



# Penola Primary News



Thursday 28 March 2024: Issue 3

## LEADERSHIP

Principal : Sam Currie

Hi Families,

As usual Term 1 has gone extremely quickly, with many events occurring both at school and within the community. A few things to highlight include our enormous amount of students who competed with great sportsmanship at our local SAPSASA Athletics carnival held in Millicent last week and our students participating in our school Choir this year. Yesterday, Stacey Gibbs welcomed Robyn Filmer from Adelaide to work with our choir as well as many students from other schools in the region. To have more than 40 of our students commit to this program this year is amazing and we look forward to their many performances throughout the year both in the community and at our school assemblies.

### Field Days

What an absolutely outstanding effort our Families and Friends, students and volunteers put in over the Field Days weekend! With great weather and a new location this year, our food stall was incredibly busy and our school community worked tirelessly to fundraise for our school and students. The amount of positive comments I've heard from numerous people about our volunteers and the way our students worked and greeted people across the 3 days was incredibly pleasing to hear and makes us all incredibly proud of our school community.

A special mention to Jen and the Families and Friends group who have spent months preparing for the event. The amount of hours you have put in behind the scenes started last year and it is great to see your hard work and volunteer hours (days/weeks in reality) have yielded some great results for the school.

The other group who continues to support our efforts in our fundraising at the Field Days are the team from Windara Bakery. Mardi, Geoff and the team at Windara go above and beyond for our site in not only their support for this yearly event, but also on a weekly basis in so many other areas. Thank you again for the support you continue to provide to our school.

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# LEADERSHIP Cont...

Principal : Sam Currie

To highlight the success of the Field Days, it is pleasing to say that the total amount raised over the 3 days was \$10,600. This is an incredible effort by all involved and we look forward to purchasing some student technology devices to be used in classrooms to better support the teaching and learning at our great school.

## **Pupil Free Days for 2024**

The following Pupil Free Days / School Closure have been approved by our Governing Council at our recent meeting.

**Pupil Free Day #1:** Partnership Day – LISC, Engagement and Feedback

Term 2 – Week 3 Friday 17th of May, 2024

**Pupil Free Day #2:** English Block / Mentor Texts

Term 2 – Week 9 Friday, 28th June, 2024

**School Closure Day:** Penola Show

Term 4 – Week 3 Friday, 1st November, 2024

## **Staffing Update**

As I mentioned at our previous assembly, we have welcomed Dave Marshall to our staff team midway through this term. He is taking over our grounds position for the remainder of the year and will be onsite on Mondays and Fridays. Dave also works at 2 other Primary Schools within our region in both an SSO role and a facilities role and we look forward to him working with us until the end of the year. If you see him around, please feel free to introduce yourself and welcome him to the Penola community.

Next week we also welcome back Alex Quick to our year 6 classroom. In her absence, Kathy O'Connell has stood in at short notice and covered the majority of this time, doing an amazing job. We thank Kathy for committing to this time at short notice and look forward to having her in the school at other times throughout the year!

I will be taking leave for Weeks 10 and 11 of this term and Sam McDougall will be acting Principal during this time. If there is anything you need during this time from a leadership perspective, please contact Sam direct or speak to our administration team and they will direct you to the best person to speak to.

Have a great Easter break!

Thanks,

*Sam Currie*

# THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

*Working on empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we show empathy or we do something kind for someone else our brain releases oxytocin. This leads to increasing our self-esteem/confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.*

Whole Family Activity: **Kindness**

### Neighbourhood Kindness Challenge

As a family, choose an act of kindness from the list below that you would like to do for a neighbour or family friend. Each family member can select one to commit to, or you can choose to do one together.

- Cook them something delicious like a cake, hot bread, or cookies.
  - Write a note to put in their letterbox thanking them for being a great neighbour or friend.
  - Design them a Thank You card.
  - Pick or buy some flowers to deliver to them.
  - Choose a little plant from your garden to give them.
  - Make them a gift from things around your house.
  - Offer to do a job for them, like wash their car or water their garden.
  - Offer to take their pets for a walk.
  - Invite them over for afternoon tea.
  - Invite them on a walk.
  - Recommend one of your favourite books to borrow and read.
  - Ask them if they need anything from the shops next time you buy groceries.
  - Say hello next time you see them, and ask them how their day is going.
- Feel free to do more than one and spread the kindness even further!

Report back to each other in one week and share how your acts of kindness were received, and how doing them made you feel.

Family Habit Builder:

Every night at dinner, have each person thank another family member for something they've done or said today, or give another family member a compliment.

# SCHOOL INFORMATION: House Leaders

## Introducing our 2024 House Leaders

Congratulations to our 2024 House Leaders.

