

# PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

*Working Together*



## Newsletter - Week 3 Term 3 2024

### From the Principal

As the new principal of Parafield Gardens Primary School, I am pleased to present my first school newsletter. Since joining this term, I have been focused on understanding our school's unique position as a diverse community with a commitment to PEACE and education.



I have spent considerable time over this last fortnight meeting with staff and engaging with students, understanding our strengths and areas for growth. Our dedication to fostering a safe and caring learning environment is evident throughout the school community. I am looking forward to getting into classrooms and meeting with our families to build further relationships and gain further insights around our next steps.

Academically, our students perform well, and we're exploring further ways to integrate student voice and agency, stretching students and strengthening inclusive teaching practices. I am pleased to report that our staff have been incredibly supportive during my transition here.

Please join me in welcoming new staff: Criss Ferreira and Anu Bhardwaj to our school. I would also like to welcome our new Reception students who have joined us in our mid-year intake. Thank you to all of our staff, students and families who have helped our newcomers feel welcome.

Thank you to Parafield Gardens High School staff and students for making our Year 6 students feel so welcome during their transition visit recently. Our students had a wonderful time and gained some valuable insight into the exciting new learning they can look forward to next year. Looking ahead, I'm excited about the opportunities to build upon our school's strong foundation. I welcome input from families as we work together to shape the future of our school and continue our important work as a UN Peace School, that prioritises a safe and caring learning environment for all of our students.

### Book Week

The theme for Book Week this year is "Reading Is Magic". Activities will take place from Monday 19th to Friday 23rd August with our special Book Week Parade on Thursday 22nd at 9am under the COLA, where students will have the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character. Come along and join in the fun!



### Enrolling Siblings and School Tours

If you have younger children at home who will be starting school in 2025, please contact the office as soon as

possible so that we can organise an enrolment form. Dates for School Tours are:-

- *Wednesday 21st August 9:30am and 5:00pm*
- *Friday 6th September 9:30am*
- *Tuesday 10th September 5:00pm*
- *Thursday 19th September 9:30am*

If you know other families in our community who are looking for a great school, please send them our way.

### Dates For Your Diary

There are some important diary dates this term. **Friday 30th August** is a Student Free Day, when staff will meet to take part in training in the area of Maths with Mike Chartres from the Primary Maths Association. Our OSHC centre will be available on this day, so please contact the centre as soon as possible to make a booking for this date on **8281 5104**.

**Monday 2nd September** is a School Closure Day which is approved by our Governing Council. A reminder that the OSHC service is **not** available on this day.

### Learning Conversations

Learning Conversations will take place from Monday 16th to Friday 20th September with more information to follow.

**Sara Broster**

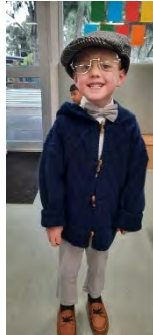
### DIARY DATES

Wed 31st July	Yr 6 half day transition visit to PGHS
Mon 12th to Fri 16th August	R-2 Swimming
Mon 5th to Fri 9th August	Science Week
Mon 19th to Fri 23rd August	Book Week
Thurs 22nd August	Book Week Parade
Wed 28th August	Father's Day Stall
Fri 30th August	<b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
Mon 2nd September	<b>SCHOOL CLOSURE</b>
Tues 3rd to Fri 20th September	Dental for Schools
Tues 10th September	Governing Council 6:30pm
Mon 16th to Fri 20th September	<b>LEARNING CONVERSATIONS</b>
Wed 25th September	Casual Day with gold coin
Fri 27th September	Last Day Term 3 - early dismissal



## First 100 Days of School

Wednesday 24th July marked the 100th Day of school for our Reception students who started school at the beginning of the year. Staff and students celebrated this milestone by dressing up as elderly people along with a shared lunch. This was a fun and engaging way to celebrate student progress and create a sense of community within the classroom. It was also an opportunity to infuse number sense and mathematical concepts in creative ways.



## R-2 Swimming

As part of our Health and PE curriculum all children from Reception to Year 2 will be involved in swimming lessons at the Elizabeth Aquadome Swimming Centre next week, from Monday 12th to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August. Lessons will be conducted by qualified Education Department instructors. Children will need to bring the following items every day:

- towel
- bag to carry dry clothing
- plastic bag for wet items
- goggles (optional)
- bathers may be worn under their school uniform

We know that the children will have a wonderful time learning many new water and safety skills.



