

# PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

United Nations Global Peace School

*Working Together*



## Newsletter - Week 3 Term 4 2025

### From the Principal

Our students have had a wonderful start to Term 4, coming back well rested and ready for learning. We would like to welcome back Ms Kompo (KK) and Ms Earl, who have returned from leave and congratulate Ms Slessor who has stepped into a Wellbeing, Engagement and Positive Behaviours Leader role for Term 4.

Currently we are working through class configurations for next year and students have all been provided with the opportunity to identify their preferred friendship groups and classmates for 2026. Parents/carers who are wanting to express input into these preferences, are asked to send through their requests in writing to Mrs Poulain no later than Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Please note that parents/carers are not able to request a preferred teacher.

As the weather warms up, please continue to make sure your child has their bucket hat with their name on it, and have sun cream applied each morning before coming to school.

A reminder also that any students with a mobile phone are required to hand it in to the front office when they arrive at school, so it can be securely stored and then can collect it at the end of the day.

Congratulations to our STEM Ambassadors and our Year 5/6 Enterprising Girls. They have done a fantastic job in demonstrating leadership and entrepreneurial skills, sharing their learning with other students and taking up the opportunities to come up with solutions for real world issues.

Thank you to Daya Desai from our Hindu community who talked to the year 1s about what Diwali means for her family and temple. It was a great opportunity for our students to find out more about Diwali and its significance.

Our staff also celebrated Diwali with a special morning tea on Friday, hosted by Ms Sharan, Ms Arsh, Ms Rachel and Ms Anu.



### Remembrance Day

Tuesday 11th November is Remembrance Day and we will again be holding a special service in the courtyard for our staff and students, to honour those who have died as a result of war, in particular from World War 1 onwards. Students will be invited to place wreaths and poppies beneath our flags as symbols of remembrance.



**Sara Broster**

### 2025 School Fees are now overdue...

Thank you to all the families who have paid for their 2025 school fees or applied for school card if eligible.

Final Notice letters were sent to families at the end of August if they had school fees for 2025 overdue.

Please pay your account as soon as possible as the debt collection process has started.

If you are eligible for School Card please apply online or come to the Office for an application form.

To set up a payment plan, come and see Jenny Southwell in the Office.

**Jenny Southwell - Business manager**

### DIARY DATES

Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Thurs 13th November	Assembly in the Hall at 9:00am
Mon 17th to Fri 21st November	Years 3-5 Swimming
Thurs 27th November	POP Celebration 6:00pm
Fri 28th November	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
Tues 2nd December	Governing Council Meeting 6:00pm
Thurs 4th & Fri 5th December	Year 6 High School Transition
Wed 10th December	Casual Day with gold coin donation Class Parties
Thurs 11th December	Assembly in the Hall 9:00am Reports go home Year 6 Graduation
Fri 12th December	Last day of 2025 with early dismissal 2:00pm



## International Day of Peace

As part of our International Day of Peace and 60th Birthday celebrations last term, we were delighted to welcome some of the mums from our Multicultural Women's Group to share the beautiful art of henna mehndi with our students.

Mehndi is a traditional art form that uses natural henna paste to create intricate and meaningful designs. The activity was a lovely expression of peace, creativity and cultural connection, which help make our school community so special.

We thank our Multicultural Women's Group for sharing this beautiful art form and helping us build meaningful connections across cultures. Their contribution is a wonderful reflection of the vibrant and inclusive community we are proud to be part of.

**Katrice White - EALD Specialist Teacher**



**Beautiful Henna art created by our Multicultural Women's Group**

## Diwali - Festival of Lights

Diwali, which is also known as the Festival of Lights, is India's biggest and most important holiday of the year. The festival gets its name from the row (*avali*) of clay lamps (*deepa*) that Indian people light outside their homes to symbolise the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. This festival is as important to Hindus as the Christmas holiday is to Christians. For many people Diwali honours the Hindu goddess of wealth, Lakshmi, with the lights and lamps helping her to find her way into people's homes, bringing prosperity for the coming year. It is also a celebration of good triumphing over evil.



The students have been working with Ms Rachel Shephard to learn about Diwali and they have also been decorating their own little clay pot.

Our students and staff enjoyed learning about and celebrating Diwali in week 2. We were very

grateful to the Desai family who came to talk to our year 1 students about Diwali and helped us source enough diya lamps for all students to decorate. We are very lucky to share the celebrations of our many cultures at Parafield Gardens Primary School.

*Diwali is a celebration that is celebrated by people from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Fiji. It is celebrated between October and November. Diwali celebrates the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. Rama and Laxmana defeated the demon king Ravana. People also call Diwali the Festival of Lights. Outside their homes people do rangoli designs to welcome their goddess, Laxmi. We clean our homes and decorate it with diya lamps. On this day people go to temples and light fireworks. At home some people also light fire crackers. On Diwali, if you go to the Space Station you will see*



**Some diya lamps made by the students in Room 27**

*lights covering India. People will also wear new clothes and beautiful jewellery. Families will also have sweets.*

## Avighna Room11

*Diwali is a special celebration. Diwali is also called the Festival of Light. It is mostly celebrated in India and Nepal. People light up their houses with either fairy lights or diya lamps. In India people keep their decorations up until Christmas.*

## Emma Room11



**Making a Rangoli design**

## Primary Years Swimming

As an important part of our Health and PE curriculum, all year 3-5 students will be involved in water safety swimming lessons **from Monday 17th to Friday 21st November 2025** at the Elizabeth Aquadome Swimming Centre.

