



Penola Primary News



Friday 11 August 2023: Issue 7

LEADERSHIP

Principal : Sam Currie

Hi Families,

Welcome back to Term 3. It is fantastic to have everyone back and refreshed ready for another busy term.

External School Review – Final Report

Our final report from our External School Review is now in and can be found on our website from early next week for you to look over. Our new directions for the next 3 years are:

Direction 1: Strengthen teacher capability to provide a range of quality feedback on students learning that informs their next steps.

Direction 2: Strengthen professional learning structures, promoting collaboration, leading to collective agreements for curriculum implementation and pedagogical approaches that stretch student learning.

Direction 3: Build and strengthen evidence-based intervention support, where students are tracked, monitored and reviewed using multiple data sets.

As I've mentioned before, this was a fantastic process for the school to work through and highlighted the amazing teaching, learning and community togetherness that we have here at Penola Primary School. As a staff team, we look forward to strengthening these areas even further through focusing on the directions above over the next 3 years.

2024 Timetable Changes

In preparation for the beginning of 2024, our Governing Council has this week approved a range of changes to the daily timetable, including a new start and end time to the school day. The changes below will commence on the first day of 2024.

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LEADERSHIP Cont....

Principal : Sam Currie

2024 TIMETABLE
8:50
Beginning of School Day
8:50 – 11:20
150 minute teaching block
11:20 – 11:50
(LUNCH)
11:50 – 12:00
Eating Lunch in Classroom
12:00 – 1:40
100 minute teaching block
1:40 – 2:10
(AFTERNOON RECESS)
2:10 – 3:10
60 minute teaching block
3:10
End of School Day

These changes have been made due to a number of factors relating to the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement for staff and based on feedback from our External School Review, including the need to utilise key learning times for targeted literacy learning.

As you will see, our first official break time now begins at 11:20am, with students playing before then coming in to eat lunch. This is becoming a very common practice in a number of schools both locally and across the State and allows for a longer teaching block in the morning. Classrooms will still have consistent brain breaks and opportunities for students to eat their fruit snack during this time to ensure they are energised and engaging in their learning.

Staffing Updates

In term 3, Stacey Marlow will be on leave for the duration of the term. We are fortunate enough to have Cathy Heyn step into her teaching role in the year 4/5s for the entire term. Cathy already has great relationships with the students and will teach on Thursdays and Fridays in 4/5 B, along with every second Monday in 4/5 A.

We would also like to welcome Ebonie Moulton, who will be joining us on Mondays and Fridays, and welcome back Bridgette Cutchie who will work on Tuesdays as SSOs in classroom support. Both have fit in to the culture of the site extremely well and we look forward to having them work with our staff and students for the remainder of the term.

Along with this, we also welcome Ebony Prelec to our school community. Ebony is completing her teaching placement in the F/1 space and will be here for the remainder of the term.

NAPLAN Results

On Friday of Week 1, families of students in Years 3 and 5 would have received your child's NAPLAN results.

NAPLAN (the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) is a national test undertaken by all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students, designed to provide information about student's literacy and numeracy achievements and areas for improvement. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of our school's assessment and reporting processes, they do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about your child's achievement. Your child's teacher will have the best insight into your child's educational progress. NAPLAN results provide additional information, which can be used along with our other assessment and testing.

As a school we analyse NAPLAN data at a whole school, cohort (year level), and individual student level. This enables us to identify trends and to evaluate individual students' skills in key areas of literacy and numeracy, providing valuable information about their strengths and areas for improvement. Teachers then plan their teaching and learning programs accordingly to support each individual student's learning through quality teaching practice.

This year there have been changes to the NAPLAN reports to include new Proficiency Standards which commence from this year. Your child's NAPLAN report will show how your child is tracking against four achievement levels known as proficiency levels.

The proficiency levels are:

- Exceeding: the student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: the student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: the student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- Needs additional support: the student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

Therefore, "If your child is in the Strong or Exceeding category, it means they have demonstrated proficiency and that their literacy or numeracy skills are where they should be at this stage of their schooling. If your child has not yet achieved proficiency, then they will either be in the Developing category or the Needs additional support category." (ACARA CEO, David de Carvalho)

We understand that the change may create some confusion and you may have some questions around this. Please contact myself or your child's classroom teacher if you would like further clarification or to discuss your child's results.

Assemblies

We will now be holding 3 assemblies (Weeks 3, 6, 9) a term. Please continue to check in on Seesaw for starting times as we will be changing to a morning session for our Week 6 Assembly in order to celebrate Book Week. On the final day of each term we will get together in the gym for the final 10-15 minutes of the day for any final messages and farewells before dismissing students for their breaks.