## Day of AI

Day of AI is an exciting educational program that allows students to explore the fascinating world of artificial intelligence. It includes a student challenge where they can solve real-world problems and win great prizes. Designed to spark curiosity and help students understand AI, this program aims to teach young Australians essential AI skills. Students will learn how AI works, its ethical issues, and its impact on society. They will use AI systems, understand how data is turned into predictions, and explore different types of data like images, sounds, and text. This hands-on curriculum also encourages students to think about the ethical side of AI, such as bias and responsible use, and see how AI is changing industries today. Students have the opportunity to imagine and design technology that harnesses the power of AI to help improve the school to become more sustainable. Day of AI is more than just learning - it's an exciting journey into the future of technology.

Some of our Year 6 students were successful in reaching the finals and are representing the only public primary school to get into the finals. Congratulations to William, David, Venisa and Tintin.

At first we were working on different designs. We researched how we could help our planet by looking at the problem of large trees that are diseased, because of the damage they cause when they fall. If a tree is unhealthy the roots might crumble causing this problem. We are trying to discover if we could use a drone to see if the trees are healthy or unhealthy, or if some trees with partial damage from disease can be saved. If a young tree is diseased we might be able to give it anti-disease supplements to save it which could stop disease spreading to other trees.

We then joined with Venisa and Tintin to further develop our main project.

### William and David

We saw that a lot of students have been stepping on plants at our school and the plants were getting destroyed, so we came up with a robot with lots of things on it including a robotic hand which will take out any dead plants. We would then replace them but place a guard around it using stakes to protect it. Inside the robot we have fertiliser and water and it goes through a pipe automatically and reaches the plant. We also have little bugs which are microscopic. They look like real bugs but are actually robots and they lure real bugs to the plants to promote pollination. When the bugs come into the area the robotic bugs have scanners and they can track the natural bugs. Data can be collected from these scanners so that we can detect which bugs are the best for our plants to remain healthy. There is also a camera on the scanner which can identify the student who stepped on the plant and gives out a warning slip so that it doesn't happen again.

As a group we started with some basic ideas and as we talked it through, our ideas expanded. Now that we are in the final, Mr Busto is our contact person and we also have a leader and an AI expert from the university working with us. To win the finals we have to expand on our ideas further and we have homework as well. We also have to make a video as a presentation. There is a lot of criteria involved, including creativity, how does our model relate and if it's scalable enough to actually produce easily to use in schools. If we win the final, the technicians will make a prototype from our designs to scale, which is very exciting!

### Venisa and Tintin



This year we are hosting our very first Science Fair. It will be held on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> August. Year 11 Physics students from the high school have been invited to judge entries. The task is to design or adapt an endangered or extinct animal to be able to mimic the flight characteristics in order to be able to survive in our world today. Students can submit their work individually, in small groups or the project could be completed as a whole class endeavour. Winners will be announced via Dojo, school newsletter and assembly. Awards will be divided into sections - Reception, Years 1/2, Years 3/4, Years 5/6 and an open section. Within each section prizes will be awarded for:

- Scientific Award
- Creativity & Innovation Award
- Technology

The Open section winner will receive the **2024 PGPS Science Fair Award**, incorporating scientific accuracy, creativity & innovation, use of technology, excellence in presentation and demonstrating environmental insight.

As part of this initiative, students have been learning about animal adaptations and living things. Our school was visited this week by the RSPCA to talk about animals, their features, their needs, their habitats and how we can care for them.

The children have been listening to an educational talk given by an animal expert, as well as having the chance to ask questions.

