 Areas of Impact from the DfE Strategic Plan, the areas being; Wellbeing, Learner Agency, Excellence & Equity & Effective Learners. In groups teachers and students brainstormed the sorts of things we might see learners doing if our focus is on, *being the best at getting better.*

After lots of discussion and sharing about what we value at our school, the strongest statements were recorded by each group, please have a read below.

- learners can show progress over time when learning
- learners having a sense of family in the class
- learners are supported by SSOs, peers and differentiated learning

- learners feel pride in self-achievement. For example when it's an easy task, when you're done, the feeling of pride only lasts for a minute, but when it is a hard task and you struggle through it, the feeling of pride lasts much longer and it feels like having a disco party in your head
- learners show confidence to participate and take risks
- learners can use the intended learning outcomes to explore curriculum areas according to their interests and passions to achieve their full potential



### Assembly Awards

Our assembly awards are aligned to our Peace School Values:

- P** - Persistence
- E** - Enthusiasm
- A** - Acceptance
- C** - Community
- E** - Excellence

One of these values are highlighted at each assembly. Our week 5 assembly award recipients were awarded for **Excellence**:

**Strives for personal best and achieves personal goals**

**Term 2 Week 5: Rm 2:** Noah, Jax **Room 3:** Gurinder, Aleigha **4:** Mishka, Paarush **5:** Mahibah, Ali **7:** Zahra, Jacob **8:** Jason **9:** Jhye **11:** Arez, Lilo **15:** Kavish, Jazhley **16:** Catherine, Jackson **17:** Janya, Kaitlyn **21:** Sahil, Avighna **22:** Alexis, Kiyan **23:** James, Aaila **24:** Samyar, Adrian **27:** Madison, Mohadesa **28:** Athefa, Aidah **29:** Anna, DJ **30:** Kate, Bailey **31:** Winnie, Aliakbar **32:** Mia, Braxton **34A:** Dawt, Jasmine **34B:** Gurkirat, Hayley

**Health/PE** (Ms Ryan) Room 3  
**Music/Drama** (Ms Thomson) Room 31  
**Visual Arts** (Ms Dimitropoulos) Room 27  
**Technologies** (Ms Ostrun) Room 9

**Auslan** (Mrs Neilson and Ms Dyson) Room 15 & 4

### School Crossing Monitors

Thank you to our next groups of School Crossing Monitors for Term 2 for their positive approach and enthusiasm.

**Week 4:**

**Room 15:** Isabel, Isabelle, Mason, Venisa, Kavish, Anil, Milly, Indie

**Week 5:**

**Room 34A:** Nathan, Jasmine, Thomas, Ava, Hunter, Ckael, Connor, Dawt, Areej, Amelia

**Week 6:**

**Room 16 & 17:** Rehan, Eddie, David, Janya, Erfan, Aiza, Advaita



# Reconciliation Week

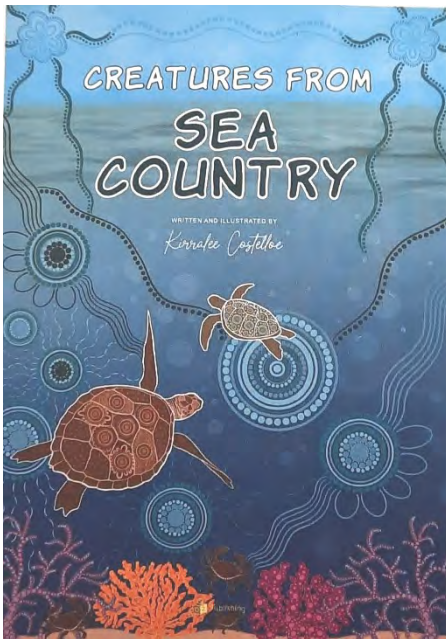
The children in Rooms 2 and 5 have been basing their Reconciliation Week activities through Dreaming Stories such as *Tiddalick the Frog* and the *Rainbow Serpent* whilst the children in Rooms 3 and 4 having been looking at *Land Country* and *Sea Country* books.



Tiddalick the Frog



The Wombat



We learned about the cultural meaning and significance of creatures from sea country to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We tried some dot painting with our PAL class from Room 34b and explored some artistic symbols.



