

PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

Working Together



Newsletter - Week 10 Term 1 2025

From the Principal

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 their progress of their learning goals and for parents/carers to check in and ask any questions. We will provide another opportunity in Term 3 for our families to opt in and attend more Learning Conversations later in the year. In the meantime, 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.

Respectfully, we do ask that parents/carers avoid entering classrooms after 8:45am or trying to catch up for non-urgent discussions once the school day has started. This is a very busy time of day and our teachers need to make sure students are settling into their morning routines and are preparing for learning.

Thank you to all of our families who attended the Iftar celebrations this year, that was a combined event run by the High School and our school. The EALD teams at both schools, worked collaboratively alongside some of the high school students to provide a culturally appropriate and welcoming environment for our community and we were excited to bring our families together with over 170 people attending the event. An Iftar is a meal held to break the fast during Ramadan, however this event is open to all our families giving us the opportunity to come together as a community.

Our 60th birthday celebrations are in full swing with students about to vote on their preferred key ring design, from the short listed entries created by students. Students across all year levels are also getting very close to finalising the competition entries for the whole school mural, with the short listed entries to be voted on by students. Starting in Term 2, every student in the school will have the opportunity to contribute to the creation of the mural, following the winning design.

We are very excited for our Sports Day this year, with the change of date to **Friday, 11th April, last day of Term 1**. We will see our new sports team mascots, hear our new team chants and enjoy a fun day together. Our new mascots are introduced to you later in this edition. To celebrate the launch of our new sports team names and mascots, order forms have been sent home for students who want to purchase a new drink bottle, with their team name and mascot printed on the bottle. Please get your orders in before the end of this week.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome a new Student Support Officer to our school. Kristy Smith is employed in the school as an additional classroom SSO and brings valued experience to our school.

23 Shepherdson Road, Parafield Gardens, SA 5107
Telephone: 8258 1816 SMS: 1416 906 258
dl.0537.info@schools.sa.edu.au www.pgardens.sa.edu.au

A reminder that school holidays are from Saturday 12th April until Sunday 27th April. **Please note that Monday 28th April is a Student Free Day** where students are not required at school. Staff will be participating in Restorative Practice professional development on this day. Students are required back at school on Tuesday 29th April.

After School Sports Term 2

Next term the after school sports being offered are:

- **Australian Rules Football** - Auskick (Rec - Yr 2) and Superkick (Yrs 3-6) run by SANFL
Wednesdays 3:05 - 3:45pm
- **Taekwondo** - run by Lee's Taekwondo Academy
Thursdays 3:05-3:45pm



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.

Sara Broster

Vacation Care and OHSC

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 28th April**, so please contact us on the above number to make a booking for this date.

Aida Chapman - OSHC Director

DIARY DATES

Wed 9/4/25	Casual Day with gold coin donation
Fri 11/4/25	Sports Day Last day Term 1 with early dismissal 2:00pm
TERM 2 Monday 28/4/25	STUDENT FREE DAY
Tuesday 29/4/25	TERM 2 COMMENCES
Wed 7/5/25	Year 6 PGHS Transition visit
Tues 13/5/25	SCHOOL PHOTOS



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Harmony Day

On Friday 21st March the Year 6 students joined with the Reception classes, who are their PAL classes (Partners at Learning), to celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day is a celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Many students and staff wore orange to represent the notion of harmony.

The students started the session by reading 'Wide Big World' together, a beautiful story about diversity and celebrating differences by Maxine Beneba Clarke. After the story the older students partnered with a Reception student to create their own bracelets inspired by the Harmony Day theme - *Everyone Belongs*. It was wonderful to see our older students mentoring their younger buddies, sharing smiles and embracing the message of inclusivity. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the importance of belonging, kindness and respect in our school. Following this activity the children from these classes and their teachers enjoyed eating lunch together on the steps of the modular building.



Iftar

Parafield Gardens Primary School and Parafield Gardens High School were delighted to co-host an Iftar meal for our school community last Thursday evening. An Iftar meal follows the breaking of the fast at sunset every day during the Muslim month of Ramadan. Around 200 students, families and staff members from both schools shared a delicious meal together in an atmosphere of warmth and harmony. Thanks to everyone who helped and who came to share in this special time together.