*We learnt about how to keep animals safe and how to take care of them by giving them clean water and what type of food to give them. It was good fun learning about the animals and we said 'thank you' to the lady because she gave us books, bookmarks and stickers at the end of our session. We also learnt that animals have feelings just like us and they can feel hurt. People at the RSPCA put a chip just under the skin of lost animals so they can use a scanner to find the owner and we learnt how to do that.*

#### **Sahil and Avighna Room 21 and Rihaan Room 23**

*The RSPCA save lots of animals including horses if they're not being cared for, so they care for them a bit to make them better then let them go back. They also help koalas that have been caught in bushfires. They bandage their paws and help them get better. People can call them if they see lost animals and then they take them to the RSPCA to look after them or the RSPCA people collect them in a special van.*

#### **Eli Room 11**

*RSPCA stands for Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. They provide vet care, shelters, inspections on people's homes and adoptions. There were 5 rules to keep your pet safe and healthy for example, birds should have a nice space to live in, sticks in their cage to put fruit on, a little water bowl, shelter from the hot weather and a perch. We watched a video about what dogs like and what different animals should eat. Rabbits actually don't like carrots and mice don't really like cheese. She also brought in a toy cat with a micro chip in it and a scanner and she chose some people to scan it. When they scanned it a 15 digit code appeared, which related to the owner's details and each animal has it's own code. By having your pet chipped there is a better chance of it being returned to you if it is lost. She showed us a picture of a little cat which they called Peanut. It had been dumped outside a construction site and was taken to the RSPCA who are now caring for it. They often have a lot of kittens and dogs which people can adopt or buy. They even sometimes have goats and lambs that people can adopt. They do a really good job of looking after all sorts of animals.*

#### **Angus and Jackson Room 17, Arabella Room 34**

### **RAA Street Smart Road Safety**

Last week, Classes at our school have been fortunate to undertake the RAA's Street Smart program. Sally Hayward from the RAA has been teaching our students from Reception to Year 6 essential skills and the importance of road safety including topics covering:

- Pedestrian safety



*This is Peanut - a rescue kitten*

- Crossing the road
- Safe and proper helmet use
- Seatbelts - laws and rules around car seats, bikes and scooters

This free program is linked to the Australian Curriculum and provides a trained and qualified Road Safety Educator (Sally) who delivered 45 minute age-appropriate interactive road-safety lessons catering for students from Reception (Foundation) to Year 6. These sessions gave the opportunity for students to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of road safety concepts. Activity booklets linked to the lesson content were provided which can further prompt discussion in the classroom and at home.



*Sally showed the children the safe way to cross the road at a pedestrian crossing*

### **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

#### **Enthusiasm:**

#### **Participates enthusiastically during lessons**

**Term 3 Week 2: Room 1:** Elliot, Purnika **2:** Lilly, Kai-mani **3:** Gurinder, Ava **4:** Avyaan, Aphia **5:** Farwah, Ashton **7:** Graham, Willa **8:** Veer **9:** Noah **11:** Jessica, Vincent **15:** Jaxson, Saish **16:** William, Epharim **17:** Khush, Angus **21:** Mohamad, Sabrina **22:** Amirali, Nasar **23:** Aliza, Elyas **24:** Parham, Safoora **27:** Jaevon, Sahiba **28:** Esther, Tyrone **29:** Tithi, Emman **30:** Hudson, Raam **31:** Farhan, Lincoln **P 32:** Jaffar, Jack **34A:** Linda, Thomas **34B:** Teebah, Sienna

**Health/PE (Ms Ryan) Room 8**

**Health/PE (Mr C) Room 17**

**Music/Drama (Ms Thomson) Room 7**

**Technologies (Ms Ostrun) Room 30**

**Auslan (Mrs Neilson) Room 34A**

### **School Crossing Monitors**

Thank you to our first groups of School Crossing Monitors for Term 3 for their positive approach and enthusiasm.

#### **Week 1:**

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

#### **Week 2:**

**Room 34B:** Imogen, Christian, Liam, Ziara-Lee, Misha, Tasi, Gurkirat, Shayaan

#### **Week 3:**

**Room 15:** Anil, Tintin, Indiana, Japnoor, Kavish, Venisa, Milly, Indie



## Interested in learning a language?

The School of Languages is a government school offering a range of languages after school hours, in different locations around the metropolitan area, to students from all schooling sectors.

Our aim is to enhance access, choice and continuity in language learning for South Australian learners at all levels.

Our programs complement and supplement languages programs offered in mainstream schools and community schools.

