



WAIKERIE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A SCHOOL OF VISIBLE LEARNERS
CURIOSITY PROBLEM SOLVING RESILIENCE

Principal: Megan Higgins

Governing Council Chairperson: Deb Schutz

Respect Responsibility Persistence
Confidence Care Honesty

23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie, SA, 5330

Phone: 85412733

dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au, www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au

Term 1

Wednesday

Week 1



Principal

Welcome back to the 2023 school year! A special welcome our new Reception students, newly enrolled families and new staff to the Waikerie Primary School community. We have nine classes this year and some staff working in different rooms and roles. Our 2023 **Leadership and Teaching staff** are:

Dates to Remember

Feb 24	Just Add Music performance
March 13	Public Holiday
March 14-21	Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN

Deputy Principal- Leanne Jones (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Student Wellbeing Leader - Alison Pietsch (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Co-ordinator - Sarah Schiller (Thursday, Friday)



Room 8

Sarah Schiller



Natasha Wall



Room 7

Sharna Linke



Room 4

Bryanna Hales



Room 3

Nina Rayner



Julia Golding



Room 5

Samantha Schubert



Room 6

Connie Valentine



Room 11

Hayley Sincok



Room 12

Lorraine Fechner



Room 10

Sarah Kipling



Hannah Marks



Science and PE
Jeany Winter



The Arts
Chris Mibus



Spanish
Rachel Lawson



We also welcome back our dedicated team of School Support staff; Di, Penny, Cheryl, Rachel, Michelle, Shane, Jenna, Tina, Maria, Renee and Tamara working in administration and classroom support across the school. Clive continues as our hard working grounds person, Anna in playgroup and Sara Bayha as a wonderful Pastoral Care Worker.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Our 2023 *School Improvement Plan* Goals and Actions have been reviewed with a continued focus on Reading, Phonics and Maths. We will keep you updated about our work and actions to achieve our goals and reach our targets.



Increase high achievement in Maths



Maintain and Increase high achievement in Reading



Increase phonics achievement in Years R-2

Our *School Governing Council* meet twice a term and work with Leadership to monitor the progress and direction of the school, including the School Improvement Plan, budget and reporting to the school community. Parents can also be involved in Sub-committees including Grounds, Finance, Fundraising and Out of School Hours Care without being a Governing Council member. If you are interested in joining our School Governing Council or a sub-committee, please submit the nomination form attached or speak to one of our current Governing Council members: Deb Schutz, Rachael Thomson, Denae Paschke, Mick Cryer, Rachel Wills, Karen Collins, Phil Valentine, James Hodson, Rebekah Wallace, Tanya Starling. Please return the nomination form to a Council Member or school Office by Friday 3rd March. This year our *proposed date* for the **Annual General Meeting** is Tuesday March 7th at 7pm in the Hall, followed by the first General Meeting.



We are planning to host an *acquaintance event* this term and provide an opportunity for families to come in to school, visit the classrooms and chat with the teachers. We will update you about details as soon as they are confirmed.

We are working closely with the department and local authorities to monitor risks and ensure the safety of all staff and students impacted by floods. If your child has been particularly impacted by this event, our school and department have put in place supports that are available to ensure the wellbeing of people affected by the floods in our school community. Please let me know if there are particular issues we need to be aware of. The department has provided our school with a supply of mosquito repellent for students to use during the day if needed. If you don't want your child using mosquito repellent, please let the classroom teacher know.

Please let us know if there are any updates or changes to your **contact details**, child's home address, emergency contacts and or any other relevant information the school should be aware of.

We ask that students do not bring in food from home, such as cupcakes for birthdays etc. Although this is a lovely idea to celebrate something special, we do need to be mindful of what other children in the school are able to and permitted to eat. Please speak to your child's teacher about possible alternatives, such as bubbles if this is something you still wish to do.

Take care everyone! We look forward to a great year 😊 Megan



Deputy Principal

Welcome back to the 2023 school year. We are excited to be back and share in and support you with your child's schooling this year.

Mobile phones - The department's position is that primary aged students cannot use their mobile phones and personal devices at school during school hours. The department and the school recognise that there are legitimate reasons for students to bring a mobile phone or personal device to school. This may include:

- to ensure their safety while travelling
- so that parents can contact them outside of school hours.



During the school day students are not permitted to access or use their mobile phones or other personal devices. The Waikerie Primary School Policy states that student's phones are to be handed into the office at the beginning of the day and collected by the student at the end of the day. Phones are to remain turned off until the student is off school grounds.

