

PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

Working Together



Newsletter - Week 5 Term 1 2025

From the Principal

It was wonderful to see so many of our community join us for our first special assembly on the 10th February, where we officially began our 60th birthday celebrations. It was lovely to hear our students singing along to our new song 'Sweet Parafield,' and we enjoyed taking a trip down memory lane as we learnt more about what life was like at our school 60 years ago. We have a lot of fun activities planned for the year, including some competitions and opportunities to build student voice and agency. We look forward to sharing these events with you throughout the year.

A reminder that **Friday 7th March** is a **Student Free Day**. Students are not required at school that day. Our staff will be using this opportunity to develop their understanding of the new SA Curriculum and strengthen our whole school approach to positive behaviours for learning. Monday 10th March is a public holiday, with students returning back to school on Tuesday 11th March. We hope you enjoy the long weekend with your children. Please contact Aida Chapman at OSHC if you are needing to book your child in for the Friday.

Well done to the Year 3 and 5 students who participated in the practice run for the NAPLAN session. This was a helpful opportunity for our students to learn what to expect, as well as give us the opportunity to test out our IT preparations. All Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in the NAPLAN sessions this term. If you would like to know more, I encourage you to speak to your child's teacher or call the front office and ask to speak to Raelene White, our Quality Teaching and Learning Leader.

A friendly reminder that we are looking for volunteers to help us around the school, especially in the canteen. If you can spare a couple of hours or more a week, we would really like to hear from you. If you are interested, please call the front office and ask for more information. Volunteers are required to have a working with children's check and have completed a RRHAN certificate (both of which are free, and we can assist you with getting this organised).

A reminder to parents/carers dropping off and picking up your child. Please pay attention to the road signs, markings on the road, signs on the sidewalk and signs posted on fences. Many spots around the school are for quick pick up and drop off only, and do not allow for parking or drivers getting out of their vehicles. It is important that we are all following these road rules so that we can work together to make sure our children stay safe, so we can maximise smooth traffic flow and prevent unsafe situations around our school.

We are proud to share that our flagpoles now include the Torres Strait Islander flag alongside the Aboriginal flag

and Australian flag. This important milestone reflects our ongoing commitment to Respect, Inclusion and Reconciliation within our community and to fostering a culturally safe and inclusive environment for all.

We encourage our community to take a moment to reflect on the significance of these flags and what they represent.



Aboriginal Flag - black represents the people, yellow represents the sun, red represents the earth

Torres Strait Islander Flag- Green represents the land, Blue represents the sea and waters surrounding the Torres Strait Islands, black represents the people, white represents peace and the navigational importance of the stars to the Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Dhari - a traditional head dress that is a symbol of the Torres Strait Islanders

Five-pointed star - represents the 5 Island groups of the Torres Strait.

Thank you to Mr John Fulbrook MP for supporting our school community to have the new flagpoles installed.

2025 GOVERNING COUNCIL

Our elections for 2025 Governing Council members took place at the AGM. Congratulations to our parent members for 2025:

Continuing Members: Melissa Oldland, Melissa Semczuk, Sajin Kumar, Sarah Gregory

Re-elected Members: Ilona Atterton, Kelly Hitchcock, Amy Jarvis

New Members: Sally Anne Bice, Sarah Brown

Our Governing Council members are a dedicated and positive group that are keen to support the school.

Sara Broster

DIARY DATES

Mon 3/3/25 - Fri 14/3/25	Dental for Schools
Fri 7/3/25	STUDENT FREE DAY
Mon 10/3/25	Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup Day
Wed 12/3/25 - Fri 21/3/25	NAPLAN for Year 3 & 5 students
Thurs 27/3/25	Year 6 Aquatics
Monday 31/3/25	Learning Conversations
Wed 9/4/25	Casual Day with gold coin donation
Fri 11/4/25	Last day Term 1 - Sports Day with early dismissal 2:00pm



Our Year 6 Leaders

At our school we believe that each student has the power to shine and make a positive impact in our school community. Year 6 students were invited to write an application to become one of our Year 6 Leaders, with the selection criteria being our School Values: Persistence, Enthusiasm, Acceptance, Community and Excellence. The applications were read and selected by the Leadership team.

We are pleased to announce the following students were selected as 2024 our Year 6 Student Leaders:

Sagar, Advaita and Ravneet - all from Room 15

Our Peace Committee Representatives are:

Room 2: Marshall **4:** Purnika **5:** Tiare **7:** Keren **8:** Roseline **9:** Abbey **11:** Avighna **16:** Elias **17:** Emaan **21:** Lottie **22:** Adaline **23:** Sophie **24:** Mia **27:** Sharan **28:** Takshvi **29:** Brendan **30:** Aria **31:** Aliza **32:** Nate **34:** Laura

Our Sports Captains are:

Pingku: Bilby

Rahi, Sophia, Jackson, Imogen

Kuula: Koala

Nathan, Hunter, Angus, Ume

Yaltu: Pelican

Amy, Zahra, Linda, Bawi

Nantu: Kangaroo

Farzad, Arabella, Joshua, Chloe

Our Performing Arts Captains are:

Kirat, Ckale, Daya and Bhayva

Congratulations to all of these students for their dedication.