Discover more at [www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au](http://www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au)



Telephone 08 8301 4800 Facsimile 08 8301 4601 dl.1802.admin@schools.sa.edu.au www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au Department for Education

# MATHS MONTH IS HERE!

## Challenge # 1

How many steps in our school? *How did you work it out?*

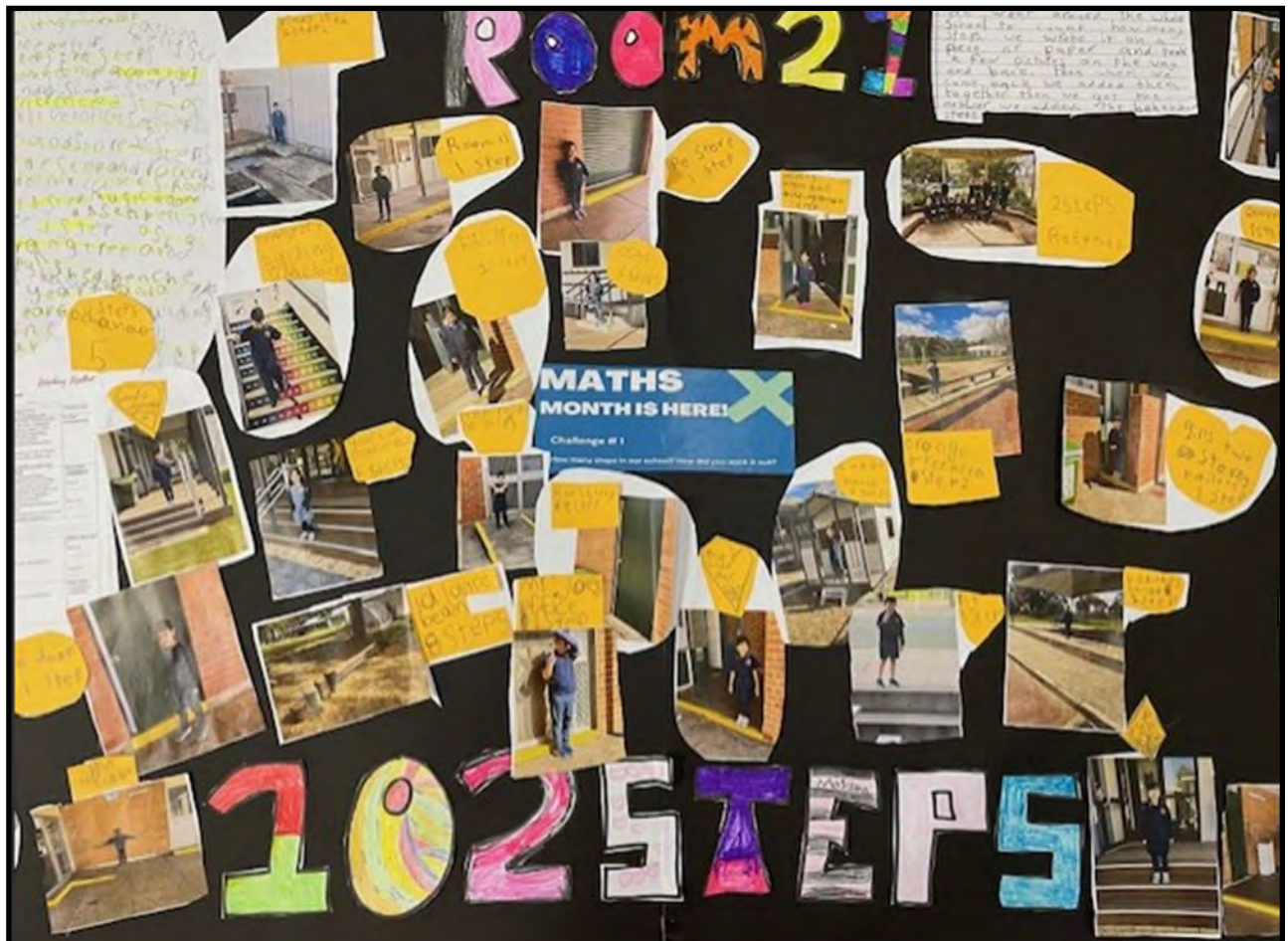
OR

Find the heaviest object in the school. *What is its mass? How do you know?*

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED!  
I AM LOOKING FOR ACCURACY AND CREATIVITY - MS WHITE

MONDAY 5TH - FRIDAY 9TH AUGUST

This is the first of 4 challenges



Room 21's poster for the Maths Challenge



Parafield Gardens Primary School

# Father's Day Stall

Term 3  
Week 6  
Wednesday

Pricing  
between  
\$1 to \$10