The leaders will help with organising equipment, communicating with their team members and leading their peers at sporting events during 2024.



### **GORDON**

Imogen, Kiana, Janelle & Caleb



### **DICKSON**

Ané, Charlie, Piper & Archie



### **RYMILL**

Emmie, Seb, Dya & Bonnie



### **WOODS**

Aurora, Riley, Axel & Ebony

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# LUCINDALE FIELD DAYS

A huge vote of thanks to all who were involved with the Lucindale Field Days. It is always a huge undertaking to organise such an event, with some expert planning from Jen McCulloch and her team of helpers, it was a complete success.

A HUGE shout out to all of our parents, staff and students who worked tirelessly on the stall over the Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.



Thank you also to Mardi Currie and her team at Windara Bakery for all their support with the lead up to and over the Lucindale Field Days. We really appreciate your incredible support.

With great appreciation for everyone's efforts, the Family and Friends were able to raise \$10,600 towards student technology devices.

## Breakfast Club

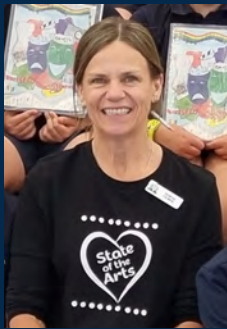
We have started Breakfast Club at school which runs every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30am—8:50am in the canteen. Every student can access toast and fruit in the morning and there is no charge for this service. We are very fortunate to be supported by Mardi and Geoff Currie from Windara Bakery who are supplying all of the bread (and a freezer for storage!) and Foodbank in Mt Gambier who are providing fruit and spreads, as well as other items we will introduce in the future. Children have growing bodies and growing minds and there are lots of reasons why children may be hungry in the morning. Regardless of the reasons, we have the opportunity to provide this service to our students and support them in their learning and well-being. There are many benefits to running a program like this. These include;

- Building a sense of community in the school
- Bringing children together and helping them to meet people
- Students engaging in class a lot better with a full stomach
- Students demonstrating greater persistence and resilience for learning
- Improvements to learning, attention span and behaviour
- Breakfast becoming a familiar routine that students follow on these mornings. Having a consistent routine is important to ensuring positive student wellbeing
- Providing a safe environment and keeping students focused
- Improving student attendance at school

Thank you to Windara Bakery and Foodbank for helping us to support our students. We are extremely grateful.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION: Choir



### Choir 2024 Robyn Filmer Visit Festival of Music Musical Director



On Wednesday 27th March, 2024, we had Robyn Filmer, visit from Adelaide. Robyn is the Musical Director for the Festival of Music held in Adelaide. We had Kangaroo Inn Area School and Mary MacKillop Memorial School also visit for this session.

She taught us about the songs we had been learning in choir this year. We learnt some choreography and tricky parts in the songs.

We enjoyed the visit and know even more about the songs we are learning this year. We look forward to learning more songs and presenting them at assemblies.



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## Mathematics in Year 2/3A

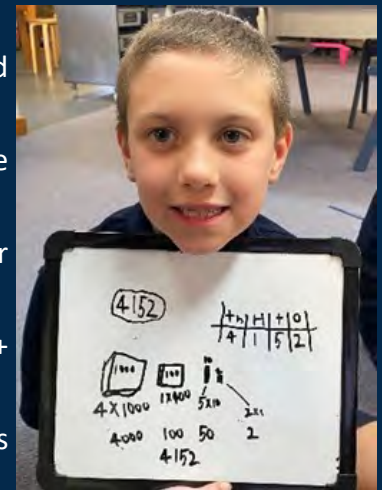
The Year 2/3 A class has been developing their understanding of numbers, specifically learning more about place value.

They have been working on writing, recognising and ordering 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers. The class has been learning more about our Base 10 Number System, which uses the digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 to make all numbers. They are developing an understanding of the importance of zero, and that zero's special role is as a placeholder.

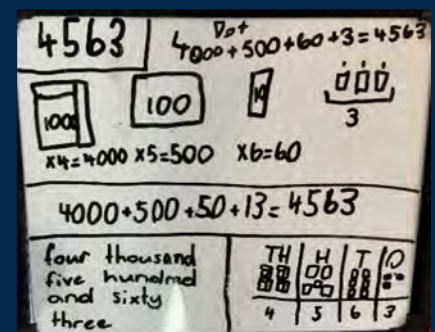
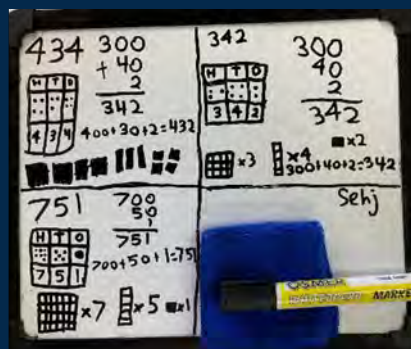
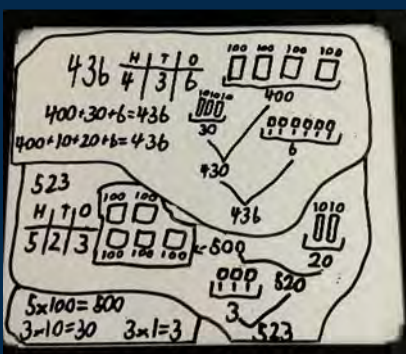
The students have been working diligently to construct, represent and record numbers in collections.