Lessons will be conducted by qualified Department for Education instructors

### Remember to bring:

- A towel (or two)
- Bathers
- Underwear
- Medication (inhalers, anything you listed on the medical form)
- Comb/brush
- Long hair should be in a ponytail
- Simple studs or sleeper earrings only
- Strong plastic bag to hold all your gear (even when wet - Please name all appropriate items)
- Goggles (optional)

### Do NOT bring:

- Money (no money to be spent at Aquadome canteen)
- Jewellery and watches



## Wheelienet

The Wheelienet Program Brings Fun, Awareness, and Empathy to Our Students

Last week, our students took part in the Wheelienet program, run by Michael Neroni from Novita. These sessions gave students a unique opportunity to experience life in a wheelchair, helping them understand the challenges faced by people who may not be able to use their legs.

Using specially designed sports wheelchairs, students participated in a range of fun and engaging activities that challenged their strength, coordination, and teamwork. The program provided plenty of excitement and laughter, while also encouraging students to develop a deeper understanding and empathy for people living with physical disabilities.

A huge thank you to Michael Neroni and Novita for running such a fantastic and meaningful experience for

our school community. The Wheelienet program was a hit — and a wonderful reminder of the importance of inclusion, resilience, and respect for all abilities.

**Mrs Ryan - Health/PE Specialist teacher**



**The students had so much fun!  
It was hard using the wheelchairs outside over  
different surfaces!**



## Adelaide Zoo Excursion

On Friday 24th October, as part of our science unit, the students from Rooms 34a and 34b travelled by train to Adelaide to undertake a self-guided tour of the Adelaide Zoo. The focus for students was on animal adaptations and making connections to what we have been exploring in the classroom. Students had the opportunity to view live, wild animals in their natural habitats, observe animal feedings and use the zoo's new nature-playground.

*In the morning, we left for the train station. The walk was easy but we were scared we were going to miss the train. We got off the train in the city and walked approximately 2km to the zoo, with good views and a nice easy walk. Then when we got to the zoo we looked around at all the bats in the trees while eating recess near the zoo entrance. After we ate recess, we went into the zoo then got into our small groups with a teacher and started our walk around the zoo. There were lots of little kids because of the preschool thing they do there.*



**The serval**

*I think we had the best luck seeing all the animals we probably wouldn't normally see, including the serval, which looks a bit like a cheetah and the fennec fox - the tiniest fox in the world with extremely large ears. I even saw the giraffes up close at the fence. Then it was time for lunch. We ate under the veranda next to the playground so after we finished, we could play. Mostly everyone was feeling tired by this part of the day especially the teachers. It was fun to see everyone playing their own game of chasey. Lots to play on and do. Then it was time to go home. Everyone*



**Cute little fennec foxes**

*was puffed out and tired on the walk back to the train station. When we got back to the Parafield Gardens train station we walked back with everyone complaining about their sore feet. Then there was the relief of coming back to school and being able to rest until the end of the day.*

*The reason we went to the Adelaide Zoo was to learn more about animals' behaviour and things they do to tie in to our work on adaptations and dioramas in science. Also to understand more about animals. The reason I enjoyed this excursion is because we got to have fun with our friends exploring the zoo and see all of the animals.*



**One of the beautiful giraffes**



**Students from Rooms 34a and 34b**

**Spencer Room 34a**

## Assembly Awards

Our assembly awards are aligned to our Peace School Values:

**P** - Persistence

**E** - Enthusiasm

**A** - Acceptance

**C** - Community

**E** - Excellence

This week our awards are for **Enthusiasm - Engages positively in whole school events**

**Term 4 Week 2: Room 2:** Ava, Ethan **3:** Azlan, Amber **4:** Tyler, Lauren **5:** Alistair, Basimah **7:** Elise, Tirth **8:** Yasmeen **9:** Xavier, Noah **11:** Zakia, Carter **15:** Daya, Seth **16:** Nathan, Jackson **17:** Teebah, Hayley **21:** Nolan, Billy **22:** Zahra, Younis **23:** Adrian, Hoorain **24:** Mishka, Lukas **27:** Bismullah, Tabitha **28:** Logan, Sonam **29:** Ashley, Amir **30:** Geeta, Sereywarth **31:** Aria, Jonah **32:** Willow, Vilma **34A:** Athefa, Lewis **34B:** Alysha, Jayden

**Health/PE (Mr Cuconits) Room 29**

**Health/PE (Ms Ryan) Room 2**

**Visual Arts (Ms Langworthy) Room 2**

**Visual Arts (Mr Luke) Room 34B**

**Auslan (Ms Neilson) Room 17**

**Music/Drama (Mr Clark) Room 34A**

## School Crossing Monitors

Thank you to our first groups of School Crossing Monitors for Term 4 for their positive approach and enthusiasm.

**Week 1: Room 29:** Elena, Madison, Denzel, Lucas, Aston, Harry

**Week 2: Rooms 29 & 34b:** Harry, Elena, Denzel, Savannah, Chloe, DJ, Alysha, Bawi, Zahra, Lewis

**PARAFIELD GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PRESENTS....**



**THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 27**

**GATES OPEN AT 5:00PM**

**SHOW BEGINS  
AT 6PM**

**CANTEEN OPEN FOR DRINKS  
AND LIGHT SNACKS,  
CASH PAYMENTS ONLY.**

**BRING A PICNIC, RUG AND  
CHAIRS, RELAX AND  
ENJOY THE SHOW!**



**THIS IS A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT, NO ALCOHOL OR SMOKING IS PERMITTED ON SITE.**