SAFM's Back to School

On Thursday the 20th of March SAFM's morning show hosted by Emma G and Bernie came to Parafield Gardens Primary School. Emma G, who is a former school teacher, came to teach a lesson to our Year 6 students whilst Bernie tried to distract everyone. Our students were treated to a fun maths game of integers followed by

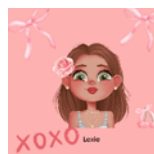
chocolate milk from The Fleurieu Milk Company and fruit from Pick SA. If you would like to listen, follow the link below:

<https://play.listnr.com/podcast/safm-breakfast-show/episode/podcast-bernies-words-on-tv-back-to-school-at-parafield-gardens-primary>



STEM Ambassadors

As a brand new student led committee, I am very proud to introduce our STEM Ambassadors for 2025. They are passionate about using the power of Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) to enhance teaching and learning at our school. They will be working closely with teachers, students and other STEM professionals in the field to integrate technologies into our learning. Our goal is to support innovative learning for everyone at PGPS that will inspire curiosity and critical thinking. Our first task was to create an avatar for ourselves. We hope you enjoy learning a bit more about us!



My name is Lexie. My favourite STEM field is technologies because I love figuring out all different types of things. I love learning and I am very excited for STEM this year!

My name is Heeya and my favourite STEM field is Math because in my opinion Math is fun. If I had to choose a STEM field to learn about I would choose technology and engineering. I love bunnies and puppies, I don't have any pets but I do want one.





My name is Raavi. My favourite STEM field is Technology.



My name is Athefa and my favourite STEM field is Science



My name is Spencer and my favourite STEM field is technology.



My name is Damon and my favourite STEM field is Maths.



I'm Queshia and my favourite STEM field is science and I made my avatar like this.



My name is Anna. My favourite Stem field is Math because there's always something new to discover! My favourite flowers are cherry blossoms and my favourite animal is a bunny to represent me.

School Crossing Monitors

Thank you to our first groups of School Crossing Monitors for the year from Rooms 29, 34A, 34B, 15, 16 and 17. The students are already showing a positive approach and wonderful enthusiasm for this important role.

Week 6: Room 34A

Menas, Spencer, Annie, Esther, Mariam, Anna, Ray, Damon

Week 7: Rooms 34A & 34B

Savannah, Chloe, DJ, Alysha, Bawi, Brooke, Zahra, Joshua, Annabelle, Raavi

Week 8: Room 16

Nathan, Jai, Connor, Tyler, Elias, Angus, Shajna, Hunter, Rahi, Chelsea, Misha, Jackson

Week 9: Rooms 29, 34A & 34B: Aston, Elena, Madison, Harry, Raavi, Brooke, Zahra, Menas

Week 10 & 11: Rooms 15, 16 & 17: Ckael, Jasmine, Pearl, Lukas, Ali, Amy, Hunter, Elias, Tyler, Daya, Chelsea, Rahi, Nathan, Amelia

When the policeman came to talk to us about being a crossing monitor, he told us lots of rules. We always have to be with a teacher on duty and we have to wear a bright orange vest so the traffic can see us. We learnt that if cars are parked in the middle of the crossing, we have to tell the teacher and we also have to try and take the registration number of the car. The cars have to slow right down when going through the crossing so everyone is safe. If an emergency vehicle is coming we have to let them go through and not press the button. We also learnt that we have to push the button and to wait until there are lots of people waiting to cross before we stop the traffic. If someone is bouncing a ball we have to let them know that they have to hold it especially when they cross the road, in case they drop it and it rolls away into the traffic. Little children need to walk with their parents to cross and no



-one is allowed to ride their bike across the road. Even if the green man has turned to red and is just flashing, people are not allowed to start crossing the road as it might not be safe.

It's great being a traffic monitor and we would recommend it to the current Year 4 students, so that they apply next year in Year 5. It's a very important job and it helps us to be responsible, preparing us for being leaders in year 6.

Annie Room 34A, Bawi and Brooke Room 34B

Flag Monitors

We have three flags in our courtyard - the Australian flag, Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Island flag. We have flag monitors who have the responsibility of putting the flags up each morning in the courtyard and taking them down at night.