Raelene White - Senior Leader

School Crossing Monitor Training

On Thursday 20th March 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 over 40 names of students who have made themselves available to be involved in this important role. Students will be advised of the roster which will start next week.

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.



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!

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 until the 6th March** at a cost of \$75. This will be your last chance to order a 2025 Year 6 Senior Jacket for your child.



United Nations Mother Tongue Language Day

Friday, 21st February was the **United Nations Mother Tongue Language Day** which takes place on this date annually and is celebrated in over 200 countries. The day helps raise awareness about the importance of using our first, or Mother Tongue language, and reminds us that languages advance inclusion and understanding of each other.

It is exciting that here at Parafield Gardens Primary School, 64% of our students speak English as an additional language or dialect. It is remarkable just how many of our students and staff speak multiple languages. We are proud to be a Global Peace School.

Room 21 celebrated this special day by sharing our Mother Languages in class. Ms Rahila read *We're going on a Bear Hunt* in Farsi and the students loved looking at books in their Mother tongue languages.



Spark: Glow and Tell - Patch Theatre

Students in Year 1 to 3 classes participated in a 30-minute interactive storytelling incursion run by *Patch Theatre*. The experience linked in with the Australian Curriculum and supported the development of students' English language skills as well as cross-curriculum priorities. Blending the magic of light and the simplicity of storytelling, students were placed at the centre of this engaging interactive experience. Using UV light in a custom-built tent, the students were



Edgell - Glow and Tell artist

When we were at *Glow and Tell*, we listened to Edgell. First when we got to the hall we had to take our shoes off, then we sat in a square. After we had listened to Edgell we went into the tent. We listened to a story about Choo Choo, who stopped at a street shop where women were selling wraps. Then he went to a tree and swung and played. After that he went to a different island to pick up his cousin. When he came back he saw his friend fishing and they caught a fish. They went home and ate the fish. Edgell drew pictures on the wall of the tent when he was telling us the story. When

the story was over we got to draw with the UV lights on the wall and it was fun!

Avighna Room 11



While Edgell told us the story about his cousin, he drew so many things in the tent with the UV light. Then he asked us to tell a story. He showed us how to use the UV light and told us not to look at it. It was so much fun!

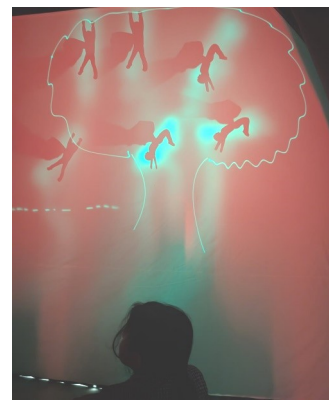
Emilia Room 11

When we met Edgell, he told us he is one of 10 siblings! He has 3 bossy sisters and 6 brothers. We went inside the tent and Edgell drew his story using a UV light. After his story he let us draw with the light inside the tent and we got to use stencils. It was so much fun!

Cing No Room 11

The man introduced himself and he invited us into the big tent. It was dark inside. He told us stories about a pretend friend called Choo Choo. While he was telling us the stories he also did drawings on the wall of the tent. Afterwards he let us do drawings with the UV light too. When it was finished he gave our teacher a bag with presents inside. There was a laser pen and a glow pad. We will have fun with them!

Sania and Het Room 23





PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

are pleased to offer our Term 2 & 3

SCHOOL TOURS

for families who are considering enrolling their child at our school for Term 3 2025 Reception entry. Meet our Principal and Reception Teachers, whilst seeing our contemporary learning environments.

Thursday 18th March at 5:00pm

Wednesday 26th March at 9:30am

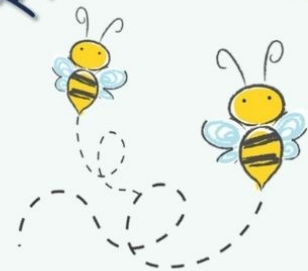
Thursday 10th April 4:30pm

Wednesday 7th May 9:30am

Tuesday 20th May 5pm

**PLEASE COME INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE, EMAIL US
OR CALL 8258 1816 TO BOOK YOUR TOUR PLACE**

Flying Starter





STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

**ADHD: A PARENT'S GUIDE TO
SUPPORT AND SUCCESS**

Learn how Student Support Services can help your child with additional needs at our upcoming Parent Information Session

WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2025

1:30PM - 2:30PM

LOCATION:

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION - PARA HILLS OFFICE
26-34 WILKINSON ROAD PARA HILLS, SA 5096

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER



DENTAL FOR SCHOOLS

Scan the QR code to fill out an online consent form instead



DFS is scheduled to visit during:

Term 1: Week 6 & 7, 2025

Help us fight dental decay this year at Parafield Gardens Primary School by getting your child to participate in our annual dental check-ups. Dental consent forms can be filled in online via the QR code or the link that will be provided.

Forms need to be submitted by the 17th of February.



Check-up & Clean

Have your child's teeth shining bright again! We will provide a check-up & professional clean. Here we will identify any concerns and let you know if there are any areas that require further treatment.



Take home pack + Report

Participants will receive a take home pack with dental essentials as well as a written report of details of your child's oral health and any concerns.



Visit with friends

Take the stress out of your child's dental visit while they visit with their friends and classmates. Our clinics are fitted with movies to watch while they wait.

