



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 3

Begins Mon 23/8 Book Week

Fri 27/8 Book Week Parade

Week of 30/8—Year 3/4/5
Camp

Tues 7/9—R -2/3 Assembly

Thurs 9/9—Assembly 3-7

Fri 10/9—School Closure Day

Weds 15/9— Lightning Carnival
Year 6/7

Mon 13/9 Crossing Monitor
training

Begins Mon 20/9 National
Week of Deaf People

Term 4

Mon 11/10—Pupil Free Day
Happy Haven OSHC available

Newsletter

A Community of Successful Learners

Term 3 — Week 4

WHAT IS SCHOOL CULTURE?

I have recently received feedback from a new member of our school community who commented on our positive and welcoming school culture. School culture is the overarching success point for a school. Everything else falls by the wayside unless you establish and maintain a positive school culture.

But what is school culture? Academic research in this area has categorised it as:

- **CONNECTIONS**
Connections are created through shared beliefs and values. Actions will spread the farthest and be tightly reinforced when everyone is communicating effectively.

- **CORE BELIEFS AND VALUES**
Some fundamental beliefs shared across our school are that we are a community of successful learners, everyone belongs and everyone has the right to achieve.

Our school values are respect, responsibility and resilience. We expect our community members to live these values in their interactions with each other.

I believe there is another important factor that has not been recognised within this research and that is **KINDNESS**. As part of a community we need to ensure we create, model and nurture kindness, to ourselves and others. Over the next few weeks I would like us to focus on kindness. The building works combined with the wet weather are creating some challenges regarding space for students to play, parking and small things are escalating into big things because everyone is contending with so much already. These things can only be dealt with by kindness.

A question to ask your child/ren when they come home tonight is “tell me about a time today when you were kind?”

Let's spread kindness together, Miss Jo



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Awards

Questioner
Awards
Junior
Primary



Creative Learners Awards



Welcome to Jade



As one of the newest members of staff, I would love to introduce myself. I am so excited to take up the Aboriginal Community Education Officer position and be a part of this school community.

Hi, my name is Jade Brook and I am a Nurrunga (Yorke Peninsula) and Kurna (Adelaide) Custodian although I have been living and working on Peramangk Country for over 16 years.

I live at my home in Mount Barker with my son Jacob, our dog Alice, kitten Bulla and our team of ducks and chickens. I love pottering in my veggie garden, cooking, and spending time in nature.

I am currently studying Aboriginal Leadership with Australians Together and have a background in community development, working in schools, and youth work.

I can't wait to meet you all face to face and learn about how we can best walk together, and listen, and learn about supporting the best outcomes for our students and families.

Sports News



Emma and Sienna -
Barker Softball



Jack and Jaxon -
Barker Softball Team



Steph - Barker Netball Team



Gabriella
Cross Country State Carnival

Tommy
Barker Cross Country



Pekin Bantam Hens

In Term 1 we welcomed 3 new Pekin Bantam hens to our school community. They were named by our SRC students from a list of suggestions from each of the classes. Happily, our hens named Lulu, Prince Charles the Third and Damo, have settled in well and have become a lot friendlier as students pop in for a cuddle.

Thanks to our year 5 – 7 student volunteers who are doing a wonderful job of taking care of the hens needs each day. Room 11 students are also showing great responsibility opening the Hen House at lunch time each Wednesday and Thursday.

Our hens provide valuable opportunities for students to connect with their learning across the curriculum in Science and HASS. They have also been a great support for student wellbeing.



A note from Emily and Hayley about opening times:

The chicken opening times are the first half of lunch on a Wednesday and Thursday at the chicken house near the big kids' playground. The chicken handlers will be there to help you. The chicken handlers will be wearing a lanyard that says, "Chicken Handler Assistance." Don't feel worried to ask for help because the chicken handlers don't bite! The limit of people in the chicken house is eight people. Thank you.



Water, water, everywhere. . . .

Although we have a lot of water on the oval at the moment, due to the building works we do not have any bubblers in the yard. We have distributed boxes of water around the school that students can access to make sure they have water in their bottles. We also have cups up in the office for students to get a drink at recess and lunch if they do not have their bottles handy.

Bunnings have generously donated some plastic bottles and we have been distributing them to students who regularly forget to bring bottle to school.

Parents and Carers

As it is getting colder we are noticing that some of our students are eating a lot more and running out of food by lunchtime. Could you please pack extra food to get them through the day?

Many thanks.



Library News

Welcome back everyone. Hope you all had a wonderful break. Just a few things going on this term. Premier's Reading Challenge is due on Friday the 3rd of September (week 7). Please send in your completed forms before this date. Students need to record the name and author of twelve books they have read this year. It is recommended to have a variety of books so please don't write down twelve books from the same author as that is all part of the challenge. The students will receive their certificates and medals during term four. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Scholastic Book Club issue five has closed. There will be another three issues before the end of the year. It's a great way to start your Christmas shopping. When ordering use the option "Gift" and I will give you a call when it has arrived at school ready for collection. It is a great way to help our library purchase books for the school. I know it is a little bit different this year but I am still buying books for the students to enjoy when our school library is back up and running next year. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Happy Reading
Suzanne Woithe