Thanks,

Sam Currie

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

PROJECT +

Parents & Carers

Over the last few years **The Resilience Project** has been very lucky to **partner with Culture is Life** to **enrich the wellbeing resources** we provide to our schools, **by incorporating First Nations knowledge and perspectives to wellbeing.**

We believe that, as Australians, we all have so much to learn from the longest surviving culture in the world.

Your children may come home and talk about some of these **First Nations wellbeing perspectives** that are integrated into our curriculum. We thought it would be a good idea to share some similar ways you could practise **Gratitude**, **Empathy** and **Mindfulness (GEM)** at home.

Culture
is Life

Culture is Life is an Aboriginal-led Not-For-Profit organisation who believe that all **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people have the right to thrive and flourish;** strong in knowing who they are, where they come from and who they are connected to.



Gratitude

You could show **gratitude** for the land that you live on and **research your local area** (most local councils have a dedicated webpage for this). You could find the following information:

- What lands are you living on?
- What is the native language?
- What are the native plants?
- What native wildlife is in your area?
- What First Nations land are your family and extended family living on across Australia?



Scan the QR code to see a map of Indigenous Australia.

Empathy

As a family you could sit in a **yarning circle** while having a conversation, and discuss the GEM question prompts below. This helps to practise **empathy** by respecting each other, taking turns and listening to everyone's ideas.

- What are three things that went well for you today?
- What is something that made you smile or laugh today?
- What kind acts have you noticed today?
- What is something kind you can do for someone this week? Think about who you might do this kind act for and when you could do this.

Yarning circles are a harmonious, creative and collaborative way to communicate. This is a place to talk, share, discuss, educate and have a yarn together. It is a place to build healthy and respectful relationships. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have been using yarning circles for thousands of years.

Mindfulness

Dadirri is an Indigenous term for **mindfulness**. It involves deep listening, bringing awareness to what is around you and focusing on your breathing. You could do this outside on Country by listening to the sounds of nature.

Check out **Dr. Paul Callaghan's** imperfections podcast episode where he shares a lot of wisdom that he has accrued over a lifetime of wins, losses and even a near death experience that changed his life forever. Connecting to Country is what help him through.



Proudly supported by

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The Resilience Project is proud to partner with Coles to support students, teachers and parents to become happier, healthier and more resilient. We are grateful for the commitment and shared vision of Coles to support the mental health of all Australians.

education@theresilienceproject.com.au | (03) 9113 9302 | theresilienceproject.com.au

THE
**RESILIENCE
PROJECT.**



FLUENCY PAIRS IN F/1!

As a whole school, we have been implementing daily Fluency Pair reading.

Each day, children read various word lists, fluency passages and decodable books to a partner.



SCHOOL NEWS: Year F/1 cont..

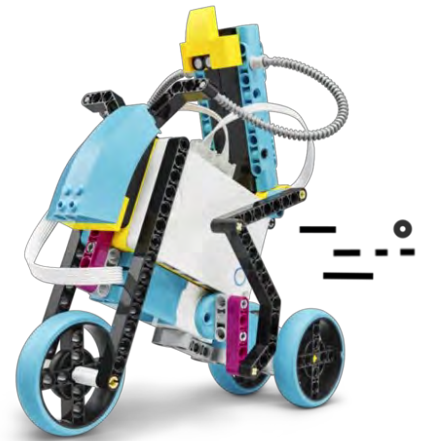


Fluency Pairs is a researched based approach that supports students to develop their reading fluency. The structure enables students to work together and supports peer-assisted learning and cooperation through reading, listening, and responding (effective feedback) to other readers.



Fluency is a very important skill for successful readers and through Fluency Pairs, all children are working on and developing their fluency skills daily.





Stem

The LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime Set is the go-to STEAM learning tool for school students. Combining colourful LEGO building elements, easy-to-use hardware, and an intuitive drag-and-drop coding language based on Scratch, SPIKE Prime continuously engages students through playful learning activities to think critically and solve complex problems, regardless of their learning level. From easy-entry projects to limitless creative design possibilities, including the option to explore text-based coding with Python, SPIKE Prime helps students learn the essential STEAM and 21st century skills needed to become the innovative minds of tomorrow... while having fun!



SCHOOL NEWS: Choir News

Stacey Gibbs

Choir News

Our Choir will be performing at the South East Primary Schools Music Festival at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre on Wednesday 25th, October 2023. Many of our choir students, auditioned for solo and compere positions for our performance, which was terrific to see. I appreciated the time they gave up at lunchtime to practise and it was evident that the students were also practicing at home. As the choir leader I am proud of how the students prepared and conducted themselves.