NAPLAN is the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy that happens each year across the country. Students in Year 3 and 5 will take part in Naplan in Term 1 this year. In week 5, some of the students involved will sit the coordinated practise test on Tuesday the 28th February. This tests the platform to make sure the technology and system will run smoothly during the testing window. The Naplan tests will officially begin in week 7 Wednesday the 15th March through to Monday the 27th March. Students in year 3 will complete the writing test on paper and all other tests will be online using the NAP platform. Students will complete four components. Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. Please see your child's class teacher if you have questions. Attached here is the privacy collection notice for parents



NAPLAN – privacy collection notice

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN helps parents, carers and educators to see if children are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards.

Collection of personal information

Schools are required by law to collect personal information about you and your child, irrespective of whether your child participates in NAPLAN testing.

The purpose of this notice is to advise parents and carers of how your child's personal information will be used for NAPLAN testing (both online and paper tests) in 2023 and, as part of NAPLAN Online, readiness activities scheduled at various times leading up to the test in March 2023.

NAPLAN testing

Since 2022, except for Year 3 writing which remains paper-based, all other NAPLAN tests are completed nationally online through computer-based tests.

Online testing brings many benefits and opportunities including providing better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information.

More information on NAPLAN Online is available at: www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/

Readiness testing activities

A critical step in preparing for NAPLAN Online is schools' participation in readiness testing activities.

The purpose of readiness testing activities is to ensure your child is familiar with their device and the online test environment, as well as to test school and national infrastructure systems and processes.

Disclosure of personal information

For every student participating in NAPLAN Online testing and readiness activities, personal information will be uploaded by the Department for Education, as the Test Administration Authority (TAA), to the NAPLAN Online Assessment Platform ("assessment platform"). This information is listed over the page.

The information below marked with an asterisk (*) is also provided by the department, as the TAA, to FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd for the purposes of printing paper test materials and the printing of student reports. FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd ("FUJIFILM") is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education and is only permitted access to personal information from a relevant school for the purposes of providing the contracted services.

FUJIFILM's privacy policy can be found at: <https://www.fujifilm.com/au/en/privacy>

- Student name*
- Jurisdictional and local school student identifiers*
- School name, class and year level*
- Gender*
- Date of birth*
- Disability adjustments (where applicable)*

NAPLAN privacy collection notice – updated December 2022

- Country of birth
- Language background other than English
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status
- Parents' occupation, education and language background

The personal information for students who are exempted, absent or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing is collected and used for reporting purposes.

Data security

Security and privacy are key requirements for the delivery of national testing.

NAPLAN Online

The online assessment platform has been designed to comply with relevant national data security policies and guidelines, as well as data encryption standards.

The assessment platform is managed by Education Services Australia (ESA). ESA is a not-for-profit company jointly owned by the Australian education ministers. ESA is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education.

ESA only has access to personal information from a relevant school or TAA for the primary purpose of fulfilling ESA's role in supporting the operation of the assessment platform.

ESA's privacy policy can be found at: www.esa.edu.au/contact-us/privacy

Access and correction

To request access or correction to personal information collected for NAPLAN and held by schools, please contact your school principal in the first instance. Any concerns about a breach of privacy by a school should be directed in writing to the school principal.

More information

Speak with your school principal in the first instance if you have any questions about this information.



Seesaw is a regular form of communication between school and home. We appreciate parent/carer involvement and love sharing your child's learning with you. It is an amazing platform to maintain regular contact with your child's teacher about their learning. We kindly remind you that teachers may reply to private messages between 8am and 5.30pm, however they won't be checking and responding to messages outside these hours. Teachers will reply to your message within 48 hours. Please ensure that you phone the school for any urgent matters (for example if your child needs to catch the bus home). Furthermore, we kindly ask that any matters relating to a concern or grievance be discussed via phone or in person with the class teacher, not via a Seesaw message. Please let class teachers know as soon as possible if you do not give consent for your child to be pictured in group photos that will be shared to all families in the classroom. If you have any questions or issues accessing or connecting to Seesaw please see me for support.

Nature Play - You may have noticed the Middle and Upper Primary Nature play area is almost complete. Jackson Sutton from Jacko's Lawns and Gardens worked over the break to put together this amazing play area. We are waiting for the delivery of sand and can then officially open this space for play. We look forward to watching the creativity flow in this amazing new space.



Leanne Jones 😊



Student Wellbeing Leader

Welcome to the 2023 school year! It's great to see everyone back and pumped for a positive year at Waikerie Primary! My name is Alison Pietsch and I am the Student Wellbeing Leader. This is my seventh year in this position and my role is to support students and families with any areas of wellbeing that are impacting schooling, supporting student attendance and engagement, and leading the whole-school wellbeing approach. I do this through working 1:1 with students (in a supporting role, not therapeutic/counselling), running small groups/programs and supporting staff to meet the social and emotional needs of students. I also have a few other hats such as organising and working with student leaders (School Leaders, House Captains, Student Voice), assemblies and choir. My work days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Please feel welcome to contact me if your child/ren require any extra support.