We have learnt how to take care of our flags which are in the courtyard, by putting them up each morning and taking them down at night. It is very important to show respect to the flags. When we attach the flags we must make sure that they don't touch the ground, which is why there are always 3 monitors involved. One person holds the end of the flag so it doesn't touch the ground while the other two people attach it to the rope. We have to take the flags down after school to keep them safe, because they are not illuminated during the night. We will also have the responsibility of lowering and raising the flags for Remembrance Day. We feel honoured to have the chance to do this.



Anthony, Levi and Alissa Room 27

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 is highlighted at each assembly. This week's award recipients were awarded for **Acceptance - Inclusive of Others**

Term 1 Week 2: Room 2: Oliver, Parmpreet **4:** Elena, Elliot **5:** Hadisa **7:** Justyce, Nana **8:** Yasmeen **9:** Jyhe **11:** Ethan, Avighna **15:** Seth, Ali **16:** Tricia, Tasia **17:** Thomas, Emma **21:** Connor, Darcy **22:** Ian, Jax **23:** Vantin, Devesh **24:** Aashirya, Lian **27:** Levi, Sharan **28:** Takshvi, Austin **29:** Perez, Tahlia **30:** Aeryn, Lillianna **31:** Austyn, Sofia **32:** Kiana, Kanupriya **34A:** Marcus, Eliana **34B:** Brandon, Lilli

Health/PE (Mr Cuconits) Room 9
Music/Drama (Ms Thompson) Room 17
Visual Arts (Mr Luke) Room 32
Auslan (Mrs Neilson) Room 15



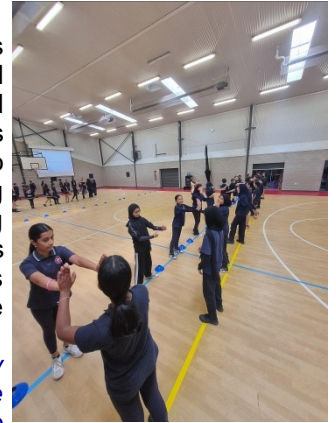


At Parafield Gardens Primary School our Year 6 students are expected to lead by example to uphold our school values of 'working together' and 'making good choices'. As part of our continued commitment to developing our Year 6 students as leaders of the school, we once again ran our student leadership day, *The Big Day In*, on Friday 28th February. 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.

The students participated in a range of activities designed to develop a culture of teamwork and collaboration. Activities included a leadership forum led by Ms White, where she spoke about the qualities required to be an effective leader and what it means to

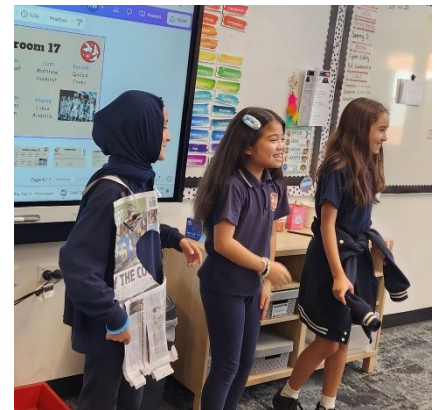
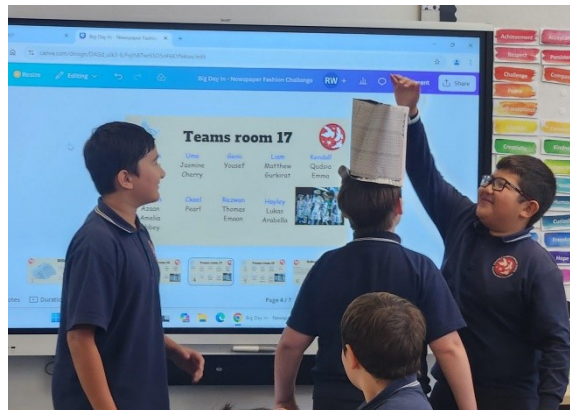
achieve personal success. We also had a representative from the Sammy D Foundation talking about the consequences of violent behaviour, and the risks associated with alcohol and drug use. The students also participated in a range of hands on activities and co-operative activities to foster teamwork and reflect upon our school and community values, which were led by Ms White. Ms Sophie and Ms Sarah, our Wellbeing Leaders, conducted sessions relating to the character strengths required to be a good leader.