# Reconciliation Week

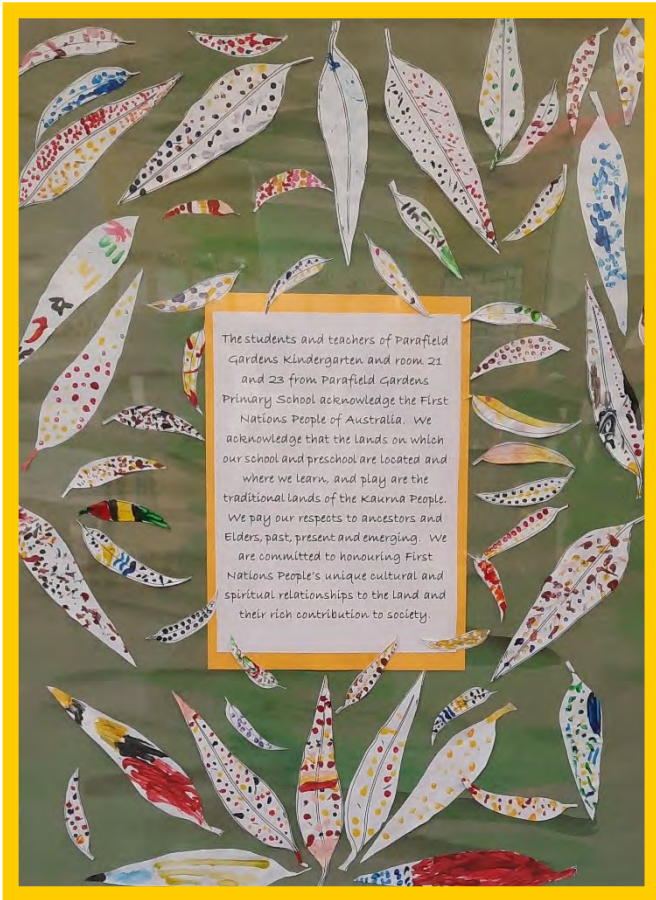


This week we are celebrating Reconciliation week. By learning about our past we can build on making positive and respectful relationships between all Australians. The reception students in Room 5 learnt about our First Nation People's culture by reading the Dreaming Story *The Rainbow Serpent*. It is a story about how the rainbow serpent shaped the land and water and gave life to all living things. The children worked collaboratively to create a beautiful Rainbow Serpent.



Today we joined our PAL Classes and worked with the receptions in celebrating Reconciliation Week. It was great to see our youngest and oldest students working together. They made mini posters to represent the theme for this year – speaking out “Now more than ever.”

# Reconciliation Week



During Reconciliation Week, the Year 1 students from Rooms 21 and 23 went to the Children's Centre to complete an art activity, working together in their beautiful space. The students used dot painting technique to decorate gum leaves and once all the leaves were dry we placed them decoratively into two frames with a special acknowledgement to country, one of which we presented to the Children's Centre at our Reconciliation Assembly.



During our assembly Mr Luke and the students from Room 31 presented 'Reconciliation Australia' song and Ms Thomson led the Festival of Music Choir in "Song to Sing" from their repertoire.



# Official Opening of School Upgrade

*The Honourable Blair Boyer MP - Minister for Education, Training and Skills and Mr John Fullbrook MP - Local member for Playford visited our school to officially open our new building and refurbished area.*



*Ms Poulain addressed the staff and students by welcoming our special guests*



*Our special guests viewed the new modular building which houses some Year 5 students our Year 6 students, after which they visited the upgraded area where our Reception students learn and play.*



*Our Junior Choir along with the Reception students sang 'Peace Over Parafield' for our special guests and the remaining student body, reflecting our Peace School values.*

## Peace Over Parafield

Composed by C. Luke/Parafield Gardens Students 2008  
Rap 2023 S Quinn /Year 6 Student Amelia Cuba

We want peace over Parafield,  
light across the world.  
We need hope for every child,  
love across the globe.

There is no colour in friendship.  
There is no great divide.  
The respect we give each other,  
means that we can fly so high.

We want peace over Parafield,  
light across the world.  
We need hope for every child,  
love across the globe.

We start this journey together,  
friends all by our side.  
we have a message to sing out,  
It's time to unify

We want our school to be filled with love  
Our symbol here is the little white dove  
Our future's looking bright  
There's no need to fight  
Spread your arms wide open and share the light  
Together we'll be fine  
Let our differences shine  
Kindness, compassion, all of the time  
Just add in some gratitude to seal the deal  
Hand in hand we'll have peace over Parafield

We want peace over Parafield,  
light across the world.  
We need hope for every child,  
love across the globe.

Peace is no fighting.  
Peace is being with your family.  
Peace is being positive and grateful.  
Peace means being kind to all of the people  
around you.  
Peace is understanding.  
Peace is love.