The focus has been on:

- \* Counting collections
- \* Using efficient counting strategies (tally marks, grouping by 10s and 100s)
- \* Grouping collections into ones, tens, hundreds and thousands (place value knowledge)
- \* Representing numbers using pictures, expanding numbers (number sentence) and displaying on a place value chart
- \* Expanding numbers using place value knowledge (134 is  $100 + 30 + 4$ )
- \* Renaming numbers using place value knowledge (134 is also 13 tens and 4 ones, 134 is also 1 hundred and 34 ones)
- \* Rearranging numbers and working flexibly with numbers (134 can be made multiple ways e.g.  $100 + 10 + 10 + 10 + 4$  or  $100 + 20 + 10 + 2 + 2$ )



The class viewed a Maths Antic – Place Value video, continuing to improve their understanding of what place value is. The link is included if you wish to watch it at home. [Place Value \(mathantics.com\)](http://mathantics.com)



Playing cards and dice can be great for helping develop number knowledge at home.



# SCHOOL INFORMATION:

## CANTEEN NEWS:

Canteen Manager: Maryke Van der Merwe

### Munchies

**Wednesday, 3rd April**

Bekk Partridge

Kim Wilson

**Wednesday, 10th April**

Matilda Innes

Fiona Holberton

Kate Haggerty

### Canteen Duty (10.30am to 12.00 noon)

**Friday, 5th April**

Anna McGregor

**Friday, 12th April**

Bekk Partridge

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Important dates for Term 1 2024

**29<sup>th</sup> March** - Good Friday

**1<sup>st</sup> April** - Easter Monday

**5<sup>th</sup> April** - Assembly Year 2/3A

## Contact Us:

**Principal:** Sam Currie [sam.currie685@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:sam.currie685@schools.sa.edu.au)

**Curriculum, Pedagogy and Wellbeing Senior Leader:** Sam McDougall

**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](mailto:dl.0763.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

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

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# Penola Primary School

## Term 1 2024 Calendar



8	18/3	19/3	20/3	21/3 Millicent Athletics	22/3
9	25/3 SAPSASA Softball	26/3	27/3 Choir—12.45pm - 2.45pm	28/3	29/3 Public Holiday Good Friday
10	1/4 Public Holiday Easter Monday	2/4	3/4	4/4	5/4 Assembly 2/3A
11	8/4 SAPSASA Swimming Adelaide	9/4 SAPSASA Swimming Adelaide	10/4	11/4	12/4

# Penola Primary School

## Term 2 2024 Calendar

1	29/4	30/4	1/5	2/5	3/5
2	6/5	7/5	8/5	9/5	10/5
3	13/5	14/5	15/5	16/5	17/5 PUPIL FREE DAY
4	20/5	21/5	22/5	23/5	24/5
5	27/5	28/5	29/5	30/5	31/5
6	3/6	4/6	5/6	6/6	7/6

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Salt & Co Living & Stand Like Stone proudly presents

# Ladies on the Lawn



**Saturday 6th April | 2pm - 5pm**

**Penola Town Square**

**FOOD | FASHION | WINE**

**Come and enjoy an afternoon on the lawn  
with a curated fashion show of all the  
latest in-season trends from Salt & Co  
Living with 20% of ALL purchases from the  
day going to Stand Like Stone!**

**Wine + soft drink available for purchase  
along with bites from Cooney & Co**

**BOOK A TABLE NOW**





## **FREE Parent Workshop**

**Understanding reading difficulties - Why some children struggle and how to help**

- Develop an understanding of reading difficulties, including dyslexia
- Develop a practical understanding of the associated characteristics and difficulties
- Explore ways to support your child

This 2 hour workshop is a great first step to gaining a better understanding of reading difficulties and practical strategies that can help your child.

**Monday 8 of April 2024, 5:30pm - 7:30pm**



**Mount Gambier Library**



**BOOK ONLINE at:**  
[speldsa.org.au/regional-parent-workshops](https://speldsa.org.au/regional-parent-workshops)

Thank you to the Department for Education for supporting this initiative.