When we listened to the Sammy D people, we learnt that a boy called Sammy attended a party with his friends. He had always been full of life and was a very good sportsman. Some people turned up to the party who weren't invited and there was a fight. Sammy tried to intervene to stop it, but he received a punch to the head and collapsed. After being taken to hospital he sadly died from his injury. The Sammy D Foundation helps young people to realise that they shouldn't get involved in situations like this and to help their friends by removing them from the situation too. To be the 'bud'. They explained that sometimes an innocent little decision can have a larger and more serious outcome and can impact lots of different people, like family members and the wider community. We were all given a 'Sammy D' wrist band.



Ms Sarah talked to us about keeping calm and taught us some deep breathing exercises to help to calm down. We also did an activity where we had to put our hand on our heart as an act of respect towards each other.

Another activity was to make a dream catcher, which was quite difficult, but we were encouraged to never give up and keep trying. We also learned about what makes a good leader, including teamwork, creativity and sharing ideas with others.



At one stage we were placed into groups to create a fashion item together out of newspaper. We had to use our time management skills and work together to design and create our fashion item within 8 minutes. We only had one pair of scissors between us and only 50cm of sticky tape to use with the newspaper to make our item. Some groups made hats of varying designs while others made shirts. It was lots of fun. One group made a beret while another one made more of a cap. Within the group we had one person to model the item and one person to speak about it.

One of the most significant things we learnt from the different activities was to make sure to manage our time better which will help us with our studies at school, but also outside of school. Another significant learning point was about respecting others. To make sure everyone is included and that everyone's opinion is acknowledged. To develop good leadership qualities we can talk to everyone and value their opinions and really think about what makes others happy. A good leader also shouldn't leave anyone out so that everyone has a say.

Daya Room 15 and Jordan Room 17



Year 6 Aquatics

On Thursday 27th 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, kayaking, canoeing, snorkelling and double kayaking which are conducted on the lake, plus a beach awareness program using surfboards, wave skis and 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!

On Thursday 27th March the students from Rooms 15, 16 and 17 all went to aquatics, which we have been looking forward to for so long. Aquatics was hosted at West lakes and Tennyson beach. When we got to school we made sure we had all of the things we needed to take then we got on the bus and when we arrived at West Lakes we were put into groups of 6. There was a man called Mat who talked to us and explained all about the lake and safety. We had four different activities and we rotated to different stations throughout the day. Our first activity was sailing on a boat so we went and put on PFDs (life jacket). After we headed over to the sandy area where the boats were, my group spotted some starfish and they were so cool. Our instructor Leigh showed us some facts about the boat; he also went over some rules as well. We hopped on the boat and we started drifting away from land and we started taking off into the water. We had turns controlling the boat, pulling the sail boat flag out and he even let all of us have a turn of steering the boat. Once we all had a go and got to more shallow water he gave us an option to jump off the boat! We all jumped off - it was so much fun! Then he took us back to shore to wash off our shoes and have a quick break.



When our break was finished we moved onto our second activity of snorkelling with our instructor Robin, who told us to call him Mr. Happy. Then we went and put our wet suits on and our snorkelling gear and then he explained about the gear, the safety and snorkelling. When he finished talking we went down to a part of the lake with very clear water. Once we got there Peter, another instructor, sprayed our goggles with this liquid to prevent them from fogging up. Then we had to practise floating for 30 seconds and if we could do that we were allowed to go a little deeper and search for fish and creatures. Once we finished we took our wet suits off, cleaned them and then hung them up. Afterwards we had another 10 minute break to eat some food and drink some water.

Once we were ready we went to our next activity which was kayaking with Leigh as our instructor again. We went to a big patch of grass to practise how to use the paddles and to learn the safety rules and expectations. We then had to partner up and to choose a kayak. The person in the back got in first and the person in the front had to pull them into deeper water. At one stage we all grouped up together to form a raft for safety.

After lunch our last activity was surfing. We had to put wetsuits on again and walk across the road to Tennyson Beach with our instructor, making sure to watch out for lizards, geckos and snakes, because it was a warm day. Before going in the water we were given a safety talk about surfing and the beach. We then had to choose a board and attach the strap around one of our ankles and then we just sat in the water to get used to how cold it felt. Once we were used to the temperature we could have a few goes to catch a wave. We had to get on our stomachs on the board and then try to stand up. After our time in the water was finished we were all a bit sad. We crossed back over the road then we took off our wet suits and had a revision about our lessons. Once we were changed we all came back to school on the bus. It was a great day.