Congratulations to the following students:

Compere

Emmie Copping

Solo

Emmie Copping –Dance Evolution

Maddison Currie–Smile

Skye Wooding–I am the Earth remix Narrator

Tilly Gibbs–I am the Earth Remix



Skye, Tilly, Maddison and Emmie

SCHOOL NEWS: Student Representative Council



SPORTS LIBRARY

PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS DECIDED TO PUT OUT A BIN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR DONATIONS OF ANY UNWANTED SPORTS EQUIPMENT FOR THE STUDENTS TO USE. THE BIN WILL BE LOCATED AT FOODLAND, PENOLA. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE EQUIPMENT IS IN GOOD CONDITION AS OUR STUDENTS WILL BE USING THEM. PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT THE EQUIPMENT CAN ONLY BE AS BIG AS THE BIN CAN HOLD.

PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL SRC

Respect, Responsibility, Inclusivity

SCHOOL NEWS: Sports Report

Tony O'Connell

HOW ORGANISED SPORT BENEFITS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILD

I thought that the article in the link below really captures the benefits that we know come with playing organised school and community sport..

It reinforces why, as educators and parents, we put so much time into organised sport for the children in our care.

[School sport and the development of life skills | The Educator K/12 \(theeducatoronline.com\)](https://www.theeducatoronline.com)

Millicent Round Robin Basketball



Late last term, students from Penola Primary School travelled to Millicent for basketball against other schools in our area. The competition was of a high standard and our students played very well. It was a successful day and most importantly they all had an enjoyable time.



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SCHOOL NEWS: House Leaders

Introducing our House Leaders



Rymill House Leaders

Bree, Emmie, Daxton and Aidan

Gordon House Leaders

Janelle, Milly, Kiana and Lachie



Dickson House Leaders

Zavier, Ané, Bridget and Archie

Woods House Leaders

Tahila, Ebony, Cormac and Riley



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SCHOOL NEWS: Poetry Award

After working on a poetry unit in class, Dorothy Clements in Year 2 has had her poem chosen as the winning piece in the Year 2/3 Poetry Category for this year's South Australian Young Writers Award. She will be travelling to Adelaide next week to represent the school and attend the presentation night, where she will be presented with a certificate and a complementary copy of the Young Writers Special Edition of SAETA's Journal, *OPINION*, in which her poem will be published! Congratulations Dot, on representing the great work we are doing with Writing in our school.



SPREAD *kindness*

Kindness
In a lap of
Niceness to add to
Dreaming for a beautiful
Neck of
Empathy and sitting or
Standing in someone else's
Shoes and that's kindness!

If you
Show

Kindness
I can go
Near you
Dreaming big.

CANTEEN NEWS:

Canteen Manager: Maryke Van der Merwe

Canteen Roster

Friday, 18th August

April Possingham

Friday, 25th August

Amy Vaughan

Friday, 1st September

Meg Redman

Munchies

Wednesday, 16th August

Stacey Gibbs

Trish Wooding

Jen McCulloch

Wednesday, 23rd August

Anna McGregor

Kirsty Hackwill

Kim Wilson

Wednesday, 30th August

Karly Honner

Deanne O'Brien

April Possingham



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Important dates for Term 3 2023

30th August—Principal Tour

1st September—Fathers Day Stall and Book Week Assembly

Contact Us:

Principal: Sam Currie sam.currie685@schools.sa.edu.au

Numeracy Improvement Coordinator: Tony O'Connell

Wellbeing and Intervention Coordinator: Stacey Marlow

Governing Council Chairperson: Matthew McGregor

11 Riddoch Street

Penola SA 5277

Phone: 08 87372300

Fax: 08 87372877

Email: dl.0763.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Website: <http://www.penolaps.sa.edu.au>

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Penola Primary School

Term 3 2023 Calendar



1	24/7	25/7	26/7	27/7	28/7
2	31/7	1/8	2/8	3/8 Sapsasa Basketball Millicent	4/8
3	7/8	8/8	9/8	10/8	11/8 Sapsasa Regional Basketball Mt Gambier Assembly –Yr 6
4	14/8	15/8	16/8 Sapsasa Soccer State Carnival	17/8 Sapsasa Soccer State Carnival	18/8 Sapsasa Soccer State Carnival
5	21/8	22/8	23/8	24/8	25/8 Sapsasa Regional Golf Naracoorte
6	28/8	29/8	30/8 Principal Tour	31/8	1/9 Father's Day Stall Book Week Assembly –Yr 6
7	4/9	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9
8	11/9	12/9	13/9	14/9	15/9
9	18/9	19/9	20/9	21/9	22/9 Assembly –2/3A
10	25/9	26/9	27/9	28/9	29/9 Assembly –SRC



PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S TOUR 30TH AUGUST 2023

Principal, Sam Currie, and Numeracy/Sports Coordinator Tony O'Connell, and our Student Representative Council (SRC), cordially invites prospective parents/caregivers, students and friends of Penola Primary to meet with them and tour our school.