All classes have begun with a strong focus explicitly teaching our school values

- confidence
- care
- honesty
- persistence
- respect
- responsibility

Focusing on our school values supports positive behaviours for learning.

Student Diaries:

This year all R-5 students will be using a school diary. The diary is based on the Berry Street Education Model which promotes social and emotional wellbeing. The diaries provide another form of communication between the school and home, and will also support social and emotional learning in classrooms through a specific focus each week. The diaries have not arrived yet, but should be here by next week for students to begin using. There will be some more information from your child's teacher and through the See-Saw app when the diaries arrive. Watch this space!

Choir

Our Year 4-6 students have the opportunity to be involved in the school choir which will be part of the Riverland Festival of Music. If your child has expressed interest, they will bring home a note about it later in the week. Practises will be at lunchtimes (either a Monday or Friday, to be decided). There will be around 3-4 excursions to rehearse with other schools in our cluster and then a final performance at the Chaffey Theatre in Renmark in August.

Children's University

Children's University is a program that offers educational opportunities and recognition to children for completing and participating in learning outside of school hours. Educational opportunities include activity providers such as museums, theatres, school clubs and sports groups. Engaging a wide range of experiences such as these is proven to develop a child's self-efficacy, confidence and aspirations. The program encourages children to explore new ideas, concepts and experiences – not simply stick with what they know! All learning must be linked to a higher education course, for example, a school gardening club links to agronomy, micro-biology, botany, and food science.

Upon joining, *Children's University* members aged 5 to 14 receive a *Passport to Learning* where hours of extra-curricular activities are logged. Hours are accumulated and once the hours needed to graduate are achieved, members are presented with *Children's University* certificates at a formal graduation ceremony at the end of the year. Students are required to provide evidence of the learning, which needs to be recorded through writing, drawing, photographs or the online portal; or if visiting a validated learning destination (museums, Zoo's, art galleries, libraries etc) students can take their *Passport to Learning* to be stamped during the visit and don't need to provide other evidence of learning.

Children's University is a voluntary program – meaning that children are responsible for their own learning, it's up to them to complete activities and show their learning. There is a small annual fee to join. More information will be coming home in a note within the coming weeks, so look out for it if your child would like to be part of the program.

Alison Pietsch

Nomination for Governing Council or Committee

Name _____ Phone Number: _____
Student/s Name _____ Room _____

Please circle Governing Council and / or the committee of interest

Governing Council Finance Fundraising
Grounds Waikerie Out of School Hours Care (WOOSHC)

Interest to attend AGM – proposed date March 7th, 2022

I am interested in attending the Waikerie Primary School AGM Name _____





Government
of South Australia

Hon Blair Boyer MP
Member for Woodville

Dear parent/caregiver

For the second year, South Australian families with children attending public schools will receive a \$100 discount per student on their annual materials and services charge, delivering the government's two-year commitment made at the 2022 state election.

Approaching the start of the school year, we know cost-of-living pressures are being felt by many families and we hope this discount will provide some relief.

Unlike last year, you don't need to do anything to claim the \$100 discount. It will automatically be issued by your school.

The discount does not apply to families approved for school card as they are not required to pay the materials and services charge.

School card applications are now open for 2023. Income limits, based on the number of dependent children in your family, have been increased by 6.4% this year. With this increase, some families who were not previously eligible may now qualify. Information on school card eligibility, income limits and the application process can be found at: sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty and require assistance paying the discounted materials and services charge, we encourage you to speak to your school as soon as possible. Support is available to those who need it, including the option of paying the charge by instalments.

As a compassionate response to the ongoing nature of the conflict in the Ukraine, Ukraine nationals arriving in Australia will continue to receive fee-free education in 2023 in South Australian public schools. Support will also continue to be provided to Afghan evacuees.

Wishing you and your child/ren a happy and productive start to term 1.

Yours sincerely

Hon Blair Boyer MP
Minister for Education,
Training and Skills

Professor Martin Westwell
Chief Executive

Waikerie Primary School, 1000 Waikerie Road, Waikerie, SA 5100
Phone: 08 8738 1075 Fax: 08 8738 1518 Email: office@waikerieprimary.sa.gov.au



COMMUNITY NOTICES

RIVERLAND AUTISTIC & AUTISM COMMUNITIES FORUM

An opportunity to hear from the Assistant Minister for Autism Emily Bourke and to connect with community members and industry stakeholders.

Saturday 18 February

1pm start

Chaffey Community Centre
Renmark

RSVPs are essential via:
RiverlandAutismForum.eventbrite.com.au



ASSISTANT
MINISTER FOR
AUTISM
EMILY BOURKE

TERM 1 WEEKLY CLASSES AT RIVERLAND YOUTH THEATRE

MONDAY
PRE-SCHOOL MUSIC AND MOVEMENT IN RENMARK
Renmark Institute, 9am-9.45am, Gold Coin donation
12-13 YRS CRAFTAFTERNOON DROP IN'S IN RENMARK
Renmark Institute, 3.30pm-5pm, Gold Coin Donation
10-13 YRS DUNGEONS & DRAGONS WITH DAQZ
Renmark Institute, 4.15-5.30pm, \$55 for 8-week campaign

TUESDAY
12-18 YRS TEEN ENSEMBLE IN BERRI GAME SHOW THEATRE
Bassi Town Hall, 4pm-5.30pm, FREE thanks to Our Town Berrri and Weibung SA. Showing March 30

WEDNESDAY
12-16 YRS ART THERAPY WITH RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA
Coping with anxiety
Renmark Institute, 4.30pm-6pm, FREE
13-18 YRS ONLINE CREATIVE CLUB
Online through Discord, 5.35pm - 6.45pm, FREE

THURSDAY
6-10 YRS TASTE TESTERS IN RENMARK: FROM RESIN ART TO VIRTUAL REALITY, LET'S TEST IT ALL!
Renmark Institute, 4pm-5pm, \$50 per term.
10-13 YRS TWEENS IN BARRERA: MOVIE MAKING
Sunsey Theatre, 4pm-5.30pm, \$75 per term, Showing March 30

FRIDAY
14-18 YRS DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: CURSE OF STRAND
Renmark Institute, 4pm-6pm, \$100 per term.

AND THE FORTNIGHTLY ONES


3RD PLACE: 12-18 YRS JUST A CHILL HANG
Renmark Institute, every 2nd Friday, 6pm-8pm, FREE
February 10, February 24, March 10, March 24 and April 14.


PONDI: 8-16 YRS CONNECTION TO CULTURE, WORKSHOPS WITH ELDERLY AND ARTISTS, A SAFE SPACE FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN
Renmark Institute, every 2nd Sunday, 4pm-8pm, FREE
February 5, February 19, March 5, March 19, April 2 and April 16

MAKING CLASSES POSSIBLE THIS TERM:



RIVERLAND
YOUTH THEATRE



FUN FOR ALL AGES 

JOIN WAIKERIE SCOUTS GROUP IN 2023.....

Calling all youth aged 5 to 14. **Join Waikerie Scouts Group in 2023** and experience the fun of camps, hiking, outdoor adventure and making new friends. 3 free Come and Try sessions! Joey Scouts (5-7 year old), Cub Scouts (8-10 year old), Scouts (11-14 year old) meetings are Tuesday 6-7.30pm during school terms. Find out more at <https://sa.scouts.com.au/be-prepared-to-join-scouts/>. For further information contact gl.waikerie@sa.scouts.com.au or call/message Group Leader Louise 0428 825 967



Calling all new and existing parents and participants for Woolworths NetSetGO to attend a FREE "Come & Play" session to trial the program and register for the 2023 season!

Boys and girls aged 5-10 years

This will be held the same day as our [Waikerie Netball Club](#) season launch!

- ** Sunday 4 February
- ** 4.30pm
- ** outside Netball Courts
- ** meet the committee
- ** free sausage sizzle

Help spread the word as we'd like to register players earlier to avoid missing out on their NetSetGo tshirts!

Look forward to seeing you all there ❤️❤️

❤️❤️ Season Launch for WAIKERIE Netball Club AND NetSetGo is this Sunday 5th February at 4.30pm at the netball courts.

Please ensure you have registered for NetSetGo so we have an idea of player numbers.

However if your child turns 9 in 2023 they are eligible to trial for the 11 and under Riverland Netball Association with the first of 3 trials starting on Monday 6th, 13th & 20th starting at 3.45pm until 4.30pm.

The committee are available this Sunday to answer any questions and help register your child through the clubs tablets for either NetSetGo or to register to trial for U/11's in the RNA competition.

If you are unable to attend a trial, Apologies need to be sent to waikerienetballclub@gmail.com

Don't forget a sausage sizzle will be held after the season launch around 5.30pm.

Remember Sneakers, hat, waterbottle and comfy clothes and We look forward to seeing all new and existing faces this Sunday! ❤️❤️

Registration link for NETSETGO only