Imogen and Sophia Room 15



INTRODUCING OUR BRAND-NEW SPORTS DAY MASCOTS!

In 2024, our school made the exciting decision to refresh our Sports Day team names. After thoughtful discussions and input from students, we chose to move away from the old names of Flinders, Eyre, Barker, and Sturt, honouring Australian explorers, and instead adopted names that reflect the unique connection to Indigenous culture and the natural world.

Our new team mascots are animals that represent the strength, spirit, and resilience of our community. Students felt a deeper sense of connection to these creatures, symbolising the values of perseverance, teamwork, and unity on Sports Day. Lets embrace this new chapter and cheer on our teams with pride!

Every mascot brings a special character strength, inspiring us to give our best on Sports Day.

Kuula the Green Koala

Meet Kuula, the green koala. Named after the Indigenous word for koala, Kuula represents the strength, endurance and resilience that makes Sports Day so exciting. Just like a koala holds on tight and never gives up, Kuula reminds us to stay determined and give our best in every event. With a love for climbing and an unshakable grip, Kuula shows us that persistence and perseverance lead to success. And, of course, Kuula is all about team spirit - just like koalas stick together, we cheer each other on and celebrate every achievement.

Get ready to go green, stay strong, and race like Kuula!

Yaltu the Blue Pelican

Say hello to Yaltu the Blue Pelican. Named after the Indigenous word for pelican, Yaltu is the symbol of grace, agility, and balance. Just like the pelican glides effortlessly across the water, Yaltu reminds us to stay focused and composed, no matter the challenge. With a keen sense of direction and an unyielding determination, Yaltu teaches us the importance of teamwork and precision in every event.

Get ready to soar high and dive in with Yaltu's spirit!

Nantu the Red Kangaroo

Introducing Nantu the Red Kangaroo. Nantu, named after the Indigenous word for kangaroo, is the embodiment of power, agility, and speed. Just like a kangaroo's strong legs propel it across vast distances, Nantu inspires us to leap over challenges and hop to success. Whether it's jumping high or sprinting fast, Nantu shows us that with strength and determination, anything is possible.

Get ready to bounce into action with Nantu!

Pingku the Yellow Bilby

Meet Pingku the Yellow Bilby, our small but mighty mascot. Named after the Indigenous word for bilby, Pingku embodies the traits of courage, resilience, and quick thinking. Just like the bilby thrives in tough environments, Pingku encourages us to never back down and always adapt to the challenge. Small in size but big in heart, Pingku reminds us that even the smallest steps can lead to big victories. Dig deep, stay determined, and race ahead with Pingku's energy.

Sports Day this year will take place on the last day of Term 1 - Friday 11th April (week 11). Be sure to keep the date free and come along to cheer on the students and our new teams. We'd love to see as many friends and families as possible there to support.

Parents can order their lunch via QKR or in person by 9:00am.

Students are to arrive at school by 8:40am and be ready to move to the COLA with their classes at 9:00am for the opening ceremony, followed by tabloid events. Lunchtime will be in classrooms between 12:00pm and 12:30 pm, meeting on the oval after lunch in their teams for the team sprints. At approximately 1:30pm all students (R-6) will march to the COLA in their teams for the chants, followed by presentations.

As this is the last day of term, dismissal will be at 2:00pm from the classrooms.

Mrs Stephanie Ryan
Health/PE Specialist Teacher



Languages Alive!

Experience the delights of other languages and cultures

APRIL 2025



Languages Alive! is a program of engaging and interactive language and cultural experiences for R-6 students.

Delivered by highly proficient speakers of the relevant language, the program will run during the April school holidays in metropolitan and country locations.

Workshops will explore a range of languages including: Croatian, French, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese & Korean

WHO:

Reception to Year 6 students

WHEN:

April 2025

WHERE:

School of Languages: Tues 15 & Wed 16 April

Stirling East Primary School: Thurs 17 April

COST:

\$10 per day

FREE for School card/Healthcare card holders

Register online at:
www.ticketebo.com.au/languagesalive