The leadership team and SRC will welcome visitors to our school and provide an overview of our curriculum, values, and ethos. They will be available to answer specific questions about transition from Kindergarten to Foundation, and what's on offer in terms of our programs and facilities.

Penola Primary is a dynamic and progressive Foundation to Year 6 school with strong links to the community. The school's focus is to develop the whole child; intellectually, socially, physically, culturally, and emotionally. The learning opportunities at Penola Primary School are stimulating and challenging, with an emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy. The school is proud of its commitment to the provision of a wide variety of programs and activities, including STEM, Japanese, Music, Arts, After School Sports, and Environmental programs.

PLEASE MEET AT THE SCHOOL LIBRARY AT 9:30AM ON WEDNESDAY, 30TH AUGUST TO TOUR OUR SCHOOL. MORNING TEA WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER THE TOUR IN OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY AT 10:30AM.

*IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE TOUR, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL ON 87372 300 TO ARRANGE ANOTHER TIME.

RSVP

dl.0763.info@schools.sa.edu.au
by Tuesday, 29th August
by at 10:30am.

VISION STATEMENT

Penola Primary School will be a supportive and progressive community where all individuals are respected and valued. Leading teaching practices and high expectations will inspire our students to become informed, compassionate, active global citizens.

Father's Day stall

Friday 1st Sept.

The annual Fathers day stall will be held on Friday 1st Sept in the Library.

Students will have an opportunity to purchase a gift for \$5 or \$10(cash only) from the stall for their Dad/special person in their life.

Dust off your favourite book and dress ups, as Book Week will be celebrated this term on:

Week 6, Friday 1st September.

There will be a special morning Book Week Assembly held at 9am in the Gym.

The 2023 Book Week Theme is
Read, Inspire, Grow.

Students are invited to dress as a favourite character from a book or someone that Inspires them.

CHILDREN'S
BOOK WEEK™

#CBCA2023

READ
GROW
Inspire



Community News and Events

FOOTBALL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

FOOTBALL IN SCHOOLS

CLUEY MINI ROOS

School: Mary MacKillop MS
Start Date: Tuesday, 8 August
Finish Date: Tuesday, 26 September
Time: 3.30PM - 4.30PM **Contact:**
 christian.fleetwood@footballs.com.au

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Carls Jr.

CLAIM your \$100
One voucher each calendar year for children aged 5 to 18 years old

I confirm my child has not already claimed a voucher in 2023

Child's information

First name: Family name:

Child date of birth: / / Gender: Male Female Gender diverse

Is this the first time your child has joined this sport / dance organisation? Yes No

Has your child been identified as living with a disability? Yes No

Is your child from a culturally and linguistically diverse background? Yes No

Is your child from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background? Yes No

Medicare information

Medicare number: Reference number:

OR Australian visa number:

Parent/Guardian information

First name: Family name:

Street address: Suburb:

Postcode: Contact number:

Email:

An email notification may be sent to the above email address (assuming it is correct) advising the submission of the voucher used for your child.

To be provided at an approved Sports Voucher provider. To find your nearest provider or for more information please visit www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au. Not redeemable for cash, only a redemee to consider for registration fees. Redemption value not to exceed \$100. In presenting this voucher I give permission to the Sports Voucher provider to share my information with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR). The ORSR may share de-identified information with third parties (eg other agencies of government, research institutions, etc) to improve the administration, outcomes or effectiveness of the Program.

Game On sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au

FOOTBALL IN SCHOOLS

Fun, friendly and safe

Football in Schools is a fun, welcoming, primary school program for kids keen to have a go at football. Held before or after school, Football in Schools runs once a week for eight weeks, with sessions of 60 minutes. The program is run by a qualified coach who creates a positive environment for kids to develop their skills through fun football activities. To find a school running a program, visit <https://www.footballs.com.au/footballinschools>. Apply code 'SVoucher23' to use your government Sports Voucher for this program. For any enquiries, contact christian.fleetwood@footballs.